

## *The Serenje Orphans Children's Home (SOCH) 2015*



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### *MAY 2015 FIRST QUARTER & REFLECTION SOCH REPORT*

#### **Introduction**

SOCH is now in the first year of the second decade after being in operation for 10 years by last year, October, 2014. The sponsors a broad and the staff at local level have not put off the fire in working hard to assist the Orphans. From this home children are fed, clothed, sheltered, sponsored in education and health screening and monitoring is done. The home has ever been clean.



Orphans have really grown up now. Look at the growth of children from early days of SOCH to the present time, 2015, a reflection of old times, as shown in transition photos bellow;

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FROM ↓



TO ↓





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Looking at the growing age of these children as shown above, most of them are in high schools in grades 9, 10 and 11. It means that in three years time most of them will be in colleges pursuing different courses and become self reliant citizens of Zambia after such a great sponsorship from SOA. SOCH has however continued taking in more children in replacing those who could leave the orphanage due to various reasons deemed necessary. In this sense, the following activities are in progress and expected to continue for many years to come so that all orphans at SOCH are brought up to independent survival especially after being educated.

### **Children Clothing and Pocket Money allowances**

We expect SOCH children to grow responsible and knowing how to use resources. Pocket money is always given to these children every year to stimulate this responsibility. In addition to this, Children are being given clothes which are bought from clothing allowances. This year the first distribution of clothes has been done in early May. Children are given chances to chose the clothes they want with guidance from caregivers and the matron.



### **Chicken Run and the Garden**

Despite the challenge of having no water in the furrow to irrigate crops, the fruit trees are growing very well. The chicken run from which some are fed to children to increase the protein nutrient and some are sold to continue with capital and profits is also still in progress. In addition to chicken, some guinea fowls have been socked this year. Here is the way the garden site looks:



### **Guest House Construction**

Thinking a head of self-sustainability of the orphanage in the future when efforts to fundraise by the sponsors fail due to circumstances uncontrollable by man, is one of the headache provider to both SOCH staff and the sponsors. Considering the future of the orphanage, the sponsors have started a project of building a guest house that would help fundraise in the near future. The foundations of

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the building have been built by the sponsors efforts up to slab level. The sponsors have currently NO money to proceed with the project and they are therefore looking for support in the same to finish the construction from the level it is as shown bellow.



In short, SOCH is still doing all the best it can in helping the orphans and trying to make an assurance for their social protection.

### **SOCH Children Post Graduation Strategy**

It is obvious that every child will reach a time of graduating from SOCH. There is full hope that each child is expected to graduate with success from SOCH. SOCH has some tailoring training provided to orphans who have an interest in it. It has also been hiring teachers on part-time to help the slow learners. Everyone's desire is that SOCH children would pass grade 12 secondary examinations and proceed to a minimum college training they can afford. After these things children will be self reliant. Nevertheless it is important to realise that children will go back to their regular homes. It is of this reason that SOCH releases her children to be visiting their relatives over weekends and school calendar holidays to maintain the link between the children and guardians/relatives.

### **Conclusion**

It is a great to have had you read this report. Your kind support to this charity work is not taken for granted. This report has captured a little of what SOCH does. It is hoping to do more when planned activities are fulfilled, including the construction of the guest-house and probably a skills centre in the future.

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