
Forum for African Women Educationalists Zimbabwe Chapter



About FAWEZI

The Forum for African Women Educationalists – Zimbabwe Chapter (FAWEZI) is one of the 34 National Chapters in Africa affiliated to the FAWE Africa network. FAWE is a Pan-African non-governmental organization based founded in 1992 and based in Nairobi, Kenya. FAWE was established with the goal of promoting access, increasing retention and enhancing the quality of education for girls and women in Africa. FAWEZI was launched in March 1998 in Zimbabwe and registered as a Private Voluntary Organization in 1999 - Registration No: W/O: PVO: 11/99. From the time of its founding, FAWEZI has been working to close the gender gap in education. In February 2014, FAWEZI signed a 5 year Memorandum of Understanding with the MoPSE. The MOU which concerns the implementation of programmes aimed at accelerating the participation of girls and women in education at all levels. To date FAWEZI's outstanding accomplishments have included piloting of direct interventions that respond to hindrances to girls' full participation in schooling.

THE PROJECT

Introduction

This project arose out of the need to support re-entry of school going age girls back into school. Poverty has seen the youth in this district become more and more vulnerable, especially the girl child. This district has significantly higher trends of school drop outs as compared to other districts.

Background

In 2000, 164 countries, agreed to reach six education goals by 2015. Included in these goals, was Goal 6, which focused on *'Eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and achieving gender equality in education by 2015, with a focus on ensuring girls' full and*

equal access to and achievement in basic education of good quality. (EFA Global Monitoring Report 2015). The Global Monitoring Report of 2015, highlighted that, great progress had been made in gender parity. Although Sub-Saharan Africa and the Arab states were reported to halved the parity gap, they had not reached the target of enrolling 92 and 93 girls respectively per every 100 boys. Most countries in these regions are reported to have not reached parity in lower secondary education. One of the key factors contributing to this is the rate of drop outs among girls in secondary education. This means the enrollment of girls in education in these regions was still low.

Statement of the problem

Girls who drop out of school due to pregnancy are not registering for readmission into school after giving birth. If this situation continues unabated, it means that the number of girls who access education, stay in school and complete is reduced; gender parity and equality in secondary education is reduced and this contradicts the nation's efforts to achieve parity and equality at this level. Of more concern to FAWEZI, is the fact that the girls who fail to complete education will perpetuate the impact of the poverty cycle where children from poor families tend not to access education.

The project in brief:

Most girls who drop out school end up in marriages and with children whom they cannot support financially. The project aims to take committed girls back to school whether they have a child or not and support them until they write their public examinations. Further to this FAWEZI the girls will be supported to enter tertiary institutions so that they acquire education that will develop them and their families. FAWEZI intends for this project to continue until these 20 girls are members of the society who can contribute to their own lives, community and the nation at large. They will change their community by acting as role models and mentors in school and communities within the district.

The cost of this project is:

No.	Item	Cost	Total (USD)
1.	School fees per child	\$120/ child x 2 terms x 20 girls	4 800
2.	Sanitary pads	\$2/ packet x 2 packets/ child x 8 months x 20 girls	640
3.	Uniforms and Shoes	\$50/ child x 20 girls	1 000
	Grand Total		6 440