

## Hearts for Zambia

# caring for orphans and vulnerable children and families

December 2010

### Container has arrived in Dar es Salaam!

We have received confirmation of the shipping container arrival in Tanzania. Sister Baptista reports: "The container is safe on the ground and we are expecting it by weeks end, just in time for dispersal of the contents at the Tetekela Center by Christmas." Mr. Navnit Patel, member of the Kasama Rotary is monitoring the movement of the container. It left the Port of Seattle in mid-September, was transferred to another ship in Shanghai, China, then to a third ship in Singapore. Sister Baptista adds, "Thank you to all the donors who have made this possible!"

#### Hearts for Zambia Board Member Visits Kasama

Recently, HFZ Board Vice President, Beatrice Roy was able to spend four weeks with the Sisters of the Child Jesus. A highlight of her trip was being able to meet the "poster child" who is featured on our brochure. His name is Gift. He was age 8 when the photograph was originally taken, and is now age 10. Here is our Gift admiring his photo, with Principal Sister Charity looking on. Beatrice's report follows:



I was often asked, "Is the cost of a trip like this worth it?" My answer is an unequivocal "Yes!" Not only did the good people of Kasama express the value of our presence among them, they frequently expressed thankfulness and appreciation for our awareness and care given to their children. I wanted to see the children for myself and am pleased to report that what I saw was heartening. It encourages me to continue to strive to tell their story. I found the children to be well-fed, healthy, vital, and filled with enthusiasm and energy. Though they come from circumstances of extreme loss and hardship, there is a strength and dignity present in each child as they participate in the daily activities of the Tetekela Day Center, which include classes in English, Math, and Cultural Studies. The children receive two hearty meals a day. Everyone involved at Tetekela (which in Bemba means "hope"), from the president of the board of directors to the youngest child, is aware that funding provided by HFZ provides food for all the children as well as the expenses for the 38 Tetekela children going to public school. It was humbling to serve as the representative for all of HFZ's generous supporters and I was known as Mama Beatrice, a title of respect and endearment.

I spent most of my time building and enriching relationships and making new connections with local partners (pictured below), including: the Kasama Rotary Club; Superior General Mother Christine; Chetekela Women Skills Club; staff of the newly opened World Vision office; both the acting and the retired Bishops of the Kasama Archdiocese; engineer Moses Chishimba who is designing the irrigation project in cooperation with the Kasama Rotary; Peace Corps. worker Suzanne; and President of the Tetekela Board, Mr. Kelvin C. Chimanga.

Please check out my blog at: http://thekaleidoscopejournal.blogspot.com



#### Tetekela Report

With an enrollment of 180 children at the Tetekela Center, about 120 are in attendance on any given day. They arrive at 7:00 am and are fed a nourishing breakfast. The children who are enrolled in public school leave each day after lunch to attend classes until 5:00 pm. The remaining children end their day at 4:30 pm with some returning to relatives or caregivers, while others fend for themselves until the Center reopens in the morning. Each afternoon, it is heartbreaking to send children away due to lack of overnight facilities. Each night, prayers are made that the children will be safe and return the next day. Because of your donations, these children are being provided with food, clothing, and an education. Although many remarkable things have been accomplished this year, much remains to be done.

During the first ten months of 2010, HFZ received donations totaling \$27,296.55. Added to our 2009 year-end balance of \$5,392, HFZ was able to buy, fill, and ship a container for a little over \$15,000 and also to transfer \$16,400 to the Sisters' account in Zambia. These funds were used to meet the urgent and basic needs for food, clothing, and education, with \$4,000 set aside toward the purchase of a farm truck. While HFZ is not the only source of income for the Sisters of the Child Jesus, the improvement in quality care and additional program development at Tetekela occurred because of your support.

The work of the Sisters is made incredibly difficult partly due to an unreliable water supply and limited facilities. Plans for the upcoming year include many construction and economic development projects. HFZ is seeking funds to support the installation of a borehole well, a septic tank system, more classrooms, and a residence for the most vulnerable children. Your support will enable the Sisters to continue to improve the lives of children in their care. End of the year

donations will be welcomed!

Please find enclosed my gift to help the Sisters of the Child Jesus care for the children who come to them every day.
My gift is \$ (Your donation is 100% tax-deductible.)
Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email:



#### St. Leo Fair Trade Market

Thanks to all who helped make the threeday Fair Trade Market a success. Zambian crafts were made available and donations totaled over \$1,000!

#### Donate via PayPal

You can sign up to make a one-time or regularly scheduled donation (e.g. monthly or quarterly etc.) by means of PayPal's secure payment system.
Go to www.Paypal.com, set up your account, link your bank account or your credit card, and you are all set. Then go to <a href="https://www.heartsforzambia.org">www.heartsforzambia.org</a> and click on "donate-now"





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Our mission is to support and promote the mission of the Sisters of the Child Jesus in meeting the critical and long-term needs of orphans, vulnerable children and families in the Northern Province of Zambia, Africa

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