

## Primary and Secondary Education Programme, Kitwe, implemented by Hodi

*In our last annual report we said we would work with Hodi to:*

- support our children as they move up into the next grade;
- enrol up to 500 more children;
- improve the package of support offered to children;
- continue to improve monitoring of children;
- work with the private sector, both in the UK and in Zambia, to improve opportunities for vulnerable children after graduation;
- explore other ways to support young people after school;
- support the development of an Alumni Association;
- continue to lobby at local and national levels for better support for vulnerable children in and out of school; and
- share knowledge with organisations working in similar fields.

*How did we do? In 2008/09 with Hodi we:*

- supported 5,306 children who moved up into the next grade;
- supported 2,289 newly enrolled children (identified using criteria developed with Hodi and school-based committees);
- provided 4,500 pairs of shoes and 2,500 uniforms, 12% more than last year;
- improved support to children by training contact teachers in psychosocial support (in partnership with the Ministry of Education and World Vision);
- improved monitoring of children by introducing a system for recording their attendance, performance and other relevant data;

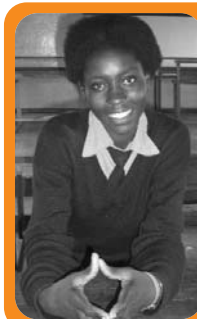
**Our grant funding to Hodi for the Primary and Secondary Education programme in 2008/09 was £228,293 (2007/8 – £235,938)**



- lobbied the private sector for work placements and mentoring for vulnerable children after they graduate;
- supported Hodi to lobby at local and national levels for better support for vulnerable children in and out of school; and
- linked up with the Ministry of Education and other organisations supporting orphans in Kitwe to share information and agree a plan for working together in future.

### *Activities in 2008/09:*

This year Cecily's Fund supported over 50% of the 14,000<sup>11</sup> orphans who are in school in Kitwe. Hodi's and our small teams achieved this by making the best possible use of existing resources and complementing them with efficient processes that we continually try to improve. For example, Hodi worked with



"Fiona"<sup>12</sup> lives with her grandparents, who are too old to work. This year Cecily's Fund, through Hodi, has supported thousands of boys and girls like Fiona to go to school by providing uniforms, school materials and fees.

<sup>11</sup> Source: Kitwe District Education Board Secretariat – Zambian Ministry of Education

<sup>12</sup> Throughout this report names of children have been changed to protect their identity and prevent stigmatisation

schools and suppliers to develop more effective ways of getting shoes, uniforms and school materials swiftly to children who need them.

Hodi's Programme Officer, Steward Makanse, visited our partner, Bwafwano, to learn about developing closer relations with the local community. He is encouraging community members to play a more effective part in identifying the most vulnerable children and supporting their education.

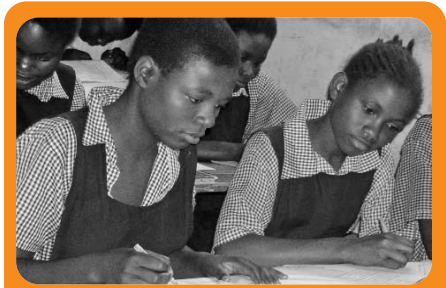
Steward has been working with contact teachers and the children themselves to research the social and economic conditions in which the children live. They have been focusing particularly on orphans who look after themselves and those being cared for by elderly grandparents.

Analysis of this information should help explain absences from school and poor performance, which will enable us to start looking for solutions. We are now working closely with other Kitwe-based non-government organisations (NGOs), as well as the Ministry of Education, to share such information and combine our efforts to support Kitwe's orphans.

One worrying phenomenon is the number of girls who drop out of school to get married or because they are pregnant. Steward has been supporting contact teachers to encourage girls in this situation to return to school, backed by the government's school re-entry policy for young mothers.

A teacher's strike starting in June meant that some children missed at least six weeks of teaching, which is a particular problem for those sitting exams. We undertake to support any of the children on our books who need to retake exams as a result.

**Mattel Children's Foundation is funding primary education for 500 of our children this year.**



"Katy (left) helps her grandmother sell bags of charcoal. This brings in just enough for the family to survive. They struggle to buy the medicine that Katy's grandfather needs, let alone pay for Katy's school uniform and materials. So Hodi and Cecily's Fund provide these for her.

'Katy says "I think everyone should be able to go to school and get educated like me. It would be nice to be able to read and speak English and to look after my grandparents."

### *In 2009/10 in partnership with Hodi we undertake to:*

- support enrolled children as they move up into the next grade;
- support children who have dropped out, particularly girls, to return to school;
- continue to enrol new children to replace those who have moved on;
- hold meetings with contact teachers and provide them with training;
- further develop monitoring and evaluation of our work, involving our partners, communities and schools in the process;
- develop career guidance and support for children in grade 11 and 12;
- build links with the private sector to develop work placements and mentoring for orphaned and vulnerable school graduates;
- continue to work closely with the Ministry of Education and with other Kitwe NGOs for better joint support of orphans and vulnerable children;
- support the development of an Alumni Association (if funds permit).