



PARTNER UPDATE | ZAMBIA

January 15, 2010 – July 15, 2010

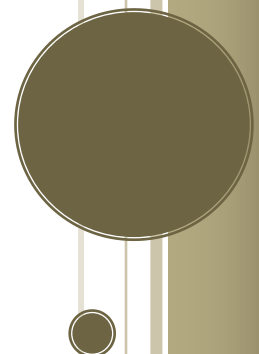
Spark Ventures exists to form partnerships with high-impact organizations around the world that help vulnerable children achieve their potential. Currently, Spark has one partner organization located in Zambia called Hope Ministries. Hope serves over 300 vulnerable children in the village of Twapia just outside Ndola through a 24-hour care orphanage (Hope House) and a primary school (Hope Community School).

The following report is a summary of and update on some of the great work and progress being made through Spark's ongoing support of Hope Ministries.

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Partnerships helping vulnerable children achieve their potential



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Hope House

Two Hope House children have begun to study Grade 10 in government schools, and three more are studying Grade 8 in government schools. The exams that allowed them to advance to these grades are considered major milestones in Zambian education, and the older children are now great role models for the younger children of Hope House who continue to study diligently at Hope Community School. Hope House had an exciting new change in staff when Agatha Kapiri joined the team in June as a new full-time house mother. Mama Agatha is also certified in social work and will be helping with various facets of the school as well. Mama Maureen, the other Hope House mother, is thrilled to have an extra pair of hands to help corral the thirteen great kids at Hope House.



Hope House mother Mama Maureen playing Battleship with Cephás, who lives at Hope House

Hope Community School



One of the finishing touches on the school: a map of Zambia

The steady progress on infrastructure for Hope Community School has continued, and as construction on the schoolhouse and student lavatories has completed, construction has started for a storeroom and full-time clinic. The clinic will be a long-term means of addressing various aspects of the students' health that Hope has already begun to tackle through efforts like the [distribution of 300 anti-malarial bed nets](#) to students in their homes in February with the help of two Spark volunteers, David Goldstein and Nancy Williams. Hope continues to run a temporary clinic twice a year with the help of North Park University students, and in May, the two-day temporary clinic featured malaria test kits for the first time, which allowed the nursing students to treat the students for malaria with a higher degree of accuracy.

Hope has also made great strides in improving the quality of the teachers, and in June Lydia Chilando, a government-trained teacher, began teaching Grade 4 at the school. She joins seven other full-time teachers at Hope Community School, who have helped to improve the school's accountability through the implementation of a record-keeping process for attendance that allows Hope to track monthly attendance rates, which stand at roughly 85% and are continuing to improve. Hope has also sought to improve the school and its staff through training programs and the addition of expert support staff, including a committee, which includes the Coordinator for Teacher Training in all Twapia government schools and an operations and construction manager, to improve and oversee various aspects of the school and construction.

In a very exciting day during Spark's June Transformation Trip, the [Shelby Goldstein Schoolhouse](#), which has been serving over 300 students since January, was [officially dedicated](#) in the presence of community leaders from around Zambia, members of the community around the school and leaders of both Spark and Hope.



Shelby Goldstein Schoolhouse dedication in June

Other News from Hope Ministries

Plans for the construction of a [poultry farm](#), a local income generator that will help Hope Ministries to become financially sustainable and independent, have moved forward with great success. Hope leaders and staff continue to make progress in learning best practices from similar businesses in the area, refining Hope's business plan and identifying and purchasing land.