

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NDOLA CHILDREN'S DESK - PROFILE

Children's Desk is one of the programmes of the Catholic Diocese of Ndola in Zambia. It was initiated by the late Bishop of Ndola diocese Dennis de Jong, who had realized the huge number of orphans left to take care of after their parents die, mostly from HIV/AIDS.

Children's Desk looks at the plight of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) across the Copperbelt Province.

To ensure that quality care is provided to OVC, Children's Desk operates where Integrated Aids programme (IAP) operates. IAP has got 13 Home Care Programmes (HCP) across Copperbelt province, meaning Children's Desk exists in the 11 HCP of IAP. IAP's beneficiaries are adults suffering from HIV/AIDS but in the process it also started taking care of the patients/dead people's children (orphans). This precipitated the creation of a desk specifically to be involved in orphan care. Thus, on May 1, 2001 children's Desk was officially launched.

VISION

To see to it that orphan and vulnerable child accesses all the basic needs in life.

MISSION STATEMENT

To contribute to an improved capacity of communities in the province to care for orphans and vulnerable children.

OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of the programme is to support the OVC and street children.

BENEFICIARIES

- Child headed households(CHH)
- Orphans (double/single)
- Vulnerable
- Street children
- Guardians looking after OVCs

Note that the above are below the age of 18 years.



Double orphans being taken care of by the grand mother

ACTIVITIES AT THE CHILDREN'S DESK

- Direct assistance/material support(education bursary, health care, nutrition)

- Street work programmes.
- Psychosocial support (counseling, recreation, Spiritual support).
- Training of guardians, care givers and youths
- Paralegal support services
- Economic empowerment of guardians
- Radio Programme.
- Fund Raising



A guardian of OVC getting maize meal

CATCHMENT AREA

Catholic Diocese of Ndola covers the entire Copperbelt Province; therefore even Children's Desk's catchment area is the entire province. However this project shall be implemented in four districts (Ndola, Kitwe, Chambishi and Chingola) of the Copperbelt Province of Zambia.

PRESENT REALITY

The harsh economic situation prevailing in Zambia forces young children to discontinue their education and become bread winners of their young siblings.



Girls are particularly vulnerable and often resort to prostitution whilst boys are led into streetism: drug taking and crime.

Children's Desk believes in the philosophy that under whatever circumstances and situations it should never hurt to be a child.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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