

Report by Rev. Linny Mutendzwa – National Director

Residential MRCH Epworth

At November 2020 there were 49 girls and 43 boys resident at the MRCH home in Epworth, Harare

All the children are in general good health and we are managing to provide all the basic necessities. Those children with underlying health problems are receiving medication.

Pandemic restrictions have eased and schools are now open for all students. All our borders and those who attend school at our college are now attending classes but we had to make the difficult decision of keeping the rest of the children at the Home because there is no meaningful learning taking place in schools. Teachers in government schools are on a nationwide strike. We are considering hiring teachers to provide learning for the children here at the Home.

6 children have been reintegrated into society so far this year. We intend to discharge 6 more children in the next few months.

Community outreach projects

Programming at Donga and Mzinyathi facilities had been put on hold due to Covid 19. We continue to assist desperate cases in Epworth and Donga especially related to food provisions and access to health.

Mr. Lloyd Kupeta is working hard at Donga. He has identified 55 local orphans and vulnerable children needing care and support and has been provided with a vehicle for ease of business. He has built a piggery to provide meat for sale to the local community and planted some maize and sweet potatoes. The borehole supplies the centre and the local community with water and we hope to improve the water situation by solar powering it. There is no electricity at the site.

The National Board visited both Donga and Mzinyathi facilities in November 2020 and, resources permitting, we hope to take their recommendations into our programming.

Developments

We have begun to make improvements to the ECD centre with £5000 that we received from a generous UK donor. The developments are centred around making the facility more child friendly.

See the photographs on the Early Childhood Development Centre page (ECD)

College

With effect from 1 December 2020, Matthew Rusike College will now operate as a stand-alone entity with a substantive Board and a new management led by the Principal, upon approval by Conference.

November 2020 Rev L Mutendzwa, National Director