

NEW LIFE INTERNATIONAL CORP. ZAMBIA.

COMMUNITY REPORT

BATOKA COMMUNITY

DATE: 19th August, 2008

To: THE COUNTRY COORDINATOR

From: THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Subject: Water Purification Program

1. COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

Batoka community is 30km north-east of Choma town where New Life International country office is. This is a peri-urban area and the people of this community are mainly retrenches and retirees of Zambia Railways. Life among the people in this community is very hard as they do not have stable source of income. The community is privileged to have a bore hole which is their source of water. The community is a shanty compound set up, and the houses are close to each other. Also the latrines are close to the water source and this makes their water source contaminated due to the seepage of the underground water. A lot of water bone diseases were being experienced in the community.

2. PROGRAM GENERAL OVERVIEW

The community applied for the water purifier in June 2006. The country office under took a trip to the community and did a fiscal survey. The community was found with a lot of water bone diseases and it was found that there was need for the installation of the water purifier to serve the community from these diseases. At first the reception from the community was not good as the system was still new and strange to them.

The program is going on well though not all the community members are willing to take part in the project. The people that are doing the water purification are encouraging other community members to take part and slowly the project is gaining ground. The number of beneficiaries is growing though not at a higher rate. The major obstacle is the hunger situation as people spend most of their time searching for food.

3. DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Water Purification

As explained above no much developmental activities in the community. Much sensitization is needed in the community to make people understand the importance of safe drinking water. The few that meet for water purification do encourage each other to work together as a team to overcome some of the problems that they have.

(b) User fees collection and Purpose

The user fees collection is being done though people do not contribute enough and this is mainly due to lack of funds as the community is very poor.

(c) Impact of the water purifier in the community

To those that are taking part in the project there has been a very good impact. The following are some of the positive changes in the community:

1. Love has come as these people come together during the water purification.
2. The word of God is shared among these people and some come and join as a result the number is growing.
3. The group is also sensitizing the community about the deadly HIV/AIDS and this has contributed to the reduction on the infection rate in the community.
4. The water bone diseases have been reduced especially among the children

CONLUSON

This community needs a lot of sensitization as most of the people are old women and men. This community is easy to mobilize as they are close to each other. The women are requesting for some income to start a garden project. If this is implemented this community will be able to have its own income and the thing of the donor dependence will end. There is a ready market for vegetables in this area as it is located along the high way.

These old women are very read to take up this project with the support from the water committee which has strived to make this program move.

With more support this small group can make the all community support the program. A little support to this community will go a long way.

