

»»QUARTELY NEWSLETTER««

APRIL-JUNE 2025



Overcoming barriers, creating futures...



NEW BEGINNING

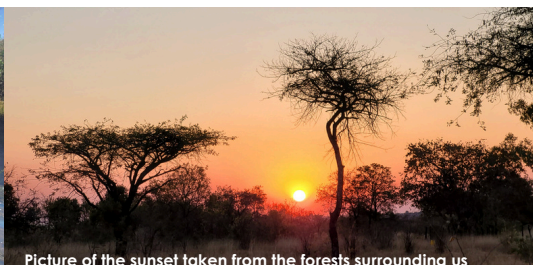


Imagine yourself in an environment where if you listen well enough, you hear the gentle murmur of a small stream. In this place, hundreds of indigenous trees, shrubs, and plants surround you, providing access to clean, fresh air. If you are knowledgeable enough, these could be the remedy to illness or supplement your nutritional needs.

If not, a walk to the grandmothers and grandfathers' homesteads would ensure that when you depart, you are drenched in such knowledge and more, reminding you of the vital traditional wealth which has become lost with time. The sunsets are not something to be missed. It becomes even more exciting when you have to stretch your legs as if it were possible to see the sun's final resting place beyond the cover of the scattered rock formations and mountains. Here, children are free to play and explore the forests, rock formations, and streams without fear in a close-knit environment where everyone knows each other. Nature itself is nurturing, allowing the children to be adventurous as they develop their own skills and competencies. The aforementioned describes the place we are establishing our premises. We believe that in this environment, our mission to create environments where orphans not only meet their immediate needs but also develop the necessary skills and mindsets to navigate real-world complexities with confidence as they transition into adulthood can be realized.



Picture of a small stream located a few metres from us



Picture of the sunset taken from the forests surrounding us



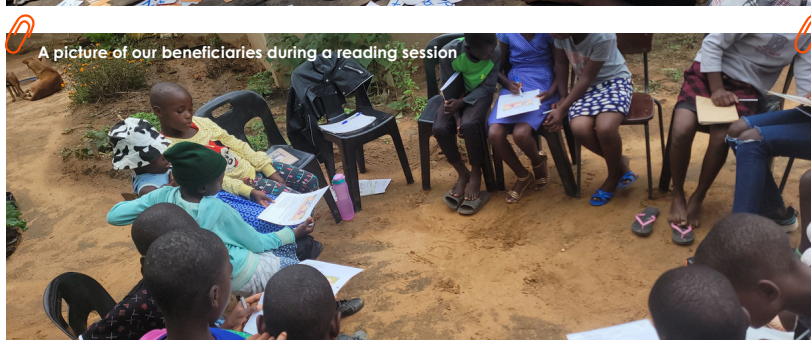
Picture of the site where our shelter is being constructed



A picture of the beneficiaries molding figurines out of play dough for a story-telling exercise



A picture of beneficiaries making words out of tiny cards containing one or two letters of the alphabet



A picture of our beneficiaries during a reading session

LANGUAGE THEMED CAMP



When David came to us his school attendance was marked by significant

absenteeism. At the age of 8, David could only write his first name; writing his surname was a mammoth task. This was very sad, considering his surname is in his local language, which he uses every single day of his life.

His schoolwork was no better because he could not write most letters of the alphabet, let alone formulate any words out of the alphabet. This goes to show the inadequacies which exist in the education system: at Grade 3, four years away from writing his primary school examinations, David had no knowledge of the foundations of reading or writing.

Since we started the language-themed camp, David has had several struggles but major successes as well. He is now able to read 16 of the alphabetical letters, make words from these, and read those words as well. Each of the participants involved in our language-themed camp has unique set of challenges when it comes to education. Just we do with David, we celebrate every single one of our twenty beneficiaries' milestones in areas such as comprehension, spelling, and reading.

PSYCHOCIAL SUPPORT THROUGH ART



Psychosocial support through art, is one of the key activities we have been

engaging in with our beneficiaries. In recent months, we've introduced various ways to deliver this. One of the major highlights was how the children took to learning beading and creating keychains.

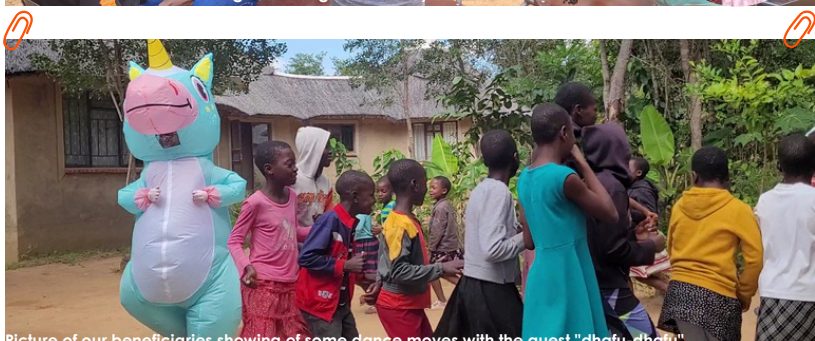
Walking into the session, you'd be met with individuals deeply focused on making colorful and creative pieces of art. It was truly a sight to behold when the children's faces would light up upon seeing their creations and also knowing that they could raise some money from this activity.

Another highlight came when we had a session on using dancing as a form of self-expression. The children took to the stage, completely letting go of their inhibitions and worries. The 'surprise' guest, named by the children as 'dhafu-dhafu,' brought the excitement to the next level and ensured they were truly engaged in the session.

Overall, our psychosocial support activities have really created an outlet for the children to express themselves, be socially connected, and release tension, to mention just a few of the benefits.



Picture of beneficiaries during a beading craft activity.



Picture of our beneficiaries showing of some dance moves with the guest 'dhafu-dhafu'



A picture of the children mimicking each others' dance moves

SEEDS OF CHANGE: PLANT GERMINATION THEMED CAMP

➤➤➤ INTRODUCTION

We're thrilled to share the successful completion of our recent plant germination themed camp, where we empowered twenty of our beneficiaries. Our aim for this camp was to impart knowledge and skills on how to grow and maintain plants. This was especially important to us because of the current climate crisis challenges.

The need to contribute to curbing the climate crisis challenges pushed us to carry out this camp. We saw it as an opportunity to draw our beneficiaries' attention to the need for ecologically friendly means of farming. This was especially important because they come from a farming community. The skills and knowledge they gained from this camp will equip them to be advocates for environmentally friendly farming techniques.

➤➤➤ PLANT SCIENTISTS!

During a camp experiment, beneficiaries became "aspiring scientists" by planting maize seeds in various soil types to observe germination. This taught them about seed structure, conditions for germination and the vital importance of seed storage for future nutrition.

➤➤➤ GOING ORGANIC

Plant replication techniques like cuttings, budding, and grafting, were also covered during the sessions. These helped our beneficiaries realize that can grow food affordably.

Empowered with practical skills through all the hands-on activities carried out. Our beneficiaries, will soon apply these skills and knowledge in a demonstration field, cultivating their own food in an ecologically sustainably way. Overall the themed camp was a great success.



Picture of the first shoots coming out of the mulberry cuttings prepared by the beneficiaries



Beneficiaries planting seeds for the experiment



Beneficiaries planting seeds for the experiment



Beneficiaries preparing cuttings during sessions



Picture of some of the keychains made during a craft session

➤➤➤ WHAT COMES NEXT?

- Earth and climate themed camp.
- Annual fair showcasing our beneficiaries' skills
- Psychosocial support through art activities.
- Continuation of the language themed camp.

If you would like to contribute to our work you can contact us on admin@mukundizw.org or +263713437688