

JULY 2019

FOSA NEWSLETTER

News from the Fairfield Children's Homes



A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

By Jeff Matheny

It is my pleasure to present to you this newsletter from Fairfield Outreach and Sponsors Association (FOSA). On behalf of myself, and all of us on the Board, we are so thrilled to have your ongoing support, love and prayers as we fight to make a difference for the 67 children living at the Homes.

As you may or may not know, Zimbabwe is continuing to face a severe financial crisis. The country is experiencing intensifying political and economic unrest and most Zimbabweans are struggling to afford some of the most basic goods and services. Today, basic staples cost upwards of \$20, when a mere year ago they were available for \$3. A box of tissues costs \$7.15 and there is a ration of one can of baby formula per purchase. Many gas stations are out of fuel and supplies and services are getting harder and harder to come by.

It is times like these that we are reminded of the strength, faith and unfathomable tenacity that Zimbabweans exhibit on a daily basis. We are forever thankful for the strength and service that Fairfield's Staff, Mothers and Aunties give to the children each and every day. We are both humbled and honored to be a part of this mission, and we are forever grateful for every sponsor that has joined us.

This September our 12 board members will meet in Denver for our annual Board Meeting. Every year we discuss our successes, our challenges, and brainstorm ways that we can better serve the needs of the children. We look forward to sharing with you some of the updates and highlights from our meeting, and until then, thank you for being a part of our story.

Sincerely,
Jeff Matheny

LOOKING TO SPONSOR?

KELVIN CHAERERA, AGE 6

Kelvin Needs a Sponsor!

Kelvin was born on March 25th, 2013. He is so fun and plays with others nicely. He behaves well and performs his tasks when asked. He likes singing in church and playing with toys. He also loves to eat vegetables, but prefers meat!

Find out more about sponsorships at
<http://fosakids.org>



ESSAY CONTEST

What Are You Most Grateful For?
When Do You Feel Closest to God?

The children and mothers of Fairfield were challenged to write an essay about their faith and what they are most grateful for. We received many incredible submissions; here is the winner of our youth competition as well as a submission by one of the wonderful Mothers.

Mrs. Kahlari
Mother, House 9

When and Where Have You Felt the Closest to God?

It was a hurtful experience when I told the loss of my husband Rev. Kahlari on July 7th, 2014 at old Mutare Mission. It seemed as the world had turned upside down for me, but I was not alone with God.

In life I noticed that you should have good relationships with others and your neighbors. From Old Mutare to my old homestead, people came in the hundreds. I had not enough resources to use for cooking utensils, serving equipment and laborers to cater for the funeral, which had thousands of people.

To my surprise, people flocked to help! There was a special catering committee from Old Mutare and St. Peters United Methodist Church in Mutare. They did most of the work and some even spent time with me after the burial.

Surely I am really thankful and feel very close to God because people showed their deepest love in time of trouble, and I noticed well enough that one good turn deserves another.



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Surely I am really thankful and feel very close to God because people showered me with their deepest love in time of trouble...

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Annah Makore

Age 16

House 8

What Are you Most Thankful for and Why?

Firstly, I would like to thank God for the unending love he is giving to me because if it was not for him, I would not be who I am today. I also want to thank him for the special talent he gave me because he always smiles at me. He always protects me and gives me air to breathe.

Secondly, I would like to thank my parents and friends who are always there for me because they always see the first tear, catch the second one and stop the third one. My mother always supports me, especially during my exams. Every time I see her, I see God through her.

Lastly I would like to thank the people who sponsor me and pay my school fees, because education is the most powerful weapon I can use to change the world. If kisses were trees, I would give them the forest and if hugs were water, I would give them the ocean. In short I just want to say " I love you."

HOUSE SPOTLIGHT

BY, ANGELLAH MARIJENI

HOUSE 1

We are house 1 and we are glad to be writing this letter to you telling you about our family. Here's trusting and hoping that we find you well.

Our family is comprised of nine children who are all loving and caring. The children are: Ngonidzashe, Trust, Isaac, Rumbidzai, Tonderai, Makanaka, Tinotenda, Anenyahsa and Prince.

Ngonidzashe is now in his final term in high school and is starting his public exams on 15 October. He is a very hard-working boy who loves his school work. We are proud of him and as a family we look up to him for support and guidance in school work. Last term, he was able to be among the top 20 best students doing upper six at Hartzell High School, attaining



position 11. After high school he seeks to be enrolled in University and fulfill his dream of becoming a diplomat. Ngonidzashé is also into extra-curricular activities at his school. During his two years at A level, he was a member of the Leo Club, a charity organization that seeks to offer a helping hand to the less privileged members of society, where he was the club spokesperson. He was also a member of the Hartzell school choir.

Trust recently finished his ordinary level at Hartzell and has since enrolled with the Mutare Polytechnical College where he is studying electrical engineering. He is a very talented young man who loves playing soccer. In high school, Trust played soccer on the school team and was also a member of the school choir. We pray and hope that Trust will be able to complete his studies at the Polytechnical college and get a great job where he can start his own life.

Isaac completes his second year in high school this year. For the past two years he has been in high school, Isaac has turned to

be a very smart boy. His grades in all his subjects are a clear testimony of his intelligence. He is also a talented boy who takes part in extra-curricular activities. Isaac enjoys playing soccer and we thank his soccer coach who has identified his talent and is helping to mature his skills. When he grows up, Isaac seeks to be an accountant. We pray and hope that his dream will be fulfilled.

Rumbidzai, just like Isaac, is in her second year in high school. She is a young and amazing girl who enjoys singing. Her favorite subject in school is food science. Rumbidzai has also turned out to be a sports woman. During her two years in high school, she has participated a lot in athletics. She represents the school in zonal and district competitions held at Hillcrest College. She is also a member of the Hartzell women's soccer team. When she grows up, she draws her inspiration from Rumbidzai Takawira, who is a news anchor at the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC).

Tonderai enjoys playing volleyball and he has represented his school at zonal and district competitions held in July. He was also part of the volleyball team that participated at the United Methodist Schools' Sports Festivals and their school attained first position. Tonderai wants to be a scientist when he grows up and it is our prayer as a family that his dreams are fulfilled.

Makanaka is also a fifth grader at Hartzell primary school. She is a joyous girl. She is intelligent and this can be testified by her grades in her school work. Makanaka is also a talented girl who enjoys playing soccer. She participated in her school's women's' soccer team and had an opportunity to represent her school at zonal and district competitions. She also enjoys reading novels and playing with her little sisters. We pray that her dream of becoming a pilot will be fulfilled in some years to come.

Tinotenda is in her first grade. She is an amazing girl who is ever-smiling. Tinotenda loves reading her books and playing with

her friends. We thank God that she has been doing very well in her studies and it is our hope that all her dreams and aspirations will be fulfilled in the near future.

Anenyasha is still doing her elementary education. She is a four-year-old girl who is very loving. Anenyasha is always smiling and she enjoys her school work. She has many friends at school and at home. We wish her a very bright future ahead of her.

Prince is our last born. He is a boy who is always happy, and at two years old, he is always busy and getting into stuff. Prince is not yet going to school and stays with mom at home when the rest of the kids go to school. We are very grateful for his presence as he brings joy to the family every time he puts a smile on his face.

Thank you for listening to the story of our home. I hope that you will continue supporting us until we reach our goals in life. We pray that whatever you give towards our welfare, God will restore, and may his abundant grace and blessings be showered upon your life and those of your families.

OH, THE PLACES THEY'LL GO!

Whether it's going off to college or being blessed with a loving family, we have a few exciting announcements about our children!

Ngoni Mutasa

Ngoni has found a loving family that has decided to foster him.

Prince Chitsua

Prince has found a beautiful family that has chosen to adopt him.

Tallent Tonaka

Tallent will be heading off to college to study Catering.

Alice Mayo

Alice's talents have led her to be sponsored by a women's soccer league.

Annah Makore

Annah is pursuing her college degree in Fashion Design.

A LETTER FROM COLLEGE

BY, JUSTICE MANHANDO

I would want to start by expressing my gratitude, joy and appreciation over all what you been doing for me from a world away. Being able to attend University these days in Zimbabwe is rare, the economy is bad and the prices are constantly increasing. I really recognize your efforts and will continue to be dedicated and do my best because I believe you are also working hard to raise such money for my fees.

In March 2017, I started my tertiary education at Africa University, having being enrolled as a Medical Laboratory Science student. I do enjoy the classes and have big hopes in this medical field. Recently I submitted a project proposal on the effectiveness of Biomarkers in early cancer detection, which I will undertake during my attachment. Though this is a school requirement, I am sure I will enjoy this project and trying to understand and to increase cancer knowledge since it has claimed, and still continues, to claim lives. Our academic calendar has 2 semesters per year, so I have completed my first semester of my third academic year. This will be followed by a 3 month winter break (May - July) and will resume school in August, going on attachment for the whole year. I will be working in the second largest public hospital lab in the country - in Bulawayo.

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It is my aim to give, show love and care for others just as you are doing to me.

I am finishing my university studies in December 2020 but will graduate in June the following year. Despite the salary being low in Zimbabwe, I am proud of doing medical lab science. In Zimbabwe, with the country's unemployment rate being estimated to be over 90%, getting a job in this area is not as difficult as other areas, so I do hope I will get one.

My future plans after school: Soon after my undergrad degree, I aspire to work and gain experience for about 2 years, working in the field then hope to be back to school for my masters study. I have still yet to decide on the medical laboratory discipline I will major in. This will be at a different university or even outside Zimbabwe or Africa. The idea of working back for masters is to have a deep understanding of my field with hands on the ground. From those I have consulted, many do say that pursuing learning at a young age plus after being exposed to the real work environment is an aided advantage since it increases more understanding when doing masters. In the end, I aspire to work at continental level or working for an international organization.

When I was a first year student, I was in the school choir and hockey was my sport of choice. However, as courses mount, pressure increased, schooling became tough and time for that became limited so I later dropped everything. My social life at school is not that When I was a first year student, I was in the school choir and hockey was my sport of choice. However, as courses mount, pressure increased, schooling became tough and time for that became limited. I only afford to do activities related to school and those which increase my intellectual ability, even if it may not be necessarily in my field. For example, I was of the constitution commissioners who amended the student union constitution, I am a student coordinator in my class and I was part of the 14 students who held election for the student union.



Thank you again for your generosity. I am truly humbled by your unlimited support and help, for which I cannot thank you enough. It is my aim to give, show love and care for others just as you are doing to me. I hope this finds you well. And may blessings continue to mount on you.

Yours truly, love and best regards from Africa,
Justice

THAT'S ALL FOR NOW...

We look forward to bringing you more information about the Hartzell High School fire, new children joining the Fairfield family, and updates from our September Board Meeting!