



Hands at Work
AFRICA



Report on

Kamakonde Community, Zambia

October 2018

HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA *in partnership with*
Peppercorn



to ensure that they are working together to care for the children that they are serving. Jennifer, a former Care Worker, now works at the local clinic and is an important connection for the Care Workers as they advocate for the children's medical needs.

“Learn to do good. Seek justice
Help the oppressed. Defend the
cause of orphans. Fight for the
rights of widows.” – Isaiah 1:17 (NLT)

When eight-year-old Mathew's father died in 2016, he and his four siblings, along with their mother Mary* were rejected by his father's family. With nowhere to go, Mary's mother brought the family to live with her in Kamakonde, even though she did not have a permanent place to call her own. The family moves from place to place, hoping that someone will take them in. The Care Workers from the Dorcus CBO are working to find a more permanent solution for them and will not give up on caring for them.

Snapshot OF THE COMMUNITY

Children currently supported: **100**

Number of Care Workers: **12**

Coordinator Name: **Pastor Joseph**

Distance from Service Center: **5km**

Hands at Work in Africa has always focused on keeping Africa's most vulnerable children alive and reducing their extreme vulnerability by providing access to food, basic health care and education through the local African church. Through Christian volunteers, children and those who support them are being cared for holistically in the poorest communities. As these children are healed from past trauma, they become a catalyst for transformation, spurring their communities towards growth and maturity.

“A group of dedicated volunteer Care Workers in the community of Kamakonde faithfully care for the most vulnerable children like Mathew* (pictured right). They continue to reach out and advocate on the children's behalf at the local government school, clinic and churches

The community of Kamakonde faces many challenges that greatly increases the vulnerability of the children. Alcohol abuse, prostitution, youth gangs and crime are amongst the most challenging strongholds. The Hands at Work local office team in Kitwe is working closely with the Care Workers from the Dorcus Community Based Organisation (CBO) to share with the youth the dangers surrounding these problems. They have engaged Yvonne, a local government health worker from a nearby community to help educate the youth in Kamakonde.

In the community, there is a noticeable absence of fathers in the lives of the most vulnerable children. The children's Primary Caregivers in Kamakonde have recognised this issue and have brought it to the attention of Care Workers. Together with the Kitwe local office team, the Care Workers have been having good discussions about ways to address this issue and encouraging men to take greater responsibility for their families.

At the Care Point in Kamakonde, the current well that the Care Workers use for fetching water has been deemed unhealthy, forcing the Care Workers to walk long distances to collect water. In the coming months, before the rainy season begins, the well at the Care Point will be cleaned and ready for use again. Additional improvements to the storage facilities at the Life Centre are also in the process of being started.

