



Dzikwa dancers

Economy and financial supervision

In 2006-2011, Finland's Ministry for Foreign Affairs awarded the Society a grant from its development cooperation funds. As well as public support and sponsorship payments, the Society receives donations from private individuals.

The Board of the Zimbabwe AIDS Orphans Society produces an Annual Report and Financial Statements. These are audited by an authorised accountant and ratified by the Society's Annual General Meeting. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs supervises use of the grants it awards. Dzikwa's financial statement and accounting policies are audited by the international firm of Grant Thornton Camelsa Chartered Accountants. Our Society receives full audited accounts three times a year. Thanks to the voluntary input, administrative expenses are low, less than 10% in Finland and Zimbabwe combined. No remuneration is paid to our Board members.

Further information

To find out more, please visit our website at www.zim-orphot.org or the Zimbabwe AIDS Orphans Society on Facebook.

You can also get in touch with the programme's directors. For details of our work you can e-mail us for a copy of the Society's Annual Report and also for copies of this brochure.

Contact details

Zimbabwe AIDS Orphans Society
c/o Oili Wuolle and Seppo Ainamo
Purotie 3 A 33
00380 Helsinki
Finland

www.zim-orphot.org
E-mail: zim-orphot@hotmail.com
seppo.ainamo@kolumbus.fi
mobile: +358-40 721 1405 (Seppo)
+358-50 322 6000 (Oili)

Bank Account:

Zimbabwe AIDS Orphans Society
Nordea Helsinki
IBAN: FI7617453000061640
SWIFT/BIC: NDEAFIHH
Finnish fundraising permit: no. 2020/2011/629

In Zimbabwe DZIKWA TRUST FUND

PO Box HG 916
Highlands Harare
E-mail: dzikwatrust@africaonline.co.zw
mobile: +263-772 210 855 (Seppo)
+263-772 403 485 (Oili)



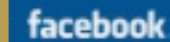
At Imire Safari Ranch



ORPHANS' PATH TO EDUCATION

- Our Society supports the education of 400 orphans in Harare
- We also provide a daily hot meal, basic health care and opportunities to enjoy hobbies
- The funds are raised from sponsors, public support and donations
- Our annual report is transparent and our administrative expenses are low
- The children grow up as productive members of society

www.zim-orphot.org



David's story

David has no birth certificate and his home has no address. He lives with eight members of his family in Dzivarasekwa, a poor suburb of Harare. Thirteen-year old David's father is dying of AIDS, and his mother died when he was so young that he has no memory of her at all. Not one of David's elder brothers has even started junior secondary school.

David dreams of being a doctor

David wants to be a doctor so that he can help sick people. Most of all, though, he would like somewhere better for his father to live, as the family's present home is a shack put together from cardboard and sheet metal. Despite the conditions, his father has brought David up to be a well-mannered boy with respect for other people. Now David looks after his father to the best of his ability. He's top of his class and enjoys all his subjects; learning to use a computer is particularly exciting. He's also very interested in what's going on in the world. "Whenever I can get a newspaper I read every page," says David.

David's sponsor helps spread happiness

In 2009, David's sponsor Ritva visited Dzivarasekwa. David is the second child that Ritva is sponsoring through the Society. Her three wishes for the children are happiness, good health and success at school. "I'm so much looking forward to meeting David. From his letters I know that's he's a very bright boy. Sponsorship is a most rewarding experience - one that I highly recommend. It feels good to be able to spread happiness."

(David's and Ritva's names have been changed)



Oili Wuolle surrounded by children

Our programme

The best way to provide a better life for children in developing countries is to help them through school. The mission of the Zimbabwe AIDS Orphans Society is to give talented but needy orphans in Dzivarasekwa sustainable, long-term access to education and welfare. The sound basic education received by the children in our programme gives them a good start in life and equips them to help build up their country.

We collect funds to support the education and welfare of orphaned children. Local operations are run by our partner in Zimbabwe, the Dzikwa Trust Fund, or Dzikwa for short.

We pay the children's school charges, buy their school uniforms, sportswear and other school necessities, provide a daily hot meal, and pay for their health care. The 400 or so children in our programme attend various schools in Dzivarasekwa. We also support some students in higher education.



Our kitchen provides hot meals every day of the year

cooperation funds from Finland's Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Then in spring 2011, an ICT block was inaugurated. Also on the site are a ball court, vegetable garden and bore hole.

A major contribution on a voluntary basis is made by the founders of the programme, Seppo Ainamo and Oili Wuolle.

It all began in 1992 with support for the education of one child. Gradually the commitment grew and since 2003 operations have been conducted through registered societies in Zimbabwe and Finland

We aim in the long run to transfer responsibility for the local running of the programme to the Dzikwa Trust Fund and to the non-governmental organisation Friends of Dzikwa Society. We shall also endeavour to increase local funding.

Children

We select children for the programme on the recommendation of their school or through direct contact. Our criteria are that the child has lost one or both parents, the guardian is unable to pay the school charges, and the child is doing well at school. We place great value on the education of girls, and 65% of our orphans are girls. The main reason for children being orphaned in Zimbabwe is HIV/AIDS, which affects 15% of the population.

Zimbabwe's school system

In Zimbabwe, children are entitled, not obliged, to go to school but education is not free. School starts at the age of six. Classes are big, sometimes with even more than 50 pupils. Primary school lasts 7 years. Junior secondary then follows for 4 years and senior secondary for 2 years, at the end of which the pupils sit for their Advanced Level examination (A-levels). Lessons are usually given in English but the majority of the children speak Shona at home.

Dzivarasekwa has seven public primary schools and two state secondary schools. There are also two schools for disabled children. When our orphans have left school, we try to place them in higher education or help them find employment.



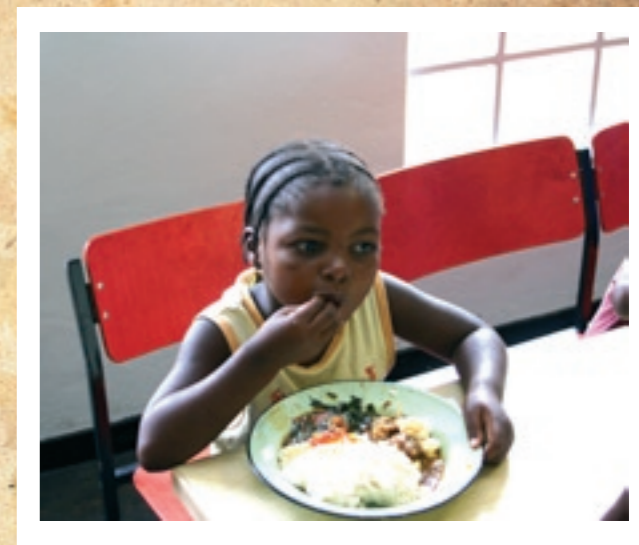
A Finnish teacher giving extra lessons

Sponsors

One of our Society's key tasks is to attract sponsors. In addition to Finland we have sponsors in Sweden, Germany, Scotland, England and Belgium. By making an annual payment, sponsors can help support their own named child. Ideally we would like sponsors to support their children right through to A-levels. However, there is no formal commitment and sponsors can leave the programme if they wish. It is up to sponsors themselves how closely they involve themselves in the lives of their children. Sponsors are always welcome to visit us in Zimbabwe, see how the programme works and meet their own children.

The sponsorship payment is adjusted annually. In 2011 it ranged from 250 to 600 euros. For a list of the current payments please visit the Society's website at www.zim-orphans.org

If you are interested in *becoming a sponsor*, please get in touch with the programme directors by e-mail: seppo.ainamo@kolumbus.fi They will send you an information package about the suggested child, after which you can make your payment into the Society's bank account.



A little girl enjoys her hot meal

Our ethical principles

Our work is guided by the children's best interests, taking account of their physical integrity and mental wellbeing as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We emphasise the following basic values in the education of the children: hard work, honesty, responsibility, initiative, and help for the less fortunate. In applying these values, we see the children above all as members of their own community and representatives of their own culture.

Openness, transparency and accountability are pivotal to our programme, enabling us to monitor closely the use made of funds and follow the development of each child on a daily basis. Our programme has neither political nor religious affiliation.



Activity Centre in Dzivarasekwa

Activity Centre

We have our own Activity Centre in Dzivarasekwa, where the children can enjoy their daily meal, do their homework, attend extra lessons, receive instruction in IT, use the Internet and practise hobbies.

In 2010, a 250 m² building housing a dining hall and kitchen was completed with the support of development