



CCAP Health Department

Education | Infrastructure | Partnership | Spirituality

December 2019



Sending Greeting & Thanks

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ. As 2019 comes to an end, we wanted to take the opportunity to thank the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA) for its partnership and support over the last three years. Since the conception of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) Synod of Zambia Health Department in 2016, PCUSA has been its biggest supporter. Because of the partnership between CCAP and PCUSA, the lives of thousands of rural Zambians have improved greatly.

How You Are Helping

The support PCUSA has given to the CCAP Health Department falls into four categories: infrastructure, women and girls health, preventative medicine, and personnel. In terms of infrastructure, the department has been able to repair a borehole at its Egichikeni Rural Health Center, build a much needed mother's shelter also at Egichikeni and is currently in the process of constructing a rural health center at Pharaza. In addition, PCUSA supplied funds for beds at Ndaiwala and Egichikeni Rural Health Centers. With this infrastructure support from PCUSA, the CCAP Health department has been able to create a healthy, trusted partnership with the Government of Zambia under the Ministry of Health. It is a great achievement for CCAP Synod of Zambia that the Health Department has become an important stakeholder for the Ministry of Health. We hope to continue working in partnership with the Ministry of Health in order to improve healthcare in Zambia.



Richard Willima, CCAP Health Dept. Coordinator



Stella Mwanza, Miriam Nyirenda, Cecilia Shawa and Eunice Zimba along with our youngest members, Joanna and Purity.



Improving the Lives of Women & Girls

With PCUSA's support, the CCAP Health Department is running two programs to improve health for women and girls. Under the Healthy Women, Healthy Families initiative, the Health Department has opened a Days for Girls enterprise. There are four staff members at the enterprise who have been trained to sew feminine hygiene kits as well as teach and sensitize girls on menstruation and personal hygiene. PCUSA has supported the enterprise with sewing machines and materials, and funds for trainings and kit distributions at local schools. The Days for Girls enterprise has made it possible for girls to stay in school and has helped reduce the stigma associated with menstruation. In addition, the enterprise was recently officially certified and is now receiving requests for their products across Zambia. This new market will generate income for the enterprise and its staff members, and create sustainability for the project.

Currently, the CCAP Health Department is in the midst of a cervical cancer screening, treatment and education program funded by the Presbyterian Women Thank Offering. The program is targeting women in the three communities with CCAP rural health centers as well as CCAP women across the entire Synod of Zambia. Zambia is the country with the highest rates of cervical cancer in Sub-Saharan Africa. This program has spread awareness of the disease and is encouraging women to take the necessary precautions and go for cervical cancer screening. Women's lives are being saved because of this program and the support the department has received from Presbyterian Women.



Rev. Kunda presents delivery beds to Lundazi District Council Chair, Margaret Msimuko, Ministry of Health Director, Dr. D. Zulu, and Lundazi District Hospital Administrator, Dr. Balungisa

Partnership Efforts

PCUSA has also helped the CCAP Health Department prevent malaria at Egichikeni and Ndaiwala Rural Health Centers. Malaria is one of the primary causes of death in Zambia. Although the Ministry of Health is doing its best to prevent malaria all of the needs are not being met. With funding from PCUSA, we have been able to fill in some of those gaps to further reduce malaria rates at its two operating rural health centers. This project is another good example of how CCAP is working in partnership with the Ministry of Health to alleviate a deadly disease in Zambia.

Partnership Efforts (Cont.)

Arguably the biggest support the CCAP Health Department has received from PCUSA is the sending of a Mission Co-Worker, Melissa Johnson. Without Melissa's help, none of the aforementioned projects would have been possible. Melissa and her husband Charles have been a great addition to CCAP Synod of Zambia. We are very grateful for them and their dedication to serving the Church. With the addition of Melissa, the Health Department now has an established office and presence within the greater Lundazi community. We are also thankful that they have encouraged friends and visitors from the United States to come for short-term mission trips in Zambia. The department has been blessed to receive three groups of visitors since 2016.



Patty Clark and Martha Sherrod from Northwood Presbyterian Church in San Antonio present gifts to the Health Department during their April 2019 visit.



New clinic being constructed at Phalaza. We are so grateful that we have received donations for half of the funds necessary to complete the project and are praying that the remaining funds will soon be provided.

How you can help

Gifts in support of the CCAP Health Department can be made through PC(USA) and designated to a particular project (Phalaza Clinic Construction, Malaria, Programs for Women and Girls) or undesignated so that the department can use them for the greatest need. All gifts should indicate CCAP Zambia Health Department, ECO Account E052043

Donations can be sent to,
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
PO Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Gifts can also be made directly to the CCAP Health Department via wire transfer. Please contact us for more information about this option.

Challenges

Despite all of the generous support the department has received, there are still a number of challenges preventing the department from reaching its full potential. The two biggest challenges are the lack of funding for salaries for the department staff (the department coordinator and four supporting staff members) and transportation, both for the department and the three rural health centers. Another challenge is office upkeep and equipment. PCUSA has graciously given the department funds for some office supplies, however, there are still a few gaps that are preventing the office from operating smoothly. If these challenges could be mitigated, the impact of the department would be that much greater due to a lack of limitations.

Thank you again to PCUSA for all of your support over the years. With your help, the Health department has been able to make great strides in improving access to healthcare for thousands of rural Zambians. It is our prayer that the partnership between PCUSA and the CCAP Synod of Zambia Health department continues into the new year and many years beyond.

Blessings in this holiday season and into the New Year.

Sincerely,

Richard Willima, Coordinator

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