

ZimKids

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Annual Report: April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023

The Board is pleased to share the organization's most recent achievements in this annual report for the year ending March 31, 2023.

Steadfast support from donors, partners and volunteers enabled the implementation of projects and initiatives in Zimbabwe, focusing on providing access to quality education in safe and healthy environments. While economic challenges and the ongoing impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic remain prevalent for families, students and staff and their communities in Zimbabwe, **ZimKids** was pleased to continue supporting the efforts and projects at **Maori Primary School, Nyachuru Secondary School and Shingirirai Trust**.

The **Books Build Better Futures** project, initiated this year and inspired by the donation from Scott Wilkie and Denise Quick, builds on the learning and reading resources (in Shona and in English) for the library at **Maori Primary School**.

Selection of appropriate reading material was based on consultations with teaching staff in Zimbabwe. Donors in Canada purchased books to send over to the school and other reading resources were purchased in Zimbabwe.



The upcoming year presents a new set of challenges for **ZimKids Community Support**. ZimArt's Rice Lake Gallery is closing at the end of 2023, consequently **ZimKids** will no longer have a base to operate from in Canada or the means to oversee the projects through regular visits to Zimbabwe. This led the **ZimKids** board to decide that this would be its final year of operation.

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:

Create fundraising opportunities to support projects that will be implemented in the last year of operation for **ZimKids Community Support**

Work with the staff and the community at Maori Primary School to promote and sustain a quality teaching and learning environment at the school

Work with the staff and community at Nyachuru Secondary School to identify opportunities to build their capacity to grow sustainable and drought resistant crops and nutritious vegetables in their garden for the lunch program

Collaborate with leaders and volunteers with Shingirirai Trust to support sustainable income generating and community development projects

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.

ZIMBABWE PROJECTS: 2022- 2023 RESULTS

Maori Primary School Maori village, Zimbabwe



Books Build Better Futures fundraiser, August 2022.

School enrolment is up to 474 students, from 273 when the school was first opened. There has been an increase of staff from eight in 2019 to 14 in 2023. Improved living conditions and adequate accommodation helps the school attract and retain good staff who live on site with their families.

Purchasing of books for the library continued in 2023 through the “Books Build Better Futures” project. Once again, input was provided from the school and the community on the most appropriate books to purchase both in Shona and in English. These additional learning resources have significantly enhanced

the school library and the plan is to continue the “Books Build Better Futures” initiative in 2023.

The books were shipped to Zimbabwe in December 2022 for delivery to the school in the spring of 2023.

Nyachuru Secondary School Howard, Zimbabwe

ZimKids has continued to support the school community by providing agricultural inputs for the school's lunch program, including maize, soya beans, sorghum, and fertilizer. This is in partnership with the community which provides the labour required for planting and harvesting.

As well, **ZimKids** continued to support the garden project under the leadership of Batsirai Ngoshi, using sustainable best practices, all of which is incorporated into the agricultural studies curriculum. Growing vegetables ensures a more nutritious lunch program for students. Any extra produce is sold with funds going to pay school fees for those in need.

In order to ensure the garden's viability year round **ZimKids** replaced a non-functioning water tank and water pipes.



Shingirirai Trust, Tafara, Zimbabwe

This community development organization empowers women and children with education, life and leadership skills and helps create social and economic projects.

ZimKids supported the purchase and installation of a toilet and sink for the organization's main building. **ZimKids** also funded the repair of a compressor used by **Glass for Africa**, one of the women led businesses supported by **Shingirirai Trust**.

WITH GRATITUDE

We thank the following individuals for their generous donations: **Scott Wilkie** and **Denise Quick, Jane Moore** and **Barry Mutrie**.

In addition we would like to thank **Susan Twist** of Happenstance Books and Yarns, Lakefield and all of those who participated in the **Books Build Better Futures** program.

Special acknowledgements:

We thank **Nyasha Kahari** for his ongoing project management, financial accounting, and oversight on the ground in Zimbabwe and his detailed reports to the Board.

Nyasha's steady leadership, reliability and professionalism is deeply respected and appreciated.

We would also like to thank **Batsirai Ngoshi**, for his leadership in reviving the vegetable garden project at **Nyachuru Secondary School**. **ZimKids** sponsored Batsi's education from primary school through university and we are thrilled that he is now giving back to the community.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

With economic and infrastructure challenges continuing to prevail in Zimbabwe, **ZimKids** was able to raise funds to support ongoing needs and priority projects at **Maori Primary School**, **Nyachuru Secondary School** and **Shingirrai Trust**.

Statement of operations for the year ended March 31, 2023

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| REVENUE | |
| Donations | 1,135.00 |
| Sculpture Draw | 3,315.00 |
| Paperweight Sales | 7,420.00 |
| Crafts | 3,152.05 |
| Restored sculpture fundraising | 1,600.00 |
| Books Build Better Futures | 1,901.00 * |
| Total raised | \$18,523.05 |
| Balance forward from March 31, 2022 | \$2,585.00 |
| Total revenue | \$21,108.05 |
| EXPENSES | |
| Insurance | 700.92 |
| Accounting/Banking | 1,151.51 |
| Books Build Better Futures | 2,527.11* |
| Promotion/Communications | 52.26 |
| Administration | 80.00 |
| Project Implementation- Zimbabwe | 9,782.18 |
| Purchase of Crafts/Paperweights | \$1,000.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$15,938.18 |
| Net Assets End of Year (Balance) | \$5,810.07 |

*Donors in Canada purchased the pre-selected books (which they could inscribe) and **ZimKids** shipped them to **Maori Primary School** in Zimbabwe. This supplemented last year's initiative and allowed us to choose quality books not available in Zimbabwe.