



P.H.♀.E.B.E

PROMOTION OF HEALTH, OPPORTUNITY,
EQUALITY, BENEVOLENCE & EMPOWERMENT
FOR BLACK AND ETHNIC MINORITY
WOMEN AND CHILDREN

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In order to empower women and children to take ownership of their lives and to create employment, P.H.O.E.B.E (Promotion of Health Opportunity Equality Benevolence and Opportunity) formerly known as Zimbabwe Women's Resource Centre has been chosen as the official UK representative for coordinating and mobilizing women's groups, churches, schools and cooperatives in Zimbabwe, which would like to apply for recycled tools through Tools With A Mission, (TWAM) a British Christian charity, based here in Ipswich.

The director of PHOEBE, Mrs Mollin Delve expressed her excitement on the success of sending a full container of tools to Zimbabwe. She said this country's vulnerable women and children needed urgent help and support. She thanked their friends and supporters who helped collect tools and particularly TWAM for sending this container to Africa.

Through the project, groups will benefit from this opportunity to improve lives by becoming members and applying for self-help tools such as sewing machines, welding and carpentry machinery. The generous donations of people of Suffolk has enabled 30 projects managed by women in Zimbabwe to apply for the tools to start income generating project. Some of these projects benefit orphans directly. Below is one of such groups, telling their story. If you wish to apply, please contact us here in Ipswich at 19 Tower Street, 01473 231566 or email admin@zwrc.org.uk.

In the photograph below, Mrs Mollin Delve, director of P.H.O.E.B.E and volunteers who helped collect recycled tools, packed and loaded them into the container.





Volunteers at Tools With A Mission loading the container at TWAM headquarters in Ipswich, Suffolk and which travelled to Zimbabwe.







The Story of 'Rose Of Sharon Welfare Organisation'

EMBARKING ON LIFE SKILLS PROJECTS AT ROSE OF SHARON ORPHANAGE

Introduction

Disadvantaged children are being affected by the current set up in the training systems where there are some restrictions which keep them out of the formal vocational skills training system. Our research has shown that these orphans (OVC) can be made self reliant if they are trained in some vocational skills. If they are adequately trained in some vocational skill, they can be formally employed or set up their own small businesses.

At Rose of Sharon, we have embarked upon income generating projects. These are life skills projects which function both as educational platforms that we use to impart survival skills on our children and also help in generating income for the day to day running of the Homes. The projects range from poultry, peanut butter making, animal husbandry, cropping activities and horticulture. These projects help to ensure that there is no interruption of basic food requirements and promote balanced diets which are nutritious for orphans. We are planning in 2013 to increase the range of courses that we are currently offering to include garment making, mechanics, carpentry, welding and electronics.

Our Poultry Project

We are at the moment looking after 300 broiler chickens. These chickens are now four weeks old. In the next two weeks we will be selling them to the local market. This season is the best time to concentrate on chicken production since we are approaching the Christmas festival. This is the time when the food industry boom is at its climax. In this case we will not go wrong because the target market is growing. We are going to do more batches of 300 birds per time after every six weeks. Three hundred (300) is a good number for us because it is manageable both financially and physically. The buying price for 300 day old chicks is \$300 which translates to \$1 per chicken. The cost to raise a chicken is \$3 per every six weeks and this brings our total expense per bird to \$4. We then sell 250 chickens to the local community at \$6 per bird giving us a total profit of \$2 per bird. We retain 50 chickens from each batch so that we can have meat to feed the children.



Our Peanut Butter Project

We also make peanut butter which we then sell to the local community and we keep some for our kids. The product is a bit slow to sell but is very cheap to make. Our kids like to spread the peanut butter on bread and to put some in porridge. Instead of preparing our relish with cooking oil which is a bit expensive, we opt to use peanut butter. It is a healthy and nutritious component of our diet. The total cost for making a 300ml bottle is \$0.99 and the selling price is \$1.75 per that same bottle. With this project we make money by pushing volumes.



The Maize Field

We are in the process of preparing three hectares of land for growing maize beginning first week of November. Maize is the staple food of Zimbabwe. The maize variety we are going to plant is a short season variety which takes only three months to mature. This means that it will be ready for harvest by the beginning of February 2013. Since maize meal is rich in nutrients mainly carbohydrates, it is used for cooking sadza, making porridge, baking bread and for feeding cattle. Children like to take it to school as cooked cobs.



Field preparation before planting (Furrowing & Disking)

Expected Crop size after 5 weeks (weed removal)

Conclusion

It is our hope that as we teach our kids by example, they will be able to emulate and implement what they see for their personal, intellectual and social development. We do not want to create social misfits because that is the danger of institutionalization. We intend to produce well socialized and educated individuals who will be responsible both in their personal and public lives. We want them to interiorize and develop a culture of creativity, entrepreneurship and self-reliance. They do not only have to be receivers but givers as well. In other words, in whatever situation they find themselves, they do not always have to think of what their benefit is but they also have to think of what they can give in order to make a difference.