TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acronyms 2

Message from the Executive Director 3

About Chiedza 4

2021 Reach Highlights 5

Health and Nutrition 6

Education 13

Child Protection 19

Economic Strengthening 22

2021 Financial Summary 26

ACRONYMS

AGYW	Adolescent Girls and Young Women
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ASRH	Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health
AYSRH	Adolescent & Youth Sexual Reproductive Health
CCCC	Chiedza Child Care Centre
DBS	Dried Blood Spot
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ECS	Early Childhood Stimulation
FP	Family Planning
HIV	Human Immune-deficiency Virus
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
PVO	Private Voluntary Organisation
SRHR	Sexual Reproduction Health and Rights

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

2021 was yet another year characterised by challenges including the COVID 19 pandemic, economic hardships and shrinking donor funding. Chiedza Child Care Centre (Chiedza) managed to weather all these challenges and remained resolute in delivering quality services for orphans, vulnerable children and young people including those living with disabilities.

We are proud to have managed to offer emergency food support to families affected by HIV and AIDS during the lockdown period, offer out of school children education services and reach out to more than 10,000 young people with sexual reproductive health information and services. The year 2021 saw us creating an opportunity to deliver learning in a safe environment as well as scaling up our out of school project through a double classroom block donation from the Japanese Embassy. Services in the key thematic areas of Child Protection, Education, Economic Strengthening and Health and Nutrition were offered throughout the year.

While funding dwindled and challenged existence of community-based organisations such as Chiedza, we managed to adapt and ensured the organisation continued with core staff supported by interns and community volunteers.

Sincere acknowledgement goes to Chiedza Board, management, staff, funding partners, government line ministries, NGO partners, community leaders, parents, young people and children who made the year a success! We look forward to the year 2022 as we conclude our 5-year strategic plan and prepare for a new strategy rejuvenated and stronger.

ABOUT CHIEDZA CHILD CARE CENTRE

Chiedza is a local non-governmental organisation, established in 2001 and registered in 2003 , registration number *PVO 16/2003*. The organisation was formed by volunteer citizens of Zimbabwe in 2001 responding to the plight of children orphaned by AIDS. With the advent of anti-retrovial therapy, the organisation continued to strengthen its programmes to respond to the emerging needs of vulnerable children and their families through the thematic areas of early childhood education, accelerated learning, part time continuing education, vocational training, primary education, secondary education, sexual reproductive health, pediatric HIV, nutrition, child protection, and economic strengthening. In 2021 the organisation maintained its geographical coverage of Harare South and Zvimba districts.

Chiedza envisions

A Zimbabwe where children are happy, healthy, and empowered with bright future.

Our mission

To provide access to education, protection, economic strengthening, health and nutrition services to orphans and vulnerable children in Zimbabwe.

Governance

Chiedza is governed by a 7 member board with expertise in various areas such as human resources, financial management, fund-raising, and programming.

Staffing

In 2021 the organization had a staff compliment of 11 staff members, 9 part time staff,4 interns and 20 active community volunteers.

2021 REACH HIGHLIGHTS

Numbers reached in 2021

394
Economic Strength

210
Education

271
Child Protection

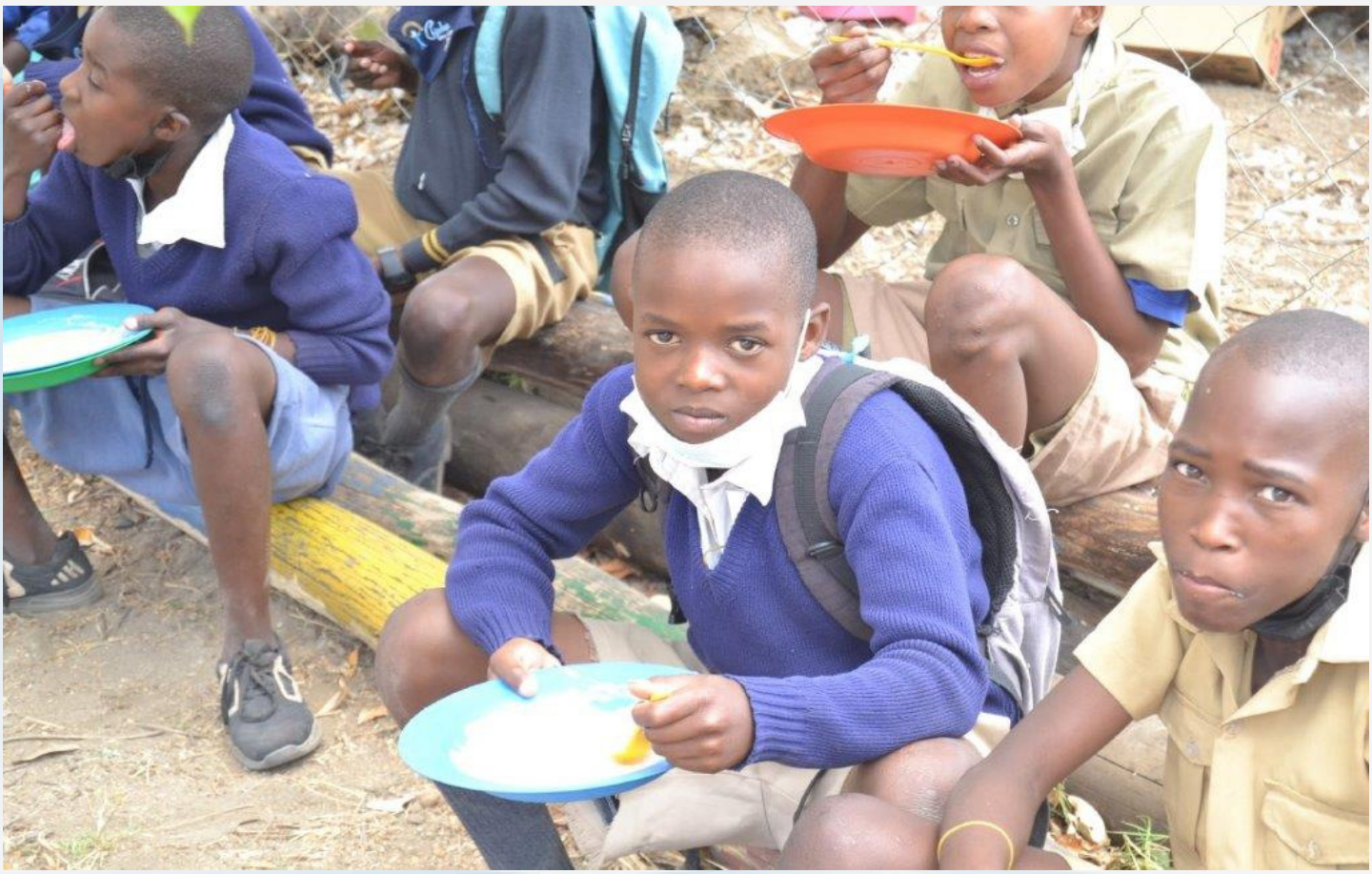
14963
Health and Nutrition

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Service	Male	Female	Total
Soup Kitchen	116	107	223
Food Packs	-	-	49 households
Caregivers Nutrition Training	5	200	205
Adolescent Support Groups	46	51	97
Adherence Support	92	102	194
Sexual and Reproductive Health	46	14917	14963

Children accessing hot meals through the soup kitchen

Chiedza provided wet feeding to 223 children (116M, 107F) children accessing early childhood education, the out of school study group, part-time continuing education as well as children from the community. The wet feeding program is a wrap around service for children coming to centre for various services. The wet feeding helped with positive health outcomes, addressing basic nutritional needs, averting hunger, and improving attendance and retention in the educational programs. The food for the soup kitchen was contributed from the vegetable garden, local companies, individuals, churches as well as international funding partners.



Meal time at Chiedza Child Care Centre Soup Kitchen

Dry food packs to granny-headed households and households with HIV positive children

Twenty-four households received monthly food parcels for five months comprising of cooking oil, peanut butter, mealie meal, soya beans and dried beans. These were granny headed households and households with children living with HIV. The families were grateful for the gesture which they said came at the right time as they were struggling to make ends meet due to the negative impact of COVID 19 on the economy. Within the 24 households were 86 (43M:43F) other children and 79 adults who also benefitted from the foods packs. In addition, grand-children from these households received school jerseys to cushion them during cold days. The jerseys benefitted a total of 53 orphans and vulnerable children.

Smiling beneficiaries of food packs

Caregivers trained on Nutrition

Nutrition training was organised for 205 (5M:200F) caregivers of children living with HIV. The training focused on food handling, preparation, alternative storage, food hygiene as well as sources of nutrition. The trainings included the practical preparation of a nutritious diet that is typical to provide all the needed nutrients to maintain good health. The practical sessions helped the caregivers to get an appreciation of what they were being trained on. The training of caregivers was a vehicle to skills transfer to the community that will ensure sustainability of the nutrition component within households that were reached by the training. Application of the knowledge and the skills that the caregivers obtained translated into positive gains in the health of children.

Some of the nutritious food prepared during a practical lesson at caregivers' nutrition training.

Retaining in care children infected and affected by HIV

Chiedza continued to implement interventions aimed at retaining children infected and affected by HIV in care in 2021 as follows:

- **Adolescent support groups** - Although the meetings were drastically disrupted by the COVID 19 restrictions only resuming in November when the number of COVID 19 cases in the country had dropped, a total of 97 (46M:51F) adolescents attended the meetings.

- **Airtime provision to clinics** - Six health facilities namely, Edith Opperman, Mbare hostels, Matapi, Sunningdale, Waterfalls and Tariro were supported with airtime which they used in making follow ups and communicating with clients important information such as availability of results. The support enabled clinics to be in contact with clients when they needed to, reducing cases lost to follow up. The support enabled the clinics to retain in care approximately 630 children.

- **Incentivizing collection of Dried Blood Spot (DBS) results for infants** - Collection of DBS results was not a priority amongst mothers due to several factors which included fear of the results. The organization introduced an incentive in the form of food packs for those coming to collect the DBS results. As mothers received the food pack and went back to tell others in the community about the initiative uncollected results at the clinics became a thing of the past. Mothers started coming as soon as they got the message that results were available enabling the health personnel to proceed with the treatment plan for the infants on time. The food pack which comprised of a 750ml bottle of cooking oil, 375ml bottle of peanut butter, soya chunks and dried beans also supported the nutrition needs of families. A total of 192 food packs were distributed in three clinics in Harare South district.

- **Engaging mothers in Early Childhood Stimulation (ECS) program**- 180 mothers living with HIV were identified from the clinics' PMTCT registers for engagement in the ECS sessions where 12 developmental and health sessions were delivered aiming to equip the mothers with information on how to take care of themselves and their children to minimize the risk of infection. Of the 180 mothers engaged 9 were pregnant and 171 had infants below the age of 5 years. Through the sessions which were co-facilitated by a community facilitator and a health professional,

the mothers got a full appreciation of the PMTCT program and promised to go and sensitize their friends and families on the program. The infants were at different stages of the PMTCT program and it was encouraging to note that none of them had seroconverted and after the sessions the mothers vowed to do their best to ensure that their children remain negative. Improvement were also noted in 5 infants who upon joining the groups presented with stunted growth and delayed milestones.

- **Provision of user fees and drug facility**- a total of 101 children living with HIV were supported to access medical services in the form of drug refill fees and treatment of opportunistic infections. Children also benefitted from an arrangement that was made by the organization with one of the local pharmacies for children to access medications that they could not get from the clinics mainly due to drug stock outs.

- **Support for uninterrupted HIV testing and treatment services for HIV positive pregnant and nursing mothers and their babies-** The organization supported one health facility in the Harare South district, Edith Opperman, responsible for offering testing services for mothers and their babies in the PMTCT program during emergencies. The clinic was supported with cartridges for continued service delivery as they awaited their usual supply which was delayed. Through the point of care machine, a cumulative total of 2878 women were reported to have received services.

Improving Youth Friendly Services provision of adolescent sexual reproductive health services.

40 health workers in Zvimba district were trained on Youth friendly service provision. Those trained ensured on the job training to all other staff members at 10 health facilities in the district.

Increasing demand for SRH services by adolescent girls and young women

29 AGYW were trained on AYSRH to create demand for SRH services at the health facilities in Zvimba district. The trained champions mobilized other AGYW to access family planning services at health facilities through sharing information.

A total of 24 (2M:22F) community health workers were trained on parent to child communication to ensure mobilization of caregivers and guardians as well as adolescent girls and young women on the importance of parent to child communication on ASRH. Following engagements by the trained community health workers there has been improved parent to child communication enabling the adolescents and young people to freely express their views to their parents and get the necessary support in accessing relevant SRH services.

Posters with AYSRHR and FP information were printed and distributed to 10 health facilities in Zvimba district providing readily available relevant information on ASRH to the young people who could just read for themselves as sometimes they are not willing to ask.

Community outreach activities were carried out to ensure AGYW in hard to reach areas access services. These reached a total of 751 girls and women with information and services.

EDUCATION

Service area	Female	Male	Total
Early Childhood Education in Harare South	14	15	29
Direct fees payment primary	16	13	29
Direct fees payment secondary	5	10	15
Accelerated learning	78	59	137
Part Time continuing Education	42	47	89
Tertiary Education in various institutions	5	3	8
Vocational Training	5	11	16

Improving developmental outcomes through Early Childhood Education Services

29 children (15M:14F) were reached with early childhood education services in Harare South district. The intervention is intended to benefit orphans and vulnerable children whose parents cannot afford to send their children at the conventional ECD centres in public school or private centres. Accessing ECD services is impactful in the life of the child in terms of developmental needs as well as to establish a good start for the child to transition into primary school. 15 (8M:F) of the 29 children managed to transition into primary school by the end of year.

E.C.D Learners in class

Second Chance Education for Out of School Primary Learners

137 (78:59F) were supported to access out of school study group at primary level in Harare South. As the economic situation in the country continues to worsen, there has been an increased demand for education support. School fees and examination fees increases in schools has seen many children dropping from school. These children also accessed other benefits that included access to nutritional meals at the soup kitchen, pyschosocial and spiritual support that were provided at the centre.

Accessing continued learning through Part Time Continuing Education-Secondary School

89 (42M,47F) children who were once out of school were supported to access secondary education through the part time continuing education program. A total of 14 students completed secondary education. Access to secondary education has continued to be a life changing service to the lives orphans and vulnerable children in the communities served who will have lost all hope for the future. Notable successes were recorded including 3 students progressing to advanced level, 4 new students progressing to tertiary level and 16 engaged in vocational training. This has empowered the young people for the future.

Ensuring retention in school through school fees payment

44 (23M: 21F) children (29 primary and 15 secondary) were supported with school fees payment. The COVID 19 pandemic has pushed half of the population of Zimbabwe into poverty due to imposed restrictions that affected the sources of livelihoods for parents of children of school going age. The support provided ensured that the children stayed in school whilst transitioning from one level of education to the next. The provision enabled the parents to focus on other needs of children improving children's care environment.

A learner enjoying reading time

Improvement in the learning environment - A New Classroom Block

Chiedza Child Care Centre with support from the Japanese embassy managed to improve the learning environment for children learning at the centre. In 2021 the partnership managed to build a double block for secondary students. The classrooms allowed decongestion of the previously composite class for form 3 and 4 learners. From using the disused garage and one class, the secondary learners can be accommodated in three proper classrooms. The establishment helped the children to access longer hours of learning at the centre whilst ensuring social distancing to prevent spread of COVID 19 pandemic.

Improving Employability through Vocational Training for young people

To harness the educational investment for the children under the Part Time Continuing Education and as an alternative pathway for tertiary education, 16 young people were supported to pursue a vocational training course of their choice. The program was made successful through partnership with like-minded organizations such as Rafiki Girls and Young Africa. 6 girls are pursuing interior decor, cutting and designing, ECD and nurse aide.

5 other girls are on the job training with Young Africa; 2 at a sewing company and 3 did catering. 2 boys were undergoing training in building and the other three did electronics, catering and motor maintenance. Feedback from the young people indicate high prospects of a better future as they were empowered with a skill.

Chiedza CHILD CARE CENTRE

Success Story

Rufaro Kabasa is a single mother. She is a double orphan staying with her grandmother. Chiedza started supporting her education in 2010 when she was in primary. The organisation continued supporting her through to secondary school where she did not do well. Since she did not have anything tangible to do at home, she tried marriage in 2016 which did not work. In 2020 November, she was identified by community volunteers for vocational training. She is currently enrolled with Rafiki Girls Centre pursuing Nurse Aid course. According to Rufaro;

"The burden of being a parent at a young age made me realise my mistakes and the bad choices I had made in my life. Now that I am going to Rafiki, I have learnt that I must be independent and be able to support myself and my child. I have noticed a change in the 3 months training that we underwent at Rafiki. I would want to appreciate all the support from Chiedza and supporting me this far. I was just sitting at home, crying daily with my child not knowing the path I was going to take to have a better life and for me to be able to support my child. Now I can see a bright future. Thanks to Chiedza and Rafiki.

Young people pursuing their dreams through tertiary education

After successfully completing upper secondary school level, four students (2M,2F) progressed to tertiary level. The students enrolled at various state universities pursuing degrees of their choice. Those who were already at tertiary institutions managed to transition into next level in their education. The addition of four new students in 2021 brought the number of young people being supported at tertiary level to 8(3M:5F). Access to tertiary education accords the young people better life opportunities. A higher qualification increase the chances of having a better job in future.

CHILD PROTECTION

SERVICE	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
Case management	104	97	201
Birth registration case profiling	22	27	49
Successful birth registration	2	3	5
Parenting Sessions	200	0	200
Volunteer Management & Capacity building	19	1	20
Total	347	128	475

Improving children's care environment

The organization continued to improve children's care environment through parental engagement. 200 caregivers were engaged in positive parenting sessions seeking to improve how they care for children in the context of Covid 19.

Right to identify for children

Despite the challenges brought about by Covid 19 in accessing birth registration, the organisation managed to support 5 children to get birth certificates. 49 children were profiled as not having birth certificates; however, not all cases could be registered as the Registrar General's office was closed due to lockdowns. When the offices were opened only the less complicated cases could be registered with the complicated ones requiring more time.

One of the children and his caregiver who managed to get birth certificate in 2021

Volunteer Motivation and Capacity Building

Volunteers make a vital link in the case management system as they identify cases, make referrals and make follow ups in communities. Chiedza Child Care Centre continued to work with 20 volunteers in Harare South district. The volunteers referred identified cases, made case follow ups and updated on the cases that they made follow ups on. They are being supported with allowances for airtime and other follow up expenses. In addition, the volunteers received case management training to enhance their capacity in child protection auxiliary work. Knowledge on the case management system and child protection multi-sectoral approach is vital for the volunteers as they are an important piece in the child protection sector.

Community volunteers in a training

ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING

Intervention	Area/District	Females	Males	TOTAL
Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) training	Harare South	377	17	394
Boost up capital support	Harare South	88	3	91
Specific Income generating activities training	Harare South	168	0	168

Improving household income through Savings groups

394 caregivers were trained in Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) forming 15 savings groups in which a total of 331 (4M;327F) were actively participating. The caregivers participating in savings groups managed to start small income generating activities from capital borrowed from the groups. Projects established include buying and selling, vegetable and fruit vending, peanut butter making, petroleum jelly and detergents making as well as catering. This followed training of 148 female caregivers in petroleum jelly making and 20 female caregivers training in detergent making.

Boost up capital was provided to 91(3M:88F) caregivers and 4 groups to grow their IGAs and enable them to generate more income. The increased household disposable income has enabled caregivers to cater for their children's basic needs including education and health.

Savings group meeting in progress

IGA specific skills training

Some of the produce by trained caregivers

Success Story

Shoorai Sengu (46 years) is a mother of three children who are beneficiaries of Chiedza. Two of her children are in form 3 and one is in form one. Shoorai is a single mother after she was divorced. She is now looking after her three children by herself. Shoorai is not employed and decided to participate in one of the savings groups running at Chiedza. From the savings from her group, Tichakunda, Shoorai managed to invest in dishwasher making and selling. She indicated that it is a viable business that she saw worthy and she is already reaping rewards from the venture. Shoorai has this to say

"I am happy that I managed to buy school shoes for all my children. I am also able to cater for bus fare for my children, buy food and also support their educational needs. I can also buy stationery and school uniforms from my business proceeds. After the divorce I became desperate and was struggling to provide the basic needs for my children. The support from Chiedza eased the burden for me and I will forever be grateful"

Shoorai has diversified her business to selling food covers, door mats and fruits.

2021 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at December 31, 2021

	Dec-21 US$	Dec-20 US$
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant, and equipment	-	-
Financial assets		
Current assets	**246 608**	**353 459**
	-	
Project Advances		10,487
Cash and cash equivalents	246 608	342,972
Total assets	**246 608**	**353 459**
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity	**245 436**	**345 205**
Share Capital		
Retained earnings/(loss)	245 436	345 205
Revaluation reserve	-	
Non-current liabilities	**-**	-
Shareholder`s loan	-	**-**
Loan	-	-
Current liabilities	**1 172**	**8 253**
Trade and other payables	1 172	**8 253**
Sundry creditors		
Taxation liability		-
Total Equity and liabilities	**246 608**	**353 459**

Accumulation of funds calculation

	USD
Opening	345,205.25
Deficit for the year	(99,769.06)
Balance	**245,436.19**