



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



**Meet Levi, 1 of 150 children cared for**  
by RISE AND SHINE COMMUNITY  
BASED ORGANISATION (CBO)

17-year-old Levi\* lives with his father and two younger brothers. Unfortunately, the small amount of work that his father can find does not provide enough income to feed and clothe his three growing boys. When neighbours reached out to the Care Workers, they recognised their vulnerability, and Care Worker Joyce dedicated herself to support this family.

The Life Centre in Racecourse has become a lifeline for Levi. Along with now being in grade five, having a full meal every day and basic health care needs met, Levi has a place where he is disciplined and taught the values of being a man after God's heart. He has a strong relationship with Joyce, where he feels safe to share his joys and struggles. Joyce visits his home regularly and invests into building relationships with his family members.

## Community Update

The Life Centre is a place of peace in a busy and often dangerous community. Here, men, women, youth and children come together daily to build relationships, serve one another and deepen their understanding of who God is. The Care Workers display unity and a desire to be Christ-like as they serve the most vulnerable children. Care Workers Maureen and Regan have hearts to build up the youth, by supporting the youth's Relationship Group and teaching practical skills about business and finance. The youth leaders are a beautiful example for other communities, both in how they have taken ownership and how they have opened their lives to receive discipleship from godly men and women at the Life Centre. The land next to the Life Centre has been purchased with the hope of building a structure for the Under 5's program and a home for the Life Centre's caretaker. This land will allow the children lots of space to run and play.



## Activities and Projects



The Life Centre has been deeply blessed and encouraged through several events this year, as well as the team from Canada who spent time building relationships and joining in on the Life Centre activities. The local churches have become more active in the Life Centre following a Bible School held at Kachele in February, with new Care Workers and pastors joining the team. One pastor generously donated clothing, stationery, food, plates and cups on behalf of his church, and other pastors have been bringing words of encouragement to the Care Workers. The Under 5's program (pictured left) has been thriving, as the local clinic has been visiting the Life Centre regularly to check up on these children. The Care Workers have been keeping records of these visits so they can monitor the weight and growth of the children.



## Graduation Update

From the beginning, Hands at Work has been focused on serving in the most vulnerable communities. As the Community Based Organisation (CBO) and the local church mature and develop in their understanding and capacity to care for the most vulnerable, there comes a time when they are ready to take the next step and take ownership to care for vulnerable people. This step is called graduation and this is where we find the community of Racecourse.

Racecourse has developed significantly over the years, with wider support available to families and more opportunities for employment. This reason, along with the Care Workers being seasoned in caring for the children in their community, is why Hands at Work has decided to start preparing Racecourse for graduation. Over the last few months, though, Hands has noted that more needs to be done to invest into Racecourse to ensure it graduates well. Though a couple of churches in Racecourse have donated food, and donate financially annually, it is more as a gift to the CBO and less a sign of ownership. The local Hands at Work team in Kitwe will be working to develop strong church ownership over the next two years and hope this investment will enable the CBO to graduate towards the end of 2025.



- Pray for Hands at Work leaders as they continue to meet with local pastors to connect them into the work and for greater local church ownership
- Pray for unity, strength and confidence for the Care Workers as they prepare for graduation, and for John as he continues to lead the Care Workers through challenging situations
- Please pray for strong relationships to form with other community services, like the clinic, as well as partnerships with other agencies.

