

There are 12 dedicated local volunteer Care Workers, coordinated by Mercy, who support the most vulnerable children in the community of Chibote. The love and care they provide ensure that each child is physically, emotionally and spiritually cared for.



After three years of attending the Care Point, it is easy to see the progress that seven-year-old Zechariah* has made. Malnourished and unkempt, Zechariah arrived with an empty belly and a broken heart. His mother had died and his father had left home, and Zechariah nursed within himself a deep emptiness. The family was discovered when the Care Workers made a Holy Home Visit in search of the most vulnerable. Finding Selah* and her three grandsons, the Care Workers listened to her story. They quickly realized that Selah, alone and with only subsistence farming as an income, was ill-equipped to look after Zechariah and his brothers and was unable to obtain enough food for them to eat. Acting quickly, the Care Workers invited Zechariah to the Care Point where he would receive a hot meal every day. Now, running around with his friends and in grade 1 at school, Zechariah is thriving.

Community Update

The CBO is aiming to become a place of self-sustainability, able to care for children independently by the end of the year. The Care Workers have often found this process difficult and need the consistent support of the Service Centre to help them grow in confidence to take up the new responsibilities that this independence will bring. The Service Centre team is committed to the Chibote Care Workers, walking with them in this journey and encouraging them each step of the way. Alcohol abuse, teenage pregnancies, early childhood marriage and school dropouts all have strongholds in the area. The CBO is working hard to address all these problems. For example, they are discipling the youth to remain in school so that they are better equipped with crucial skills for their futures, and explaining the detrimental effect that early marriage has on children. The community lacks male role models, who are not seen as responsible for their families. Please continue to pray for Chibote and those standing up for the most vulnerable.



Activities and Projects

A special catering training day enabled the cooks to feel appreciated, improving both their cooking skills and their sense of community. Recently, deworming took place and the necessities of mosquito nets, blankets (pictured left), underwear and dental hygiene items were procured, all to be distributed alongside clothing based on individual need. Having these items goes a long way to ensuring the health and hygiene of the children. In addition, the toilet doors at the Care Point were replaced with secure steel doors, adding to the children's safety. The CBO enjoys support from one local church which is very active and has committed to taking on some of the families that are graduating. Although the CBO invited more pastors to Bible school at Kachele, further church support has been hard to secure. Despite this, a Primary Caregivers day and a youth camp in Kachele have shown the encouraging involvement that the Chibote CBO has in its community.

