

Oasis

Oasis in Zimbabwe 2018 Report



Introduction

Although an independent locally registered and directed Private Voluntary Organisation (PVO 38/05), Oasis Zimbabwe is a part of the Oasis International Association. What Oasis is doing in 8 countries to create thriving communities, and to rescue the exploited and bring them back into community, continues to be outstanding. From developing hubs of integrated support activities around 47 schools in urban deprived communities in the UK, to rescuing children from the hands of traffickers in India, to enabling women to save together and loan each other money to set up their own businesses, and to be community based responders to sexual and gender based violence in Zimbabwe, these are all out-workings for our shared vision for community.

2018 continued to demonstrate the resilience of our hub communities in the face of ongoing economic challenges in Zimbabwe. The newly-elected Government began implementing the Transitional Stabilisation Programme designed to reverse the nation's economic decline, but in the short-term shortages of cash, fuel and basic imported goods have impacted all levels of Zimbabwe's society, and those in vulnerable communities have been most affected.

Despite the harsh economic environment, Oasis Zimbabwe had much to celebrate in 2018 across our programming areas:

- Our Tanaka Programme working with those living and working on the streets
- Our Pre-School Programme (PSP) training teachers, setting up Early Childhood Development Centres, and wrapping holistic care around the children and caregivers of those centres
- Our Vocational Skills Training providing tailor training to at risk, orphaned, HIV+ and sexually traumatized young women
- Our self-help groups providing economic strengthening to women (and some men) within our hub communities.
- The launch of our SWATT-TEAMS training initiative to address high rates of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in our hub communities, integrating the key expertise areas of Deep Trauma Recovery and Hidden Dynamics of Poverty as per our 3-year Strategic Plan.
- The launch of our "Keep Them Learning" Campaign focused on keeping girls in school through practically addressing issues such as lack of access to sanitary wear.

In addition, Oasis Zimbabwe formally launched two new hubs to extend and expand the intentionality of our work beyond our Epworth and greater Harare communities into Mazowe South and Goromonzi.

As an organisation, we were deeply saddened at the loss of founding member and Chair of our Board of Trustees for many years, Rikki Decker. Even so, we were able to celebrate a long life, well lived in the service of others, and a legacy that will live on in Oasis Zimbabwe and well beyond.

We continue to be passionate about the work we get to do and inspired by the people whose journeys we are privileged to be a part of. We hope that you are inspired too.

Asha Emmerson

CEO, Country Director

Key Country Details

Chief Executive Officer: Asha Emmerson

Annual Turnover: USD: 238,737; GBP: 176,923

No. of Hubs: 3

No. of Staff: 15

No. of Volunteers: 11

Board Chairperson: Richard Calder

Who are we?

Oasis is a global family of inter-dependent Oasis organisations, committed to a common vision and mission:

1. Vision (what we are working towards)

Our vision is for community - a place where everyone is included, contributing and reaching their God-given potential.

2. Mission (what we are doing now to fulfil our vision)

Oasis is committed to working in an inclusive, integrated, empowering and comprehensive way so that all people experience wholeness and fullness of life.

3. Outcomes (What we hope will be the results of the work we do)

1. Local communities that are characterised by high levels of trust, safety, cohesion, mutual support, vibrancy, health and opportunity, and have increasing capacity to address their own issues.
2. The prevention of people being excluded from community and those that are, brought back into community finding wholeness and fullness of life
3. The replication of models that effectively contribute to community transformation or bring the excluded into community.

What do we do?

Oasis Zimbabwe began in 2002 and was registered as a Private Voluntary Organisation (PVO 38/05) in 2005. Since 2005, Oasis Zimbabwe has implemented broad, holistic services with a focus on inclusion and long-term community-based relationships through which change can most effectively be achieved. In line with the Oasis Global mandate, Oasis Zimbabwe has developed a governance structure which i) facilitates community ownership and ii) provides infrastructure and support in order to go further and deeper with the individuals and communities we have the privilege to walk with.

How do we work?

Oasis works in co-operation and partnership with local government, churches, partner organisations and other community stakeholders, valuing innovation and seeking excellence in all it does.

Oasis Zimbabwe Board of Trustees

Richard Calder (Chair)
Absolom Gatsi (Vice Chair)
Asha Emmerson (CEO/Country Director)
Rikki Decker
Minali De Silva
Rachell Chitima Fambisai (Secretary)
Sharon Wekwete

Auditors

Baker Tilly Chartered Accountants (Zimbabwe)
8 Fletcher Rd, Mt Pleasant, Harare

Physical Location

264 Chiremba Road, Park Meadowlands

Annual Budget Distribution

In 2018, Oasis Zimbabwe core operations made up approximately 9.91% of the annual budget with programme related funding and a small but effective amount of capital funding making up the remaining 90.09%.

Programmatic funding (including all Programming Salaries and a small % of core/administrative salaries) is currently broken down as follows:

29.77% of income supports our Early Childhood Development work
24.99% of income supports our Vocational Skills Training work
7.41% of income supports our Street-based Outreach and Place of Safety
14.20% of income supports our women's empowerment self-help groups
9.61% of income supported our work focused on preventing sexual and gender-based violence
4.11% capital investment for building refurbishment

2018 Financial Statements will be available following our annual external audit in April 2019.

What did we achieve in 2018?

Our TANAKA Programme:

Tanaka means "We Are Whole". The Tanaka Programme focuses on assisting those who live and work on the streets in high-risk communities in Harare.

2018 saw our Tanaka Rescue Home and Place of Safety continue to provide short term care for girls aged 6-16 transitioning off of the streets or out of trauma situations. 23 girls were cared for over the course of the year, most staying much longer than the 3 day to 3 week time frame which identifies short-term care. Tanaka Home staff carried out art therapy, trauma-informed Healing Play sessions, literacy and numeracy activities and gardening with the girls throughout the year as part of psycho-social support, as well as liaising with the Department of Social Welfare to follow up on the girls' cases. One girl was supported to obtain a birth certificate before she was reunified with relatives.

Our outreach work into the informal street bases of those living and working on the streets continued, including focus group discussions, sports sessions and counselling. These activities reached between 48 and 118 children and adults each month. The Tanaka team also partnered with Medecins Sans Frontiers to run 4 HIV testing campaigns using their mobile clinic throughout the year. Eight families were successfully supported to transition off the streets into rented accommodation in Epworth.

Our Pre-School Programme (PSP):

Our work under PSP focuses on training teachers, setting up Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDs), and wrapping holistic care around the children and caregivers of those centres. This work is established and strong and continued to be so over 2018.

Achievements under our Pre-School Programme in 2018 included:

- 1393 Children recruited into 20 ECD centres that we were actively working with to become self-sustaining
 - 3 new ECD centres were established
 - 19 teachers were trained in our 14th intake of trainees, including training on child development, early childhood stimulation and nutrition.
 - 213 teachers from previous year training intakes received additional and refresher trainings
 - 4 more schools were weaned off Oasis in Zimbabwe direct support to become self-sustaining (total: 111 centres established to date, 83 of these are now self-sustaining)
 - 62 Oasis ECD teachers joined the SWATT-TEAMS initiative (see later section)



SWATT TEAMS training in Hidden Dynamics of Poverty & Overcoming Trauma for effective SGBV responses in our communities and hubs

Our Vocational Skills Training Programme:

Our Vocational Skills Training Programme provides long and short course tailor training to at risk, orphaned, HIV+ and sexually traumatized young women. 34 young women at risk and/or survivors were trained as tailors in our 10th year of our programme. 15 were able to write National Foundation Certificate Exams (3 textile related subjects) and passed with credits or

distinctions, while the remaining students wrote Oasis internal exams. A new intake of a further 15 girls began the course in November 2018.

Throughout 2018 19 girls on the Skills Training course joined the SWATT-TEAMs initiative (see later section). These 19 also formed their own savings and loans group and saved money together to contribute towards their sewing machines upon graduation.

Three recent graduates helped to produce re-usable sanitary wear under the SWATT-TEAMs initiative, for distribution under the campaign called 'Keep Them Learning' (see later section).

Our Community-Based Self-Help Groups:

Oasis in Zimbabwe facilitates the establishment and training of self-help / savings and loans groups within our hub communities, primarily involving women. 50 groups have been established around our ECD centres with the majority of members being caregivers of children attending the schools. A further 110 groups have been established in Epworth and Goromonzi for women of all ages, with over \$260,000 being given in loans in total since the programme began in 2014. The groups have continued in spite of ongoing severe economic challenges in 2018, and in addition to starting and growing their own businesses, the group members and their children have benefited from training in nutrition and sexual and reproductive health and rights in partnership with Ministry of Health local clinics, as well as training in hygiene and prevention of cholera transmission during the 2018 outbreak.

40 Self-Help Group members joined the SWATT-TEAMs initiative (see later section).

Our Community-Based Response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV):

In 2018 Oasis in Zimbabwe launched two initiatives designed to establish a community-based response to the high rates of sexual and gender-based violence in our hub communities.

The first of these is called SWATT-TEAMs (Survivors, Women and girls Accessing Trauma interventions and Training To become Empowered Advocates and change Makers). 237 community members and stakeholders drawn from across our existing programmes were trained in Hidden Dynamics of Poverty and Deep Trauma Recovery over eight events. The SWATT-TEAMs have strategized, developed and begun to implement a community-based response to SGBV in their districts, facilitating referrals and holding service providers to account as well as providing trauma-informed support to their peers. Two community-based places of safety have been capacitated, and follow-through support has been provided for 57 survivors. Secondly Oasis launched a campaign called 'Keep Them Learning' in partnership with the Honorable, Member of Parliament for Mazowe South. The campaign focused on raising awareness of the importance of menstrual health management in retaining adolescent girls in education, and the impact of their increased education in reducing their lifetime vulnerability to SGBV.

30 primary and secondary schools were targeted during the campaign with strong community and governmental support and endorsement. Four tailors were trained to produce 4100 re-

useable sanitary pads to be distributed across the 30 schools, and community-based training of trainers was completed to deliver sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and menstrual health management (MHM) training to 2 select members of the teaching staff from



Keep Them Learning Training of Staff from 30 Mazowe South Primary & Secondary Schools

all 30 schools. A plan for Young Leader Advocacy Groups to be formed in each school to dialogue, address stigma and engage in community change regarding the importance of SRHR

and MHM awareness will be rolled out in 2019. Four videos were produced which will be used for advocacy and awareness at community and national level, and a targeted process of gathering of attendance data was initiated, relating to girls' transition from primary to secondary and secondary to higher education across

Mazowe South. This data will assist with identifying gaps and developing solutions regarding girl child drop outs. Finally, one of the most vulnerable schools engaged in the campaign received bathroom renovations to improve hygiene facilities, waste management and water accessibility, which will also contribute to keeping girls in school and can be used as a model for replication by the community across other schools.

Story of Hope

One of our Vocational Training graduates, Rosie is 25 years old. She is the eldest child in her family and helps her mother to raise nine children including Rosie's three cousins and three step-siblings, all of whom are HIV-positive. Rosie's father died when Rosie was in her first year of high school, but she managed to pass seven subjects at Ordinary Level and gained one A'level in Business Studies.*

Rosie heard of Oasis in 2015 and was selected to join the 12-month course. During Rosie's time on Oasis' Vocational Training course, she sewed sheets and other garments and sold them to community members. She saved her money by contributing in the savings and loans group and managed to contribute \$240 towards buying a taxi with her mother. The taxi was used as source of income which helped to pay school fees for Rosie's younger siblings. She and her mother later sold the taxi and bought a commuter bus, which is bringing in larger monthly profits for the household.

Rosie passed her National Foundation Certificate in Clothing Technology with distinction in 2016, and continued on to pass her National Certificate in 2017. This gave her enough points to enroll at Chinhoyi University to study for a degree in Garment and Textile Studies. Rosie's university education is being supported through an individual donor who was moved by how motivated she has been in contributing to the education and support of her siblings. Rosie she has just passed her first semester exams with excellent results, and we are so proud of the way she has begun to believe in herself...just as we have always believed in her.