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making dreams come true

3rd February 2017

Dear Rotarians,

On behalf of the Board Members, I am writing to introduce our Charity to you and to seek financial support. Our Rainbow House is RAWCS Project 36 – 2012/13 February, 2013. It is an Emerald-based Charity. My husband, Terry, has been an active Member of the Emerald Rotary Club for 35 years.

Initial RAWCS Project registration by Emerald Rotary Clubs was held up as a Project Manager from either of the Clubs could not be found. John Cutler, a friend of mine for many years, was approached and has been our Project Manager since that time and is supported by his Club, the Rotary Club of Toowoomba Garden City.

After much ado in establishing a School in a Developing Country, we opened Our Rainbow House School in an impoverished Community on the outskirts of Lusaka, Zambia, in May, 2012. We have 50 orphans and vulnerable children at our School and employ 10 local staff (including 3 guards on roster). The little School is going really well and we would love to spread the word to all of the Rotary Clubs in your Rotary District and perhaps arrange some Presentations. We would be very happy to travel to your town.

It is with great pleasure that I report to you that our 6 grade seven students all passed their entrance exams into high school at the end of last year and one of them even received a scholarship to a prestigious Boarding School, sponsored by the Kucetekela Foundation, from Grade 8 to 12. This was a great effort, as these children had to catch up with 3 years in Grade 4.

We keep our Australian operating costs to a bare minimum as we are a Team of 7 Board Members (voluntary and some “old”☺) and we receive help from 4

other members for fund-raising events. Therefore, this small and dedicated group is so incredibly busy with all aspects of the Charity.

In the past two years, we have employed an Executive Assistant/Book-keeper, our only employee, as our Charity reached the point where we needed skilled staff with the qualifications to keep up with Compliance and running the Charity to the standard we wish it to be run. All of our other Members are Volunteers. Our Rainbow House is a very small Organization (with big hearts), and we struggle to hold the necessary fund-raisers to cover all our costs in Australia and Zambia.

We are seeking a donation of \$500 each year, via RAWCS, to be transferred to Zambia and contribute to maintaining the wonderful record our little school has achieved. Be assured that the Zambian Budget is strictly scrutinized by our Board Members at monthly meetings for the distribution of funds for running costs. Upon request, we can share these with you along with our Audited Financial Report for 2015/16.

Our Rainbow House is proud to be associated with Rotary, of course and we have had many Clubs support us throughout Victoria and Queensland.

We appreciate your time in presenting this to the Members of your Club and look forward to your response. Attached is our latest Newsletter.

Our website link is www.ourrainbowhouse.org.au

This link will take you to the RAWCS donation web page for Our Rainbow House.

<https://donations.rawcs.com.au/Default.aspx?ProjectID=658&ReturnTo=4>

With thanks,

Alison Ray
Director - Our Rainbow House Inc.