

ZimKids

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Annual Report: April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022

The Board is pleased to share the organization's most recent achievements in this annual report for the year ending March 31, 2022. The impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic continue to cause uncertainty and difficulty for families, students and staff and their communities in Zimbabwe who are supported by **ZimKids Community Support**. Limited availability of vaccines, fuel shortages, food insecurity, climate change, health, social and economic instability, and barriers for children to access quality education in safe, healthy environments create daunting challenges.

Despite these stark realities, unwavering support and commitment from our donors, partners and volunteers has enabled implementation of projects and initiatives on the ground in Zimbabwe, through responsive and adaptable practices. Amidst the uncertainty, we are inspired and motivated by the tireless efforts and determination to maximize **ZimKids'** resources and their impact.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Janet Honsberger

Fran Fearnley

Janice Deacon

Carol McKey

Isabel Stukator

ZimKids: Community Support

is an Ontario not-for-profit organization founded and registered in 2013.



Teachers' cabins at Maori Primary School in Maori village, Zimbabwe.

OUR MISSION

To enable vulnerable children of Zimbabwe, their caregivers and the communities in which they live to meet their basic needs, increase their ability to produce sustainable food sources and improve their education and living environments.

To build relationships to increase understanding and unity among peoples of different cultures and countries.

Our goals for the next year of operation are to:

- Continue to build our donor base, and create innovative fundraising opportunities
 - Support Maori Primary school by working alongside the staff and the community to improve the teaching and learning environment at the school.
 - Support Nyachuru Secondary School's efforts to grow more sustainable and drought resistant crops. Revive the garden area to grow nutritious vegetables for the lunch program and incorporate this project into the curriculum.
 - Support efforts and projects of the Women's Fabric Printing Group - Shingirirai Trust
-

ZIMBABWE PROJECTS: 2021- 2022 RESULTS

Maori Primary School

Maori village, Zimbabwe

\$7342.00 (USD) \$9558.00 (CAN)



Delivering materials at Maori Primary School in Maori village, Zimbabwe.

This was the second year that the school had to adapt to COVID protocols and school closures. There were also a number of staff changes and other logistical challenges to deal with. However, the school remained the hub of the community and student attendance was high when it was operating. It is hard to estimate how much learning has been lost over the past two years.

Staff very much appreciated the cabins **ZimKids** built last year. Basic but better accommodation has improved their living conditions and the borehole has been transformative. They have started a vegetable garden which they can plant and harvest year round.

As part of our commitment to help the school attract and retain good staff we had two additional toilet and shower units built this year. Previous facilities were inadequate given the number of teachers living on site with their families.

Our main objective for Maori this year was to provide learning resources for the preschoolers and the first two grades. This goal came from requests articulated by staff and the community. The selection of materials we purchased, which ranged from floor mats and building blocks to a range of locally made musical instruments, was chosen by staff. We also supported the fledgling music program by paying for a local musician to visit the school and work directly with staff and students.

One donor specifically wanted to support the school's library by purchasing storybooks so again we asked school staff to choose the materials they felt were most appropriate, both in Shona and English. We will continue with this library initiative in 2022.

Note: School enrolment has risen from 276 in 2019 to 429 students today.

ANNUAL REPORT

Nyachuru Secondary School

Howard, Zimbabwe

\$5729.00 (USD) \$7413.00 (CAN)

Providing agricultural inputs for the school's lunch program has been the backbone of our support since 2006. In recent years the region has experienced a severe drought and we have been supporting the school's efforts to experiment with growing more drought resistant sorghum to replace some of the maize crop. In 2021 they harvested 4.48 tonnes of sorghum, 5 tonnes of maize and 1.16 tonnes of sugar beans. All planting and harvesting work is done by parent volunteers who cannot afford to pay school fees.



Parents at Nyachuru Secondary School prepare the ground for planting.

Batsirai Ngoshi, a young university graduate who **ZimKids** sponsored through his entire education and who attended Nyachuru, was invited to present **ZimKids** with a proposal to revive the garden at the school, using sustainable best practices, and incorporating the whole project into the agricultural studies curriculum. The initial research is complete and the project will go forward in 2022 to 2023.

Shingirirai Trust, Tafara, Zimbabwe

\$500.00 (USD) \$640.00 (CAN)

This project has been deeply affected by COVID restrictions. On the advice of their board we chose to buy food hampers for all the staff as our donation for this year.

WITH GRATITUDE

We thank the following for their generous donations:

Scott Wilkie & Denise Quick, Barbara Thompson, James Mutrie, Sherrill Burns

and Nancy Hodgkinson, Janet Doran, Gail Porter, Thomas A. Secondary School, Diana Bigg, Ingrid Shilling, Lisa Cossar, ZimArt, Lois Rowe, Sandi McNeil, Anne Hoover, Bridget Cullen, Kyoto Coffee, Ziyah and Anna Von Beiberstein

Special acknowledgements:

We thank Nyasha Kahari for his ongoing project management in Zimbabwe. We are also grateful to the vendors who participated in our first Art in the Garden fundraiser and all the musicians who volunteered their time and talent.



Our first **Art in the Garden** fundraiser held Sept. 4, 2021.

ANNUAL REPORT

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

This year, in addition to revenue sources such as sale of crafts and paperweights from artisans in Zimbabwe, sculpture draw, and individual donations, the board planned a major fundraising event which was held at **ZimArt's Rice Lake Gallery** on September 4, 2021. **Art in the Garden** featured local artisans and musicians and funds generated from the event were used to purchase resources for the preschool program at **Maori Primary School**. We are grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of the day. In addition to this "first time" fundraiser event for **ZimKids**, throughout the year, we were able to raise additional funds to support identified and ongoing needs and priority projects in Zimbabwe.

Statement of operations for the year ended March 31, 2022

REVENUE	
Donations	\$6,199.85
Sculpture Draw	\$1,835.00
Paperweight Sales	\$6,830.00
Craft Sales	\$2,554.00
Restored sculpture fundraising	\$4,315.00
Fundraiser (<i>see note below</i>)	\$1,128.50
Total raised	\$22,932.35
Balance forward from March 31, 2021	\$1,944.48
Total revenue	\$24,876.83
EXPENSES	
Insurance	\$670.08
Accounting/Banking	\$1,169.15
Promotion/Communications	\$79.10
Administration	\$123.17
Project Implementation- Zimbabwe	\$17,611.00
Purchase of Crafts and Paperweights	\$2639.00
Total Expenses	\$22,291.5
Net Assets End of Year	\$2,585.33

Note: The September 4th **Art in the Garden** fundraiser event generated \$1,128.50 from participating vendor donations and refreshments. The grand total was \$5,123.50 with additional funds coming from visitor donations (\$2,330), the sale of Zimbabwean crafts (\$1,220) and restored sculpture sales (\$375).