

Update this description for Daniel who wants a plot

This is Lina. She is 40 years old and has 5 children. Unfortunately, her divorced husband does not help the children financially, so Lina must cover the whole family's expenses from just her small monthly allowance from working at the Tikondane Community Centre. The vast majority of her money is going to pay rent, leaving little help for food and other expenses. Lina's biggest hope right now is to own her own plot of land so she can grow food for her family and one day build a house. We would like to help Lina as we believe a plot is the first step in providing stable nutrition and housing for her family now and into the future.

In Katete, Eastern Province, Zambia – where Lina and her family live – if you wish to purchase a plot of land, you must go to the chief and ask his permission. Katete is a growing town and so plots are in high demand which has caused their price to increase steadily. While in America, families only move into a home once it is completely built, in Zambia families take a more incremental approach. First they will buy the land and begin using it to grow maize and other food for their families or for sale. Once there is enough money saved, they can then buy bricks to build their walls and iron sheets for the roof. Once this is done, they are able to begin living in the house. From there, they can replace the dirt floors with cement, install glass paned windows, and add doors to the bedrooms for privacy. In this way, it is common to see people living in homes that are in all stages of being built.

In the first year, even without a house on it yet, Lina's life will be improved with a plot of land. She can grow food and veggies which she can sell at the market. Soon, we hope that she will have saved enough to start building her home. We intend to help her with future DonorSee projects to ensure her home will be built safely and well protected from the rains.

10% of your donation will go to support the Tikondane Community Centre which provides Lina with a monthly allowance, school fees for her children, and survival help in kind.

We are grateful for your help in helping Lina and her family. Thank you.

Update this description for Precious who wants irons sheets

This is Catherine. She currently lives in a small house in Katete, Eastern Province, Zambia and is taking care of her elderly mother and six orphans. Catherine has owned and lived in her house for a long time, but now the roof is developing many holes. It is now the rainy season and every time it rains, she must put buckets all around the house to catch the water.

Houses in Katete are made out of bricks with metal roofs and cement or dirt floors. Iron sheets are used for the roof because they are lightweight, affordable, and in high supply. To install, wooden beams are laid across the brick walls. The iron sheets are then nailed to these beams. Finally, the roof is protected from the winds by attaching it strongly to the walls with wire. This wire is looped from the iron sheets and down several feet through the wall and back up. Sometimes you will see people put large stones on their roofs which also protects them from the winds. Over time, as the wind rattles the roof, the holes where the iron sheets are nailed to the beam get larger and larger. This is what has happened to Catherine's house such that she now must replace the roof.

Catherine has been a voluntary worker at the Tikondane Community Centre for 13 years. She runs Tiko's small soap making business. Every week she creates several dozen small bars of handmade soap. They are then sold to locals, hospitals, and tourists. In her spare time, Catherine is attending English class at Tiko.

10% of your donation will go to support the Tikondane Community Centre which provides Catherine with a monthly allowance, school fees for her children, and survival help in kind.

We are grateful for what you can give to help Catherine and her family protected and dry. Thank you.

Update this description for Vera who wants a fence

Meet Tigris, a devoted mother and grandmother who resides in a small house in Katete, Eastern Province, Zambia, along with her four children and one grandchild. Unfortunately, the location of her house makes her a frequent target of thieves, and she constantly worries about the safety of her children, especially due to a hazardous hole left by a neighbor's unfinished pit latrine. To address these concerns, Tigris is seeking support to build a fence around her property.

Tigris's house is situated on the outskirts of town, adjacent to open fields. With few people around, thieves are emboldened to target her home. Last year, she experienced the heartbreak of losing all her village chickens to theft. In an effort to prevent further incidents, Tigris sacrifices her sleep to remain vigilant at night, hoping to scare away potential thieves. While this approach has been somewhat effective, it has taken a toll on her well-being, as she struggles to get sufficient rest regularly.

The need for a fence is also driven by the dangerous hole left by her neighbor's abandoned pit latrine. Partially concealed by tall grasses, it poses a significant risk for small children who may accidentally stumble into it. By erecting a fence, Tigris aims to create a safer environment for her family and alleviate the constant worry she experiences.

For over a decade, Tigris has been an invaluable voluntary worker at the Tikondane Community Centre. You may recall Tigris from her previous successful DonorSee project (<https://donorsee.com/project/13387>), where we helped her secure school uniforms for her children. Since then, her eldest daughter Naomi has become a mother herself, bringing immense joy to their lives.

By supporting Tigris's project, you will not only contribute to the safety and well-being of her family but also provide ongoing assistance to the Tikondane Community Centre. 10% of your donation will be directed toward supporting the Centre, which provides Tigris with a monthly allowance, covers her children's school fees, and offers essential aid.

Your generous contribution can make a significant impact on the lives of Tigris and her family. We sincerely appreciate any support you can provide. Thank you.

Update this description for Agness who wants a plot

This is Melina. She has two children, mother and father, four sisters and four brothers. She must cover the whole family's expenses from just her small monthly allowance from working at the Tikondane Community Centre. The vast majority of this money is going to pay rent, leaving little help for food and other expenses. Melina's biggest hope right now is to own her own plot of land so she can grow food for her family and one day build a house. We would like to help Melina as we believe a plot is the first step in providing stable nutrition and housing for her family now and into the future.

In Katete, Eastern Province, Zambia – where Melina and her family live – if you wish to purchase a plot of land, you must go to the chief and ask his permission. Katete is a growing town and so plots are in high demand which has caused their price to increase steadily. While in America, families only move into a home once it is completely built, in Zambia families take a more incremental approach. First they will buy the land and begin using it to grow maize and other food for their families or for sale. Once there is enough money saved, they can then buy bricks to build their walls and iron sheets for the roof. Once this is done, they are able to begin living in the house. From there, they can replace the dirt floors with cement, install glass paned windows, and add doors to the bedrooms for privacy. In this way, it is common to see people living in homes that are in all stages of being built.

In the first year, even without a house on it yet, Melina's life will be improved with a plot of land. She can grow food and veggies which she can sell at the market. Soon, we hope that she will have saved enough to start building her home. We intend to help her with future DonorSee projects to ensure her home will be built safely and well protected from the rains.

Melina is one of the newest members of the Tiko crew, having been a voluntary worker there since the end of 2020. She works in the early childhood center as a teacher. This daily preschool program gives the children of the Tiko crew a jump start to their education, plus provides free childcare while their parents are working.

10% of your donation will go to support the Tikondane Community Centre which provides Melina with a monthly allowance, school fees for her children, and survival help in kind.

We are grateful for your help in helping Melina and her family. Thank you.

Update this description for Headwoman Madaliso who wants a bicycle

This is Dina. She has six children, the youngest of whom is 7 years old. Her husband left her, so it is the small allowance she receives from her work at the Tikondane Community Center in Katete, Eastern Province, Zambia that must support the entire family. Dina wishes to supplement this income by providing her son with a bicycle so he can work as a bike messenger.

Other than walking, bicycling is the main form of transportation in Katete. Very very few people own cars because they are too expensive. The city is split down the middle by the Great East Road, the major highway connecting Eastern Province with Lusaka the capital to the west and Malawi to the east. Alongside this road is a wide bicycle and walking path which was originally built to help residents get safely between town and the St. Francis Mission Hospital about two kilometers away.

The population in Katete lives mainly along the Great East Road, making the town much wider (east/west) than it is tall (north/south). The British had their BOMA (what in America we would consider a suburb) at the end of the Mozambique Road which heads south from Katete toward Mozambique. For this reason, the distance from the center of town to the important offices is around 12 km.

It is very common for people in Katete to hire a bike taxi when they need to get around. Standing along the bicycle path or any major thoroughfare, it is easy to hail a bike taxi which will cost you anywhere from 10 to 20 kwacha (about \$0.60 to \$1.20) to take you where you are going. Dina's son is young and fit, so she knows that he will be able to provide a stable supplemental income for the family by being a bicycle messenger.

10% of your donation will go to support the Tikondane Community Centre which provides Dina with a monthly allowance, school fees for her children, and survival help in kind.

We are grateful for what you can give to help Dina start her new business. Thank you.

Update this description for Clara who wants to add a room to her house

This is Khetiwe. She lives with her family in a small two-roomed house, and there is not enough space for all of them to sleep comfortably. She has been struggling to provide her family with a safe and comfortable living environment, and that's why we are reaching out to you for help.

We want to help Khetiwe and her family by adding another room to their house. With your support, we can create a new and comfortable room where the family can sleep soundly and have the privacy they need.

We are excited to work with the maintenance crew at the community center to source locally available materials and construct a new room that will blend in seamlessly with the existing structure of Khetiwe's house. This will mean walls, floor, roof, door, and lock.

Khetiwe has been a voluntary worker at the Tikondane Community Centre for over 20 years. She works in the Tiko Lodge preparing guest rooms and keeping common areas clean. Khetiwe has a great sense of humor.

10% of your donation will go to support the Tikondane Community Centre which provides Khetiwe with a monthly allowance, school fees for her children, and survival help in kind.

We are grateful for what you can give to help Khetiwe and her family. Thank you.

Update this description for Matildah who wants doors and windows

Aggie is currently living in a small two-room house with her mother, grandmother, brother, and two young daughters: Treasure (10 years) and Beauty (7 years). Because space is so limited, Aggie's brother sleeps on the couch while Aggie and the girls sleep in the corner of the living room which has been sectioned off with sheets. Treasure and Beauty sleep on the floor because there is not enough room for another bed.

Thankfully, Aggie has been diligently working towards building a comfortable home for herself, Treasure, and Beauty. In her last DonorSee project (<https://donorsee.com/project/13737>), we were able to support her in completing the walls of the house. Since then, she has saved enough money to finish the roof on her own. The final step before the family can move in is to install doors and windows, which we hope to provide for her through this project.

Aggie has been working at the Tikondane Community Centre for nine years. In that time, she's worn many hats and learned many valuable skills. Right now she is in charge of stores. This job requires her to keep track of when supplies are low, determine what needs to be bought, and ensure it is acquired at the best price and quality.

10% of your donation will go to support the Tikondane Community Centre which provides Aggie with a monthly allowance, school fees for her children, and survival help in kind.

We are grateful for the money you can give to help Aggie and her family. Thank you.

Update this description for Dorothy who wants iron sheets

This is Saulus. He is 55 years old and has 7 children and 7 grandchildren whom he supports. Right now, the family lives in a very very small house that you can see here in the video. To better provide for his family Saulus is working to build a second house. He already has most of the materials he will need, but he needs our help to buy the roof.

Houses in Katete, Eastern Province, Zambia – where Saulus and his family live – are made out of bricks with metal roofs and cement or dirt floors. Iron sheets are an affordable and effective roofing material because they are lightweight, affordable, and in high supply. To install, wooden beams are laid across the brick walls. The iron sheets are then nailed to these beams. Finally, the roof is protected from the winds by attaching it strongly to the walls with wire. This wire is looped from the iron sheets and down several feet through the wall and back up.

Saulus already has the bricks and cement he needs in order to finish the walls of the house. You can see it is currently only partly complete. Providing him 12 iron sheets will allow him to complete the house.

You may remember Saulus from one of our previous DonorSee projects. Saulus helped lead Tiko in getting new rainboots for the entire crew. You can check out that project at <https://donorsee.com/project/18158?share=1>.

Saulus has been a voluntary worker at the Tikondane Community Centre for almost nine years. His role is best described as our janitor. He does everything to do with maintenance, moving and tidying up while also being a security guard during the day.

10% of your donation will go to support the Tikondane Community Centre which provides Saulus with a monthly allowance, school fees for his children, and survival help in kind.

We are grateful for what you can give to help Saulus and his family finish their new home. Thank you.

Update this description for Cecilia who wants a plot

This is Esther. She has two children, the youngest one Abel you can see with her in the video. Esther's biggest hope right now is to own her own plot of land so she can grow food for her family and one day build a house. With inflation and plot prices rising quickly, we would like to help Esther as we believe a plot is the first step in providing stable nutrition and housing for her family now and into the future.

In Katete, Eastern Province, Zambia – where Esther and her family live – if you wish to purchase a plot of land, you must go to the chief and ask his permission. Katete is a growing town and so plots are in high demand which has caused their price to increase steadily. While in America, families only move into a home once it is completely built, in Zambia families take a more incremental approach. First they will buy the land and begin using it to grow maize and other food for their families or for sale. Once there is enough money saved, they can then buy bricks to build their walls and iron sheets for the roof. Once this is done, they are able to begin living in the house. From there, they can replace the dirt floors with cement, install glass paned windows, and add doors to the bedrooms for privacy. In this way, it is common to see people living in homes that are in all stages of being built.

In the first year, even without a house on it yet, Esther's life will be improved with a plot of land. She can grow food and veggies which she can sell at market. Soon, we hope that she will have saved enough to start building her home. We intend to help her with future DonorSee projects to ensure her home will be built safely and well protected from the rains.

Esther has been a voluntary worker at the Tikondane Community Centre since August 2021. She is the garden supervisor which means she is well versed in the making and design of veggie rings and other innovative ways to grow vegetables using much less water and land. She finished secondary school and for two years studied agriculture at a local trade school.

10% of your donation will go to support the Tikondane Community Centre which provides Esther with a monthly allowance, school fees for her children, and survival help in kind.

We are grateful for your help in helping Esther and her family. Thank you.

Update this description for Madalena who wants a sewing machine

Meet Maureen, a dedicated widow and mother of nine children. She supports her family with a small allowance as a voluntary worker at the Tikondane Community Centre in Katete, Zambia. Earning approximately \$20 per month, Maureen faces financial challenges in meeting the needs of her household. She is seeking our support to purchase a sewing machine, enabling her to work as a seamstress from home and supplement her income.

In the vibrant cultural landscape of Katete, Zambia, colorful fabrics known as "chitenge" hold significant importance. Maureen plans to utilize the sewing machine to create various items such as pillowcases, shirts, and dresses for her family. Furthermore, with sewing machines being scarce in the area due to their cost, Maureen can offer her sewing services to her neighbors and generate additional income.

For over eight years, Maureen has been a dedicated voluntary worker at the Tikondane Community Centre. Despite never having received a formal education, she demonstrates great enthusiasm in learning and is currently enrolled in Tiko's Chichewa class for adults, where she is excelling.

10% of your donation will go to support the Tikondane Community Centre which provides Maureen with a monthly allowance, school fees for her children, and survival help in kind.

We are grateful for your help in helping Maureen and her family. Thank you.

Update this description for Maureen who wants a plot

Jane is 26 years old and has two children, the eldest is 5 years and she recently had a baby. She also cares for three of her sister's children (ages 3, 13, and 18). Her biggest hope right now is to own her own plot of land so she can grow food for her family and one day build a house. With inflation and plot prices rising quickly, we would like to help Jane as we believe a plot is the first step in providing stable nutrition and housing for her family now and into the future.

In Katete, Eastern Province, Zambia – where Jane and her family live – if you wish to purchase a plot of land, you must go to the chief and ask his permission. Katete is a growing town and so plots are in high demand which has caused their price to increase steadily. While in America, families only move into a home once it is completely built, in Zambia families take a more incremental approach. First they will buy the land and begin using it to grow maize and other food for their families or for sale. Once there is enough money saved, they can then buy bricks to build their walls and iron sheets for the roof. Once this is done, they are able to begin living in the house. From there, they can replace the dirt floors with cement, install glass paned windows, and add doors to the bedrooms for privacy. In this way, it is common to see people living in homes that are in all stages of being built.

In the first year, even without a house on it yet, Jane's life will be improved with a plot of land. She can grow food and veggies which she can sell at market. Soon, we hope that she will have saved enough to start building her home. We intend to help her with future DonorSee projects to ensure her home will be built safely and well protected from the rains.

Jane is fourth out of five children and went to school up to grade 9. She would have loved to continue going to school, but there was no money, and especially not for girls. Jane has been a voluntary worker at the Tikondane Community Centre for almost three years where she is the right hand help of Esther, the garden supervisor. Jane is well versed in the making and design of veggie rings which are an innovative way to grow vegetables using much less water and land. You can see the photo of Jane next to one of Tiko's veggie rings. In the future, we also hope to help Jane with the material resources she would need to build these veggie rings on her new plot.

10% of your donation will go to support the Tikondane Community Centre which provides Jane with a monthly allowance, school fees for her children, and survival help in kind.

We are grateful for your help in helping Jane and her family. Thank you.