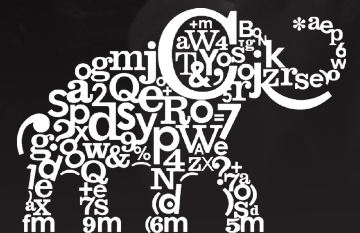


African Education Program



April 2018 - March 2019 Annual Report
Expanding Impact through Partnerships



A MESSAGE FROM THE *Executive Director*

Dear Friends,

The African Education Program (AEP) had an incredible year of deepening the impact of our programs. As I look back on the highlights, one word comes to mind...Partnership. All of our success is thanks to the amazing partnerships that we have with individuals, communities, and organizations. By working together, we are furthering AEP's mission to empower the youth of Zambia through education and leadership development to break the cycle of poverty in their communities.

Partnership with individuals — AEP does not view its donors and volunteers as mere contributors of their time or money. As the lifeblood of our organization, we view them as partners who demonstrate great commitment to our work and take pride in making our programs better and our impact deeper.

Our partnerships with individual donors provide the financial resources that guarantee that our work continues each day. Our partnerships with individual volunteers give us access to expertise and manpower that helps us build a sustainable organization. For example, volunteer commitments have allowed us to document our work so that we can tell our stories in compelling ways. Volunteers also enhance our programs by bringing valuable knowledge and experience to our Zambian students.

Partnership with communities — One of AEP's four cornerstones is to raise awareness of the immense potential of Zambia's youth by connecting communities. AEP is honored to have strong partnerships with our home community on the Main Line, outside of Philadelphia (where AEP was founded), with our home community in Kafue, Zambia (where our education resource center and program beneficiaries are located), and with the Zambian diaspora community in the United States.

Partnership with organizations — AEP's programs would not be nearly as influential and eye-opening for the students we serve in Zambia if it were not for our organizational partners. Partnerships with other non-profit organizations gave our students the opportunity this year to create music about environmental conservation and to continue to develop their leadership skills. Partnerships also allowed our local Zambian staff to have professional development experiences key to them continuing to grow as program facilitators. I hope you will enjoy learning more about these impactful partnerships on page five of this report.

As I was researching the meaning of partnership when starting to write this message, I came across a quote from Mother Teresa. She said, "None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful." I truly believe that together, we are doing something wonderful, meaningful, and full of love. We are doing something that is changing hundreds of lives in Zambia. On behalf of everyone with AEP and our local programs in Zambia, I would like to say thank you for being a part of this partnership.



Julie-Anne Savarit-Cosenza
Founder and Executive Director



2018/2019 SPOTLIGHT

ZAMBIA BACKGROUND:

In Zambia, 78% of the population is under the age of 25¹ and 60% of the population lives in poverty². Education is free until 8th grade, but mandatory fees and failing national exams limit access to high school. Only 28% of students will reach 12th grade³ and only 64% of youth are literate.⁴

AEP'S EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER named the Amos Youth Centre, is the physical home of all of AEP's academic support and extracurricular programs in Kafue, Zambia. 400 student members access programs regularly which are facilitated by four local Zambian staff with the support of high school graduates acting as tutors and mentors for the younger students while they wait to go to college.

SUCCESSES:

- **33,202 hot meals served** from April 2018 through March 2019 to the most underprivileged student members. For many, this is their only meal of the day.
- **30 academic support classes provided weekly** for 7th through 12th graders in all major subjects to supplement the poor quality of education in schools, as well as to provide college prep for recent high school graduates.
- **12 weekly clubs** focused on health awareness and HIV-prevention, self-esteem building, leadership development, creativity, and innovation building.
- **Special education program launched**, on March 25th, 2019, named Read for Rose, by university graduate Febby Choombe who attended high school and university thanks to an AEP scholarship for six years.

CHALLENGES:

- **More space is needed.** Over 300 students utilize AEP's education resource center on a daily basis. Some classes must take place outside due to lack of space. Attaining the goal to build a custom-designed center is needed more than ever.
- **More resources are needed.** The Nutrition Program is serving over 200 meals daily, but these meals are cooked on charcoal due to the lack of an industrial kitchen which is harmful to the environment.

AEP VISION:

Our vision is a generation of African youth with equal access to the resources they need to become educated, responsible, and caring citizens who seek to transform their communities plagued by poverty and HIV/AIDS.

AEP MISSION:

Our mission is to empower the youth of Zambia through education and leadership, to break the cycle of poverty in their communities.

AEP'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND awards yearly scholarships to deserving high school and college students who otherwise cannot afford to continue their education due to mandatory fees for both high school and college. Every January, scholarships are awarded to students who have gone through a vetting process based on their involvement at the education resource center, their family's ability to pay for school, and their grades.

SUCCESSIONS:

- **236 annual high school scholarships awarded** to 118 young women and 118 young men in January 2019.
- **46 students received higher education** through a college or vocational training scholarship between April 2018 through March 2019.
- **16 students from the village of Chanyanya continued high school** through the Rural Outreach Program. In Chanyanya, education ends in 9th grade. Scholarships and room and board allowances give the village's most promising students access to continued education.
- **5 college students on scholarship through AEP graduated** in the fields of education and electrical engineering.

CHALLENGES:

- **Only providing 25% to 30% of high school graduates an opportunity after graduation.** AEP seeks to provide 100% of high school graduates with an opportunity by adding an entrepreneurship training and financial literacy option, as well as increasing current college and vocational training scholarships.
- **Student creativity on the decline.** The Zambian education system is deeply grounded in rote memory learning, stifling creativity and critical thinking. AEP is working hard to create opportunities for students to tap into their creativity and innovation, but more programs and resources are needed.

AEP's fundraising is the organization's greatest challenge. The demand for programs and services provided in Zambia is growing. There is also a need to continue to deepen the impact of the programs and maintain the long-term commitment made to each student. This translates into a necessity to grow the donor base, diversify funding sources, and build the sustainability of the organization.



partnership with

DONORS

To AEP, donors are not only a financial resource, but are partners in the life-changing work that is taken on in Zambia. AEP knows that donors also see themselves as partners in light of their commitment and generosity. From April 2018 through March 2019, 211 donors supported AEP with an average gift of \$575.



partnership with

THE MAIN LINE, USA

For over a decade, families on the Main Line, outside of Philadelphia, have not just supported AEP, but created deep ties to the student's whose scholarships were made possible with their support. Through letter writing and gift exchanges, Zambian students have become



partnership with

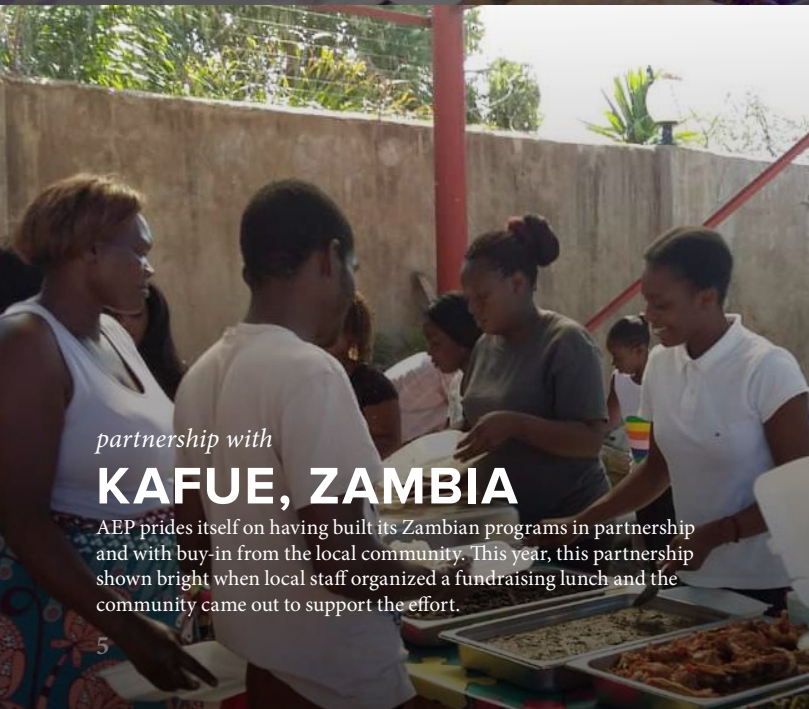
VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the key to AEP's sustainability. Without a strong volunteer partnership, fundraising events and campaigns would not run and our students in Zambia would miss out on invaluable knowledge and experiences. Eighteen volunteers and visitors travelled to Zambia to work with AEP's students. Nearly forty volunteers in the United States supported the organization's fundraising and administration.



partnership with

GLOBAL CAMPS AFRICA & CAMP SIZANANI AND GRASSROOTS SOCCER ZAMBIA



partnership with

KAFUE, ZAMBIA

AEP prides itself on having built its Zambian programs in partnership and with buy-in from the local community. This year, this partnership shown bright when local staff organized a fundraising lunch and the community came out to support the effort.



partnership with

ZAMBIAN DIASPORA, USA

Partnership with the Zambian Diaspora is a part of AEP's roots and how the organization started its programs. Keeping this partnership strong is an important part of building Zambia's commitment to AEP's work to empower the youth in country. This partnership was embodied by a



extensions of AEP's donor families and vice versa. The King Family for instance provided scholarships to Smart Lungu throughout high school and college. It was an emotional moment when they met in person after so many years at AEP's May 2018 annual fundraiser.

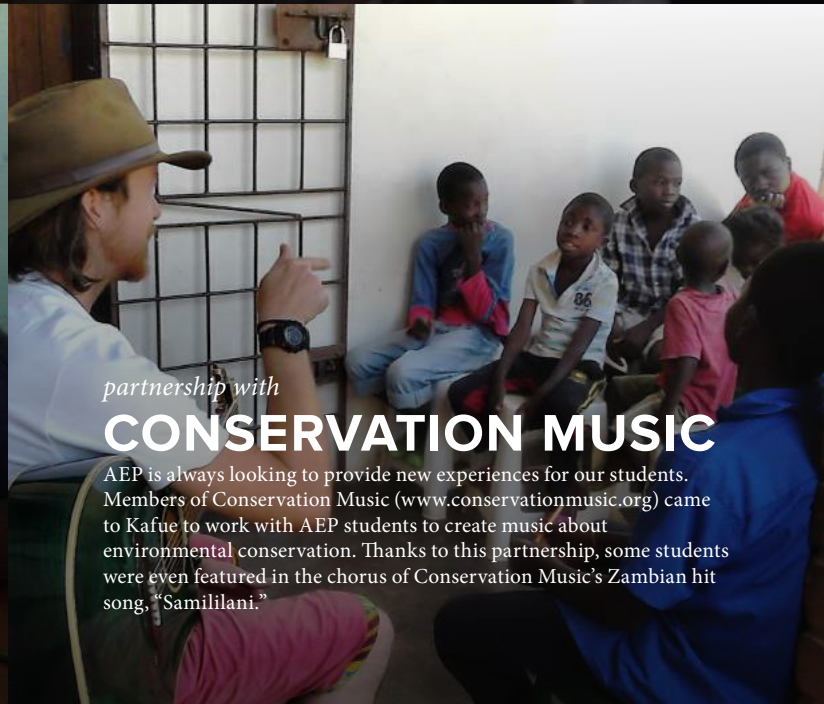


partnership with
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

Professional development is key to AEP's continued program success. Thanks to a partnership with James Madison University, AEP's Zambian team members Joy Mweemba, Smart Lungu, Febby Choombe, and Fred Kamanya had the opportunity to have entrepreneurial and educational exchanges on the Virginia campus.



One of AEP's most popular programs, the Leadership and Life-Skills Camp, returned for the fourth time in 2018. In partnership with Global Camps Africa and Camp Sizanani (www.globalcampsafrika.org) and Grassroots Soccer Zambia (www.grassrootsoccer.org/flagship_site/zambia) camp was better than ever and for the first time included five special education students.



partnership with
CONSERVATION MUSIC

AEP is always looking to provide new experiences for our students. Members of Conservation Music (www.conservationmusic.org) came to Kafue to work with AEP students to create music about environmental conservation. Thanks to this partnership, some students were even featured in the chorus of Conservation Music's Zambian hit song, "Samililani."



mother-son duo during the holidays of 2018. Lubona Chilonda Toto, a Zambian based in Pittsburg, sponsored the education resource center's annual holiday party, while her son, a local Zambian musician who goes by the stage name Cinori XO, came to Kafue to perform for the students.



partnership with
PENN STATE GREAT VALLEY

Led by Professor Cyndy Walton-Bongers, Ph. D., AEP has been privileged to be a case study for various Penn State Great Valley classes including Social Entrepreneurship & Community Leadership and New Ventures and Entrepreneurship. Students seeking their master's degrees in business or leadership worked on course-long projects to develop fundraising and communications plans focused on diversifying AEP's funding channels and social media outreach.

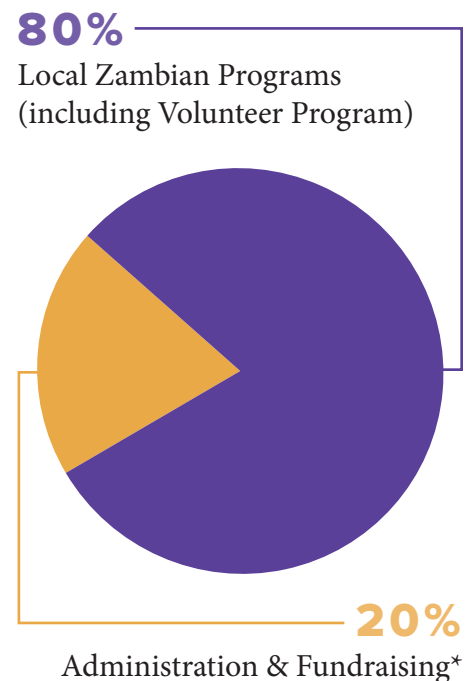
2018/2019 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

During the April 2018 through March 2019 fiscal year, AEP raised \$250,348.36. This represents an overall fundraising decrease of 6% over the previous fiscal year.

Expenses totaled \$249,922.58 compared to \$255,812.01 during the previous fiscal year. AEP's Administration and Operations expenses tripled due to important investments in operational sustainability including new laptops for local Zambian staff and monthly service fees for a donor management system, as well as increased expenses for filing tax returns. Fundraising costs increased slightly and salary and employee related expenses decreased slightly. Grants to AEP's Local Zambian Programs, the educational resource center and scholarship program, decreased by approximately \$22,500. This is due to funds raised by AEP's sister organization in France, Action Education Progrès, which also sends grants directly to the educational resource center. During the fiscal year, Action Education Progrès donated 21,000 euro which offsets AEP's program expenses, but does not represent a decrease in program spending generally.

	April 2018 - March 2019	April 2017 - March 2018
Income		
Bank interest	\$0.10	\$0.20
Restricted	\$0.00	\$0.00
Temporarily Restricted		
Fundraising	\$1,700.00	\$5,600.90
Programs	\$142,695.26	\$93,957.19
Volunteer Trips	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Temporarily Restricted	\$144,395.26	\$99,558.09
Unrestricted	\$104,202.00	\$166,698.83
Sale of Merchandise	\$1,083.00	\$0.00
Credit Card Rebates	\$668.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$250,348.36	\$266,257.12
Expense		
Admin and Operations	\$22,086.00	\$6,683.15
Direct Fundraising Cost	\$19,683.00	\$15,106.39
Cost of Merchandise	\$1,705.00	\$0.00
Salary & Employee Related Expense	\$37,969.00	\$42,997.38
Programs		
Grants to Zambia	\$160,924.00	\$172,328.29
Travel & Volunteer Trips	\$7,555.58	\$18,696.80
Total Programs	\$168,479.58	\$191,025.09
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$249,922.58	\$255,812.01

2018/2019 EXPENSE BREAKDOWN



*Local Zambian Programs includes funding from Action Education Progrès; Executive Director's time is estimated at 30% Administration & Fundraising and 70% Local Zambian Programs



STUDENT PROFILE

Through the Leadership & Community Service Club at the education resource center, students commit to monthly service projects and leadership development classes in an effort to make their community a better place. 11th grader Peter is one of the club's youth leaders. When asked why he thinks leadership and community service are important, Peter explained, "Leadership and community service have made me step out to my community and help people, something I thought I could not do because I felt I did not have enough courage to take that step. Community service makes me proud because I get to help different people in my community. Through different projects, I have learnt to give back and help others just as I have been helped by AEP." Peter's leadership goes beyond just the club. Currently, he lives at AEP's youth center because of family hardships. Taking care of the center makes him feel very happy because he takes great pride in being responsible for the center after hours. Peter's dream is to one day become an accountant and with his leadership skills he will absolutely achieve this goal.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Febby Choombe was an AEP program beneficiary for over six years. She earned high school scholarships for 11th and 12th grade and college scholarships for her undergraduate degree at the University of Zambia, the leading university in the nation. Febby has always had the dream to change the education landscape for students with special needs. Less than half will ever enter a classroom due to high stigma and few resources allocated to their needs. With her Bachelor of Arts in Special Education in hand, in October 2017, Febby joined the AEP local Zambian team as a special education teacher. In March, 2019, in partnership with AEP's education resource center, Febby launched Read for Rose, a free special education center where students can acquire language and occupational skills.



VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Volunteers from AEP's French sister organization Action Education Progrès did more than just teach their native language when volunteering at the education resource center in Kafue. Khrystyna Burak, Alexandre Colas, Albane Dumas, and Isabelle Queyroux taught history, political science, art, and English; worked on developing a cross-cutting curriculum; learned how to cook nshima, Zambia's staple food; and most importantly shared their energy, passion, and care with AEP's students.

DONOR PROFILE

AEP is proud to be a grantee of the GoAbroad Foundation (www.goabroad.org/) and to be recipients of the Catherine Thomasma Scholarship Fund which provided a scholarship to Anita, one of AEP's university students. In March, 2019, GoAbroad Foundation's founder Troy Peden and his daughter, Julia, visited Kafue. Inspiring moments were shared over water color painting, a motivational talk by Troy, a visit to the village of Chanyanya, and visiting AEP scholarship beneficiary Anita at the University of Zambia.



THE AEP FAMILY

THE AEP TEAM



**JULIE-ANNE
SAVARIT-
COSENZA**

African Education
Program Executive
Director



**JOY
MWEEMBA**

Amos Youth Centre
Executive Director



**LUMONO
CHONGO**

Amos Youth Center
Extracurricular
Programs Manager



**FREDRICK
KAMANYA**

Amos Youth Center
Academic Programs
Manager



**FEBBY
CHOOMBE**

Amos Youth Centre
Special Education
Teacher

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VOLUNTEERS & SPONSORS

VOLUNTEERS WHO TRAVELED TO ZAMBIA

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HEATHER COLTMAN
ALBANE DUMAS
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DC LUBIN
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CLAUDE PHARES
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MEGAN ROSE
JOE RILEY
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MATHIEU SAVARIT-COSENZA
CATHERINE SCHRECK
STEPHANIE SIMMERMAN
PEGGY TEILLON
CYNDY WALTON-BONGERS
KAYLA WHITE

SPONSORS - THANK YOU



www.naturescapes-pa.com

THANK YOU During the 2018/2019 fiscal year, partnerships with individual donors and volunteers, communities, and organizations made AEP's life-changing work possible. Your generosity and eagerness to spread the word has been crucial to our existence. On behalf of the students of Kafue, our local staff on the ground, and everyone involved with AEP's work, we thank you.

Every Dollar Counts

Help us continue our life-changing work and
make a donation by visiting
africaneducationprogram.org/donate-today

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