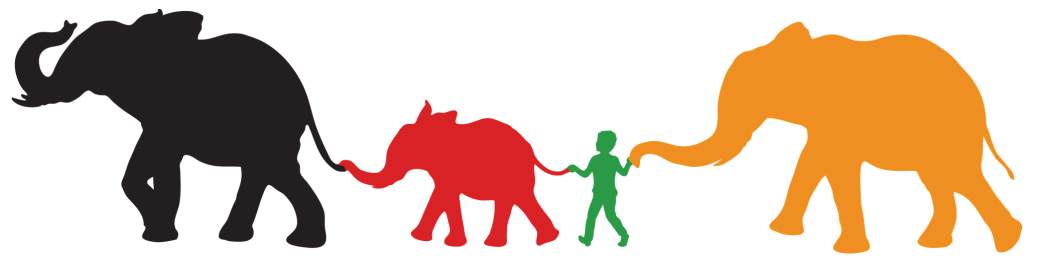


2019



THE AFRICA HOPE FUND

YEAR-END
NEWSLETTER

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This year has been an active and rewarding one for Africa Hope Fund in supporting conservation and education work in Zambia!

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED THIS YEAR!

WHY DO WE SUPPORT EDUCATION EFFORTS IN ZAMBIA?

We first traveled to Zambia in 2001 and have watched it grow and change over the last 19 years. In 2001, the first school we visited, Uyoba, in the South Luangwa Valley, had 350 students, no books, three run-down classrooms with cement/dirt floors, no power and no government-trained teachers, just volunteers teaching classes.



Today, Uyoba has over one thousand students (50% girls) attending in seven classrooms with electric power, eight government teachers, five reading assistants paid by AHF, and we helped build and now maintain two libraries. These libraries utilized by the entire community for many other great programs are overseen by *Raise a Smile* in Mfuwe. We also support several other schools within the Luangwa Valley with reading assistants to help the children learn English, which is required in Zambia to continue to higher-level classes.



Watching the faces of the children as they pour over books definitely makes us smile!

This year AHF board member Debby Lott lead our first official Volunteer Program of 12 individuals to work along with our reading assistants in the two schools and to help the children practice their English by reading, playing games, and having conversations with them. Everyone reported it was a fabulous adventure!

“My time there sped by much too quickly! I recommend this for anyone who wants to learn about, experience, and, at the same time, serve others in this beautiful environment. I miss the children, the staff, and all of the people at Marula Lodge so much!”

Caroline Wadman, June 2019 Group

“It was so easy to volunteer in the schools, especially for someone who has never taught children outside of my own family. The programs and supplies and local Reading Assistants were all in place. And getting to go on game drives on the weekends and evenings was spectacular. The animal sightings were beyond anything I imagined and a privilege to see nature's beauty at its best.”

Christine Bouten, June 2019 Group

Volunteers at Work



If you are interested in making a difference with children in Zambia (and seeing animals too!), join our June 2020 Volunteer Trip. **Find out more.**



VILLAGE WOMEN CAME TO LEARN AND TEACH ENGLISH, THEN BECAME ENTREPRENEURS!

This year a group of ladies decided to band together with Adijah Phiri, one of our Uyoba school reading assistants, and apply for a micro loan from a local bank in order to start a craft shop near the national park. With a loan of \$50 each (18 women) they bought materials and began making custom clothing, local jewelry, art pieces, and hand bags. With the help and support of Jenny Waterhouse, CEO of Raise a Smile nonprofit, they built a one room shop on the main road and named it the Baobab Craft Shop (Baobab is a local tree that is iconic throughout southern Africa).



Within a few months of opening, the ladies had made enough profit to pay off their micro loans. The store is thriving and a “Must Stop” for the tourists visiting the South Luangwa National Park. The Africa Hope Fund supports the shop with sewing and jewelry making materials.

But that's not the end of the story!



Our library at Uyoba offers classes to all the local villagers in reading and writing English for those who never went to school. Another group of local women, being taught by our very same reading assistants, decided they too could start a business. With the help of Jenny, Debby Lott from The Africa Hope Fund board, and Alies Felix, master chef and wife of Devan, *Conservation South Luangwa* pilot, they began making canned preserves from the local mangos which are so prolific in November and December.

They sell to the Safari Lodges and local stores as gifts for the tourists, and for use by the locals in off season. And their new enterprise is called "Mama's Mangos".

Congratulations to all our amazing entrepreneurial women and thank you to all that supported their efforts!



WE ALSO HELP IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POACHING.

When we first visited Zambia, we were horrified at the number of reports of snared animals in and around the national parks. It was difficult to find large herds of elephant and almost impossible to encounter prides of lions. Today, after years of supporting Conservation South Luangwa's (CSL) efforts to prevent poaching, to find and treat wounded snared animals, and their education with the communities to co-exist with wild animals, the numbers of animal sightings in the South Luangwa Park and Lower Zambezi are exceptional.

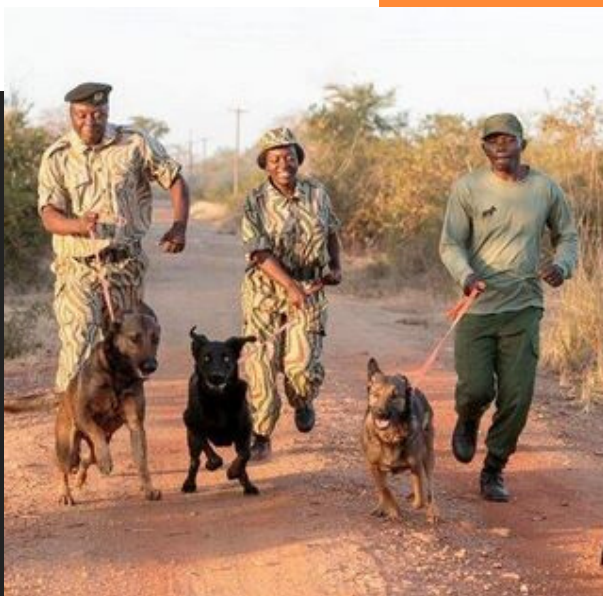


We can almost guarantee to visitors many sightings of herds of elephant, lion prides, leopards and many other treasured African animals, in large part because of the “boots on the ground” friends of Conservation South Luangwa (CSL), *Conservation Lower Zambezi* (CLZ) and the *Zambian Carnivore Program* (ZCP). They are our true heroes!



The Conservation South Luangwa Team

In particular, we are proud of the leadership of Benson Kanyembo, who just received the prestigious TUSK Wildlife Ranger Award for 2019 and was presented the medal by HRH the Duke of Cambridge. Benson heads up a law enforcement team of 90 community-based scouts, a K-9 Team of detection dogs and handlers and has greatly expanded training and partnerships with government organizations to maximize resources and manpower in their fight against poaching.



Thank you to all who helped make the AHF Win A Dream Trip Raffle successful this year, which allowed us to send CSL \$20,000 in support of their tireless work to stop poaching and to rescue snared animals. We also cover the cost of an email system for Conservation South Luangwa (CSL) and the website maintenance for the *Zambian Carnivore Programme* (ZCP).

Africa Hope Fund Win A Dream Trip Raffle



MEANWHILE, BEHIND THE SCENES...DID YOU KNOW?

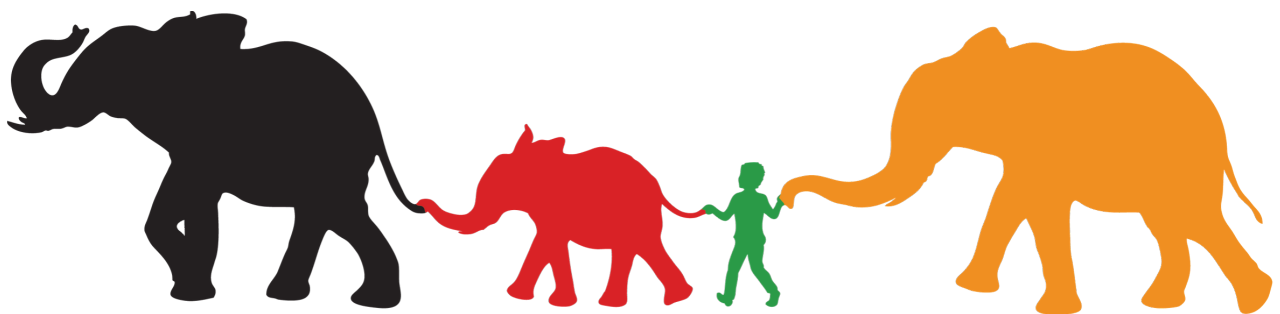
The AHF collects funds in the USA for Conservation South Luangwa, Zambian Carnivore Programme, Conservation Lower Zambezi, Raise a Smile, and education sponsorships through *Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust*, providing a way that US citizens can contribute to Zambian organizations and still be able to get an IRS deduction because of our AHF non-profit status. AHF covers the cost of the wire fees and credit card fees for these donations so that 100% of these donations go directly to the organizations for their programs.



HOW YOU CAN HELP US

- SUPPORT A READING ASSISTANT'S SALARY FOR A YEAR (\$1200).
- BUY A DESK FOR OUR SCHOOL SO 2 STUDENTS DON'T HAVE TO SIT ON THE FLOOR IN THE CLASSROOM (\$70).
- PAY A SCOUT ON ANTI POACHING PATROL FOR 3 WEEKS (\$150).
- TRAIN, FEED, CARE, AND PAY A HANDLER FOR ONE OF THE DETECTION DOGS USED BY CSL SCOUTS FOR ONE MONTH (\$600).
- COVER THE COST OF SUPPORTING THE DETECTION DOG PROGRAM FOR ONE YEAR. (\$25,000).
- PAY FOR A TRACKING COLLAR FOR A LION TO HELP ZAMBIAN CARNIVORE PROGRAMME FOLLOW AND PROTECT THE PRIDE (\$500).

JUST LET US KNOW WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT
DONATE HERE



THE AFRICA HOPE FUND