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ZAMBIAN DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT FOUNDATION

HABITAT COMMUNITY LIBRARY REPORT

DATE: 21stMay 2022

On Monday 16th May 2022, the week started on a positive note, in the morning a good number of children came through the library to study and in the afternoon, we had more children as compared to those who came in the morning. We did a lot of activities with the children helping them with difficult words; we also did spellings with them.



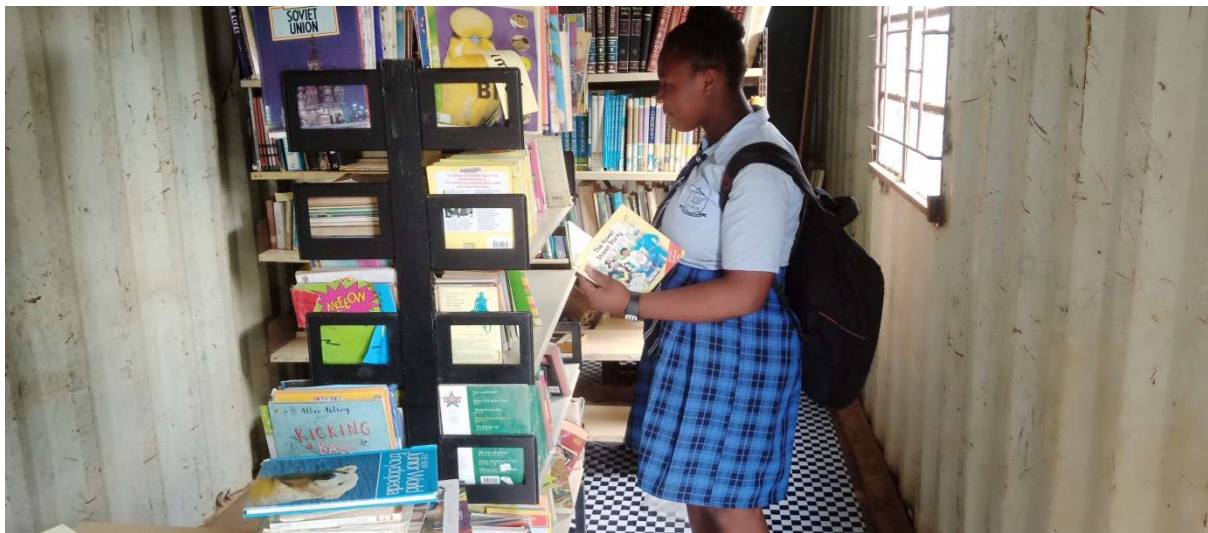
On Tuesday 17th May 2022, in the morning a sizeable number of children came through and the library was full hence some were taken outside while others remained inside the library. We did sight words games and mental math games. The children were so excited to play these games. In the afternoon we visited a school which benefited from the distribution of

books to check on how these books have helped the children in terms literacy. We were so impressed with what we found, a good number of the learners were able to read some words, phrases and simple sentences according to their level. However, we noticed that the way they were teaching literacy was not the right way of doing it so we give them some tips and hints which they were supposed to follow when teaching literacy so that it can be easier for the learners to grasp the concepts. Hence after sharing with them they requested us (Kelvin and Hakky) if on a Friday 20th May 2022 in the afternoon we can visit again and demonstrate on the steps to follow when teaching literacy lessons since none of them is trained formally.



On Wednesday 18th May 2022 in the morning we received some parents who came to appreciate the work ZDSF Library is doing in Chipulukusu. One of them lamented that her children are being kept busy with the library as those who go to school in the afternoon, she sends them to come through in the morning and those who go in the morning she send them in the afternoon and according to her, this arrangement has helped her children to be productive academically at school and it has reduced time for her children to be roaming around in the streets. The other parent also asserted that she was so grateful with the program especially that it is done for free. More children came through in the afternoon and literacy lessons were conducted to these children as most of them are not very good at reading.

On Thursday 19th may 2022, in the afternoon, we received some grade 9,11 and 12 pupils and they were so happy with what they saw, however they couldn't study from there because they are big boys and girls hence siting on the mat was a challenge for them and also they needed to write some notes as they were studying. More children came through both in the morning and in the afternoon and they were helped accordingly.



On Friday 20th May 2022, we had a few children who came through in the morning, however the very few who came were taught sounds and sight words. In the afternoon we received the grade 10 and 12 pupils who requested for Zambian curriculum books like Biology, Commerce, Technology studies and Civic education books. However, they enjoyed reading the novels. Later in the day we visited the school and conducted a teacher group meeting on literacy from 15:00 to 17:00. It was interesting to see the untrained teachers eagerly taking to heart the main points that were presented to them. The school administrator thanked Zambian Development support foundation for helping their teachers with the knowledge on teaching literacy step by step and requested more of such arrangements to be initiated for the benefit of the child.



On Saturday 21st May 2022, a lot of children came through to the library in almost all the grades for primary section, we had children who are in ECE, grade 1, grade 2, grade 3, grade 5, grade 6 and 7. We also had some grade 9 pupils.





In summary, the week was full of activities and the number of children and people visiting the library has kept on improving which is showing that, the library has a positive influence on the community as it is helping children and other people to be kept busy and improve their literacy level and there by not engaging in illicit behaviour. The only challenge we are facing is space in the library especially in the afternoons when a lot of children do come through. We therefore request and recommend that 2 more tables can be bought for the library and 12 big chairs also be bought so as a way of encouraging and motivating adults (grade 9-12) to be studying from the library.

Compiled by:

Chinyama Kelvin and Nyirenda Hakky

Zambian Development Support Foundation Librarians