# Hearts for Zambia

Your opportunity to make a difference for vulnerable children and families

March 2014

### School report from Sister Baptista

"Starting the new term in January there are 24 boys and 3 girls in secondary school, 29 boys and 21 girls in primary school and 12 boys and 13 girls in pre-school. For those in secondary school, we pay for tuition, school uniforms, and school supplies. [Most of] the girls stop school and get married which makes us feel sad."



The students of Tetekela are proud to wear their school uniforms

The reports from Tetekela tell of a dynamic program addressing many needs of the children in the care of the Sisters. There has been great progress, yet the fact remains that each day at 4:30 the children must leave and the gates are locked until the next morning. Some of the children have places to go but many must fend for themselves on the street. Part of the reason so many of the girls drop out before completing the education available to them is that they do not have a place to live, so they must marry. Our hope is that in the near future we will be addressing the need for safe housing.

#### **Changes in the HFZ Board of Directors**

At the January 2014 annual Board of Directors meeting, Bruce Foreman, who was a founding member of Hearts for Zambia, and has served as board of directors president since its inception, has relinquished his leadership position, but will continue to be a board member. The new elected position of President is Beatrice Roy, Vice President Mike Harrison, continuing as secretary Paula Foreman, and continuing as treasurer Jackie Simkins. The Board welcomes new volunteers; Jessica Rush and Yahya Abdirahman



The board welcomes new member, Deborah Cruz, who is operating manager of Columbia Bank at the Allenmore Branch.



St. Patrick Parish Knights of Columbus

## **Fish Dinner**

to benefit

Hearts for Zambia
Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014
Serving from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

St. Patrick's Church Basement, North 12th and J Street, Tacoma Admission by Donation

#### Volunteer from Tacoma spends a month at Tetekela

This report comes to us from Corey Glackin-Coley, a 2013 graduate of Stadium High School who has been visiting Tetekela.

"When we are not in class I spend most of my time dancing and playing with the kids and let them be fascinated by my hairy arms and legs and head."



He writes: I have been in Kasama, staying at Tetekela for three weeks. I spend most of my time teaching and playing lots of basketball and football. I have been doing a little bit of farming. It rains almost every day and the maize is looking great. The pigs look quite healthy. There are 5 big ones, 15 medium sized ones, and a mother just gave birth to six cute little piglets. The children got to eat one of the pigs for lunch today which was nice to see because they do not usually eat meat. People come to see Sister Charity (the administrator) almost every day bringing children they want to sign up. All the kids who are grades 6 and below spend the morning at Tetekela and the afternoon at the state school. The bigger kids go to school from about 7:00 a.m. to around 1:30 pm and spend the afternoon at Tetekela. There are kids of many different ages who do not yet qualify for school because they aren't ready from an educational standpoint, so they spend the whole day at Tetekela. None of them had any education before coming here. There is much coming and going and meal times depend on different programs for different groups. But each day every child gets two meals and a time schedule and structure that fits them. There is a kind of family feeling among the children and the Sisters.

Deepest thanks to the following donors have contributed to Hearts for Zambia and the work of the Sisters of the Child Jesus during 2012 and 2013. Many un-named contributors have supported by visiting the crafts table at the St. Leo Fair Trade Market and by attending the St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus dinners. To all who have supported in any way, please know the children are aware of the care and generosity you have shown. Beyond the physical support you provide them with hope. (If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please let us know.)

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The biggest single operating expense for Hearts for Zambia is printing. If you, or someone you know could provide this service please contact us.

Please find enclosed my gift to help the Sisters of the Child Jesus care for the children who come to them every day. (please make checks payable to Hearts for Zambia) My gift is \$\mathbb{D}	Hearts for Zambía your opportunity to make a difference for vulnerable children and families
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