

Twelve dedicated local volunteer Care Workers, coordinated by Burton, support the most vulnerable children in the community of Chilabula. The love and care they provide ensure that each child is physically, emotionally and spiritually cared for.



In 2021, Care Workers identified David\* as among the most vulnerable and invited him to join the Chilabula CBO's Under 5s program. He is the youngest child of his three siblings. Though his exact age is unknown, it is suspected that he is four or five years old. His parents are known within the community for their excessive drinking and neglect of their children. Even after his father's death caused by alcohol abuse, his mother continues to struggle. While none of the children are currently in school, the Care Workers are planning to have them all enrolled in January. Despite their mother's challenges, David's older brothers ensure that he comes to the Life Centre each day. The Care Workers know each of them by name and will follow up if they are not accounted for. The Care Workers are hopeful that David's mother will come to a Maranatha Workshop, where they pray she will come to know Jesus.

### Community Update

The Chilabula CBO has strong leadership with 12 committed Care Workers. Local community ownership has grown and many of the Primary Caregivers attend the weekly Relationship Group – a safe place to share challenges and pray together. The Under 5s program, youth groups and youth camps are well attended, with many of the youth girls meeting regularly together on Fridays. An area of growth for the Chilabula CBO is in their spiritual maturity, impeded by the lack of a strong local church partnership. They also want to grow their Under 5s program since they are missing some of the key characteristics of a successful program. Almost completely reliant on agriculture, the community is vulnerable to failing crops, many of the women are the providers in the family and the community is susceptible to alcohol abuse and reliance on witchcraft. Thankfully, the Chilabula CBO is well-placed to care for these needs in Chilabula.



### Activities and Projects

This year, there was a Maranatha Workshop for Primary Caregivers (pictured left), where many gave their lives to the Lord and left feeling encouraged and reminded that they are not alone in their challenges. Throughout the year, blankets, clothing and various hygiene items have been distributed to the children – all contributing to the overall health and hygiene of the children. The Chilabula CBO has a strong partnership with the local clinic, who ensure that they see the children quickly when they visit. Recently, during the rainy season, two homes collapsed. Currently, the local Hands at Work team in Luanshya are rebuilding them to be stronger and safer than before. When long-term partners from Greenfinch Church in the UK visited, they were a great encouragement to the Care Workers and children. They read scripture together, walked alongside the Care Workers on their Holy Home Visits, played games with the children and held a Care Worker Appreciation Day.

