



**kidsalive**<sup>®</sup>  
INTERNATIONAL

## ZAMBIA

### Lilato Children's Village

The Mongu region in western Zambia has been devastated by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, leaving thousands of children orphaned. At Lilato we currently have three residential homes, providing loving, holistic care to 48 of these precious children. The village also has a kitchen, central hall, vegetable garden, and infirmary. We also have another home in a different part of the village for our youngest children, most of whom came to us as babies.

While living here, most of our children attend local public schools, where an education gives them the chance to break cycles of poverty and violence. Every child has a safe place to sleep, nutritious meals, and medical attention, along with hearing daily about the love of Jesus. We are working toward increasing the home's staff-to-child ratios, and we are expanding our Keeping Families Together programs so we can help more children in the communities.

Recent accomplishments include hiring a new director, training a new house mother, upgrading our girls' home, and installing a new hand pump. Our goals for the coming year are to provide more regular training and support for all staff, as well as to provide specific skills training for staff in their areas of expertise. All of our work is built upon our mission to offer hope to the most vulnerable children, giving them a chance at a brighter future.

# Hope Changes Everything...

## AT LILATO CHILDREN'S VILLAGE!

So many of our children have experienced loss on a grand scale, and Michael\* is one of them. He was born in 2003, and his mother died two weeks after his birth. Since no one knew the identity of his father, his care was passed to his grandparents who had no means of providing for a needy infant. It wasn't long before both of his grandparents also died. Some relatives took him in, but they were also old and poverty-stricken. Thankfully, neighbors became concerned about Michael's health and safety due to the terrible conditions in the home, and Kids Alive was asked to assess the situation.

In 2005 Michael came to live at Lilato. We offered him not only a safe place to live, but healthy food, loving attention, and medical care. Slowly he began to improve and is now one of the happiest kids in the village. He is currently in 9th grade, loves school very much, and is dedicated to Jesus. Teachers at school say he is brilliant and strong, and Michael dreams of becoming a teacher one day. His story is a shining example of hope breaking through and changing everything.

\*name changed  
to protect privacy



*"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in The Lord."*

Psalms 31:24 (NIV)

# What's happening...

## IN ZAMBIA?

Zambia is a country in crisis, as the HIV/AIDS epidemic and severe poverty continue their stranglehold. Within 10 years, there are expected to be thousands of newly orphaned children and many thousands more who need intensive medical care, and Kids Alive is privileged to help as many as we can. We offer quality education, healthy meals, and the love of Jesus to almost 700 kids in Zambia.

This past year, we have celebrated several accomplishments and milestones in our care for at-risk children. Every one of our 7th grade students passed their exams with 100% marks. At Kids Alive Academy, we completed a four-block classroom, enabling us to teach our students more effectively, and a fourth residential home was constructed at Chikondi Village.

Our children continue to thrive, participating in many activities that will help them to become well-rounded,

responsible adults. From workshops and camp meetings to counseling by our staff, lives are being transformed, largely because of the generosity of sponsors. Hopelessness is turning to hopefulness before our eyes.

As we look to the future, there is much we want to accomplish. Under the leadership of our newly-hired Country Director, construction projects at the Academy should be completed this year, and we will continue staff training in how to better care for at-risk kids. Another area of focus is aligning with new Zambian government child protection policies.

We believe there is much to be hopeful about in Zambia, as we see daily the fruits of our labor in the faces of children who have been rescued. All that we do is focused on offering hope to the most vulnerable and sharing with them the good news of the Gospel.

# Partner with us in prayer...

### God is working at Lilato! Please pray for:

- Health, spiritual growth, and academic success for each child
- Reintegration of older kids back into their extended families
- Funds for a water-harvesting project and a bus

