

NEW LIFE INTERNATIONAL CORP. ZAMBIA

COMMUNITY REPORT

NAMAFULU SCHOOL

Date: 7th, August, 2008

To: THE COUNTRY COORDINATOR

From: THE Country Director

Subject: Water Purification Program

1. COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

Namafulu basic School is about 26km south of Maamba Township, this community is just by the banks of Lake Kariba and shares the boundary with Siansowa community. The school has a population of 330 pupils and is surrounded by three villages namely Namafulu, Simunyika and Chibbamulilo. The school and the whole villages get their water from the lake as they do not have a bore hole. The pupils are exposed to the dangerous reptiles (crocodiles) as the lake is heavily infested with these animals. Many times people are attacked and sometimes lives are lost. Also this water is not safe for the community to drink as a lot of activities are taking place in the lake and contaminate the water. This school learnt of the water purifier from the other community and applied for the machine in August 2007. It was upon receiving this application letter when New Life International undertook a fact finding trip. The things mentioned above were found to be there and there was an urgent need to install a water purifier. A meeting was held at the school and the school was highlighted on the operations of the organization. The school and all the three villages agreed to the terms and conditions under which the organization operates.

2. PROGRAM GENERAL OVERVIEW

The school together with the community was given the water purifier to use. From the time the purifier was given a lot of achievement has been made. The community is using the purifier and water bone diseases have been reduced. People always come together and do the water purification as they have come to acknowledge the importance of drinking safe water. The program is not very effective because many people in the community have not been sensitized. The area is not very accessible to the organization due to the bad road net work. The place becomes completely impassable during the rainy season and this is the time when the outbreak of serious diseases such as cholera happens. In spite of these hardships the country office

strives to reach the community though not so often. The picture below shows the installation of the water purifier at the school

3. DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES

a) Water Purification

The community is still learning and as a result there is no much activity taking place. For the school, sometimes pupils and teachers find time to share ideas as how to improve the school. A lot of sensitization is needed in the community for the people to understand the whole concept.

- b) User fees collection has started improving as compared to the way it was when it first started. The pupils have really supported the program and this is because the staff is committed to the program. The little money the school is collecting is able to help them charge the battery, buy salt for the program and help sick pupils.
- c) Bilharzia is the common problem at this school and community. Total of 100 pupils at school have this problem. In the community there could be more. However, the purifier is making a difference.
- d) The teachers and pupils are able to interact well and the purifier provides the practical environment of pupils learning hygiene.

4. CONCLUSION

Namafulu community needs a lot of support as the community is the remotest among all the communities where the water purification program is being carried out. The place is very much behind in terms of development. Almost everything is foreign to this community and a lot of people are illiterate.

The country Office visit to this community is not often due to difficulties in terms of mobility. A 4x4 vehicle is the best to reach this community. The people need also education and if provided, big difference will be made because knowledge is power.

There is potential for income generating venture especially in fishing as this community situated by the lake and fishing is their main source of income. The school as the one spearheading the program also needs a lot of support in terms of school learning materials and a lot of Christian literature as these are lacking. Any kind of help to this community will be of great value and morale booster to the community.