

NEW

Fish Farming in Zambia

Embarking on a New Project

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Chickens at Bella Ciao

Project Successfully
Completed

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ZACTS School Fish Farming Project

Since 2018, the ZACTS School for Orphans and Vulnerable Children, in Solwezi, Zambia, has been running a farm on its property to raise funds for the school's operations and provide nutritious food for the students. Currently, they grow cabbage, tomatoes, corn, and onions, and raise broiler chickens and cows for meat and dairy. However, with the dramatic increase in the student population, feeding them and raising funds for operations is challenging!

After completing a pilot project in fish farming some years ago and staff just finishing a training course in fish farming, our partners are eager to expand and create a new income-generating venture. **This project aims not only to supply the students with protein but also to sell the fish at the market and teach pupils about fish farming.** Fish consumption has increased enormously in Zambia as consumers are wanting white meat instead of red meat.

To achieve this, they plan to construct a 20x20 metre fishpond on the school property and start with 3,000 tilapia fingerlings, a climate-resilient fish that is rich in nutrients like Omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins, and minerals. Tilapia farming will also diversify the school's agriculture program, reducing dependence on crops and providing a reliable income source. The school curriculum will be adapted to offer students in grades 8-12 the opportunity to learn about aquaculture, with a focus on fostering entrepreneurship.



With your help we can make a difference in the ZACTS community and today we are asking you to support this exciting new fish farming venture. Your gift will provide nutritious meals for the students and income for the operation of the school. The cost of the project is \$7,500 which will also allow restocking of the pond. Together, we can make a positive impact on the lives of these children, the school, and the community.



Chickens at Bella Ciao are Impacting the Community



The successes haven't gone unnoticed, catching the attention of the wider community. Bella Ciao has been receiving more visitors, ranging from curious neighbors to aspiring entrepreneurs. They're fascinated by what's been achieved and are eager to learn. It's amazing to see how this project is empowering not only the children and staff, but the entire community!

Thank you to all who supported this project!

Bella Ciao is a remarkable safe house and drop-in centre in Kawangware Slum in Nairobi, Kenya. Here, children are rescued from abuse and violence and instilled with hope through education, psychosocial development, and emotional support. **The Chicken Coop Project was introduced to provide a sustainable food source for the children and to equip them with valuable practical skills for their future.**

As a result of your contributions to the Baskets of Love Campaign, construction of a chicken and animal coop has been completed. This coop is now home to 100 chicks, 2 turkeys, and 30 rabbits. To ensure the animals' well-being, all necessary vaccinations and fumigations have been diligently administered, guaranteeing a healthy and hygienic environment.

Training sessions were organized for 26 children and staff members, covering all aspects of animal care, including cleaning, feeding, and egg handling. The children take turns caring for the animals, with staff members offering supervision, guidance, and enforcement of safety protocols.



One child who has developed a passion for the animals is Shantel. After coming to the centre from school, she immediately heads to the coop to ensure the animals are well-fed and happy before even considering her own supper. This devotion has not only had a positive impact on her life but has also inspired her peers, creating a ripple effect of enthusiasm among the other children in the program.

The Water Project in Kona Can Now Begin

On June 3rd, Women Making a Difference held a 5k Walk for Water to raise funds for a water project in the drought-ridden community of Kona, Burkina Faso. Then on July 21st, members of the Bonavista Church in Calgary, who were inspired by the event, held a similar walk in their community. **With everyone's involvement, you surpassed the fundraising goal!**

Thank you so much to everyone who was involved in this initiative. The funds raised will soon bring significant

positive change, as women and girls in Kona, Burkina Faso will no longer have to trek long distances to get water, improving health and wellness in the local community.

If your church or community club is interested in a running a similar type of outreach activity, get in touch with us! We'd love to help you organize your own event, whether it be for another water project or any other project on our website that stands out to you. Let's make more positive waves together!

A Big Thank You from the Ephphata School

The solar panel project at Ephphata School for the Deaf in Lubumbashi, DR Congo has successfully completed its third and final phase!

Now, every room and corner of the campus is powered by sustainable and green energy. The lights shine brightly, facilitating smooth sign language communication, and essential vocational training equipment like sewing machines, computers, and carpentry tools are all running on renewable energy. What's more, security lights have been installed on all the school buildings, ensuring the school's equipment and livestock are kept safe against theft and vandalism.

With stable electricity in place, the school can now provide uninterrupted education, empowering students to develop their knowledge and skills. A big thank you to everyone who helped light the way!



Sponsorship Highlights

Highlight from Bangladesh

Johanna is a former recipient of child sponsorship in Bangladesh. Her father's role as a pastor came with financial challenges, given the minority status of Christianity in the country. School was a luxury they couldn't afford until they found out about International Needs' Savar Children's Village. There, Johanna was able to access education for free!

Johanna excelled in her studies, and after graduating, went on to pursue nursing in college. **Today, she works at a city hospital in Khulna.** None of this would've been possible without her sponsors. Johanna and her family can't thank them enough for changing her life in such an amazing way!



Highlight from Uganda

Meet Prossy, a strong and determined woman from Buikwe, Uganda. Sadly, she became a widow in 2020, and was left with the responsibility of raising her five children all on her own. To add to her troubles, her village food stall, her main source of income, collapsed as she had to use its capital to cover her late husband's medical bills.

Thankfully, a ray of hope arrived through sponsorship support from Canada. **Prossy received funds to build a spacious pigsty, buy two pigs, and provide them with proper nutrition and vaccinations.**

Prossy expressed her gratitude, saying, "Through this project, I've been able to support my family and meet our daily needs. Recently, we decided to sell one of the mature pigs to buy school supplies for my children, get a solar light battery to help my children study at night, stock up on food, and invest in two more piglets. This positive change has brought a smile to my children's faces and transformed our lives at home. I pray that the good Lord showers blessings upon all of you who have transformed my life through your support and for generations to come."



Support for the Ghana Medical Trip

November 2023

In November 2023, Festus Addei, the Director of Programs and Projects at International Needs Canada, will be leading a medical outreach to Ghana! The main objective of this trip is to address the prevalent issue of malnutrition among children and youth in schools located in the Volta Region.

During the outreach, the medical team will conduct health assessments for the students, provide essential nutritional medicines and supplements, and work closely with the schools to procure farm animals and establish a sustainable garden. These efforts aim to combat malnutrition effectively and improve the quality of food available to the children.

Currently, we are seeking support in the form of contributions towards the purchase of supplies.

Our budget for the necessary supplies is \$15,000, and any contribution, big or small, would be greatly appreciated. If you are interested in supporting our medical team and making a positive impact, please feel free to reach out to Festus at festus@internationalneeds.ca.



Please note that our original plans for a medical trip to Bangladesh in October 2023, as mentioned in our Spring Link, have been postponed due to the upcoming elections in December. We will keep you informed of any updates regarding this trip.

Praise & Prayer Corner

Praise

We're thankful that so many participated in the Walk for Water in Ontario and Alberta and raised significant funding for Burkina Faso.

Prayer

Please pray for our partners as they work hard to impact and change the lives of children in their communities.



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