

ORGANISATION, GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Child Protection

As a child-focused organisation, ensuring the protection of children's rights is of utmost importance to our work, both in the UK and in Zambia. All our staff, trustees and visitors to Zambia follow our child protection policy (linked from our website; www.cecilysfund.org/what_we_stand_for.html)

Gender

In support of the Zambian government's aims of eliminating gender imbalance in education, we continued to support more girls than boys in school. Our monitoring demonstrates that more girls than boys drop out of school, especially at secondary level. In response to this, our partners worked closely with girls and their guardians to encourage them to continue their education. We will build on this work next year.

Capacity Building

We are committed to helping to strengthen our partner organisations' capacity in areas such as planning, management, fundraising, accounting and project development. We are developing our skills at Cecily's Fund, just as our partners are developing theirs, and we learn from them as much as they do from us.

We encourage our partners to talk openly with us and their other key donors because we have a shared interest in the effective management and sustainability of their organisations. This is essential in order to ensure ongoing support for these children.

Accountability

In their annual competition the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and the Charities Aid Foundation awarded our 2007/08 Report and



Cecily's Fund Manager, Caroline Horne, talking with trainee teachers. Cecily's Fund staff and trustees regularly visit Zambia to talk with partners and the young people we are supporting and ensure that donors' money is being used in the most effective way possible.

Accounts first prize in the Online Accounts Awards in the category of charities with an income between £100,000 and £500,000.

We hold ourselves accountable to the children we support, our partner organisations, and all those who support us.

We send all our supporters and partners this Annual Report and post on our website a 'Statutory Annual Report' which complies with the full requirements of the Charity Commission's latest Statement of Recommended Practice (www.cecilysfund.org/ar.html). Our accounts are subject to full audit.

We make sure that we spend time in face-to-face discussions with our partners and the children whom we support, to reflect on the issues we are facing together, and then work to resolve them together.

By definition, partnership is a two-way process. We invite feedback from Bwafwano, CHEP and Hodi on our performance as donors and act upon it.

Monitoring and Evaluation

We involve teachers, community members, children and young people in the ongoing monitoring of the effectiveness of our work. This has not only helped us to check that what we are doing is worthwhile, but also helped identify reasons for successes and failure from which we can learn.

Our partner organisations submitted monthly narrative and financial reports throughout the year as well as annual audited accounts. We have been in regular contact and have conducted four monitoring visits and two fact-finding visits.

Advocacy

We work both within Zambia and in the UK, Switzerland and the USA to increase awareness about the impact of HIV on Zambian children. Our advocacy work is an integral part of our fundraising and communication activities.

With our partners, we have continued to lobby the Zambian government and the private sector for greater support for vulnerable children.

In September 2008, we organised a high-



One of our patrons, former Archbishop Lord Carey, introducing our panel discussion on the role of the private sector in development. Other panel members included Hodi's Steward Makanse (seated left) and the then Chairman of Anglo American (our hosts for the evening), Mark Moody-Stuart.

level panel discussion in London on the private sector's role in development. Hodi Kitwe's Programme Manager, Steward Makanse, was among those on the panel.

The Alumni Association, if we secure sufficient funding to launch it, will provide a platform for young people we have supported to speak out for themselves and collectively advance their interests. It has the potential to be a uniquely powerful voice for vulnerable children in national and local decision making.

You can help this vital work to continue

- Set up a **standing order***
- Donate regularly through **payroll giving**
- Buy our **gift cards*** for others or ask for them as gifts to you
- Send us a **cheque or CAF voucher**
- **Transfer*** a donation into our UK account
- Remember us **in your will***
- **Donate online** by credit card at www.cecilysfund.org (UK) and
- Increase the value of your donations with a **gift aid** declaration

* Use the enclosed donation form, gift card order form and bank details, or visit www.cecilysfund.org and go to Donate or Online Shop.