

Volunteer Information

We are so happy that you are interested in joining us at Zambia Project! This document gives information on the following:

1. Types of volunteers
2. The vision and mission of the project
3. A brief explanation of our different areas of work and how one could serve in each area.
4. What to expect in terms of budgeting and living arrangements
5. The next steps for the application process
6. The history of the organisation

If you still have questions after reading this, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can email Petri, the volunteer co-ordinator, at petri@thezambiaproject.org.



1. Types of Volunteers

We have two types of volunteers that we can accommodate, namely medium-term missionaries and short-term professional volunteers. To ensure that we have enough team members available to support you in your first few weeks here we ideally only allow volunteers to start volunteering between January and April and then from mid-August to mid-November. Please talk to us if these dates fall outside of your intended volunteer period. Further to give us time to prepare well for you, ideally, we would like to receive your application no less than six weeks before your proposed arrival date. Again – please talk to us if this isn't possible.

Short-term Missionary

Short term missionaries are people who feel that God is calling them to use their skills to support the existing work in Zambia for a shorter period (2 weeks – 7 months). We want your short time with us to be impactful so in this case we do a lot of effort to work with you to plan your time here in advance and we come up with specific projects and goals that you can achieve.

Medium-term Missionary

Medium term missionaries are sent by their church to serve with us for 7 months – 2 years (i.e. being here with the blessing of your senior pastors and potentially being partially funded by your church). During this time, we want to expose you to all the areas of the project and we would love for you to engage in learning materials that reveal God's heart for missions and the role of the church. We will talk with you about potential areas to become involved in before you come however, we know that your role here will evolve as you get to know the people and see more of the work.

It is important to note that you will need to be self-financed. You are responsible for raising all your own support to cover both personal and work-related expenses. If your project involves employing additional part-time staff, you will also have to cover those salaries as its outside our standard operations which are fund-raised for. We will work together to set out goals that will be good to accomplish in your time here before you come so that we can work together to make all the necessary arrangements.

2. Vision and Mission

We are primarily a church planting organization with a VISION to establish a life-giving church within walking distance of every person in Western Zambia (we need to plant about 6000 churches to establish this vision). Our MISSION is to take the Gospel to where it has not been heard in Western Zambia and uplift communities through various projects. We accomplish our mission through Hope Church and our projects include:

 <p>HOPE FM</p>	 <p>BIBLE TRANSLATION</p>	 <p>WATER WELLS</p>
<p>Part of our church planting strategy is broadcasting the message of Jesus across Western Zambia through our radio station.</p>	<p>We're translating the Bible into 5 previously unwritten languages to help plant & disciple our village churches more effectively.</p>	<p>We establish water wells in areas where people do not have access to safe drinking water.</p>
 <p>VOH MONGU</p>	 <p>VILLAGE OUTREACH</p>	 <p>HOPE ART</p>
<p>We care for children in need through our children's homes, our school, our clinic, our Save a Life Centre for malnourished children and our Champions Club for children with special needs.</p>	<p>The Zambia Project is a church planting movement. We believe that every village in Western Zambia deserves a life-giving church that uplifts its community.</p>	<p>We uplift women by helping them earn an income from their beautiful handmade products. 100% of our profits go towards caring for children in need.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">We exist so that others may live!</p>		

3. Areas to Serve

Here is general overview of our areas of work with some examples of how one could serve in those areas. People are different and this list could never be comprehensive. You know your skills and talents best. We are VERY open to discussing how you can serve and use your skills in ways that we perhaps did not think about.

Our workdays are Monday to Friday from 8:00 – 17:00 with an hour lunch. As a volunteer you will have freedom in managing your week (i.e. you can serve in multiple areas) and we will expect of you to pro-actively find ways to fill your weekly schedule. Additional church programs that we will ask you to attend include weekly small groups, a weekly prayer meeting as well as our Sunday church services.

General

Ways to Serve	Explanation	Useful Skills/Qualifications
Media	Work with our sponsorship / social media team to get videos and photos of all the different departments that we can use in giving feedback.	Photography and videography skills



Base maintenance and improvement:

Ways to Serve	Explanation	Useful Skills/Qualifications
Fixing and maintenance	You will work with our maintenance team to address any maintenance needs	Any engineering qualification or a background in electrics, plumbing, carpentry, building, landscaping, etc is very beneficial for some of the larger projects.
Base Improvement Projects	Minor to major projects that will improve the base. You might need to assist with fund-raising to buy some items for this (e.g. paint)	Any handiwork skills are beneficial for larger projects. For minor projects a willingness to serve and learn is all that is needed.
Vehicle Workshop	Work with our mechanical team to keep the project's cars in good, working condition	Any mechanical skills.



Hospitality: May – August is team season. We constantly have people coming & going.

Ways to Serve	Explanation	Useful Skills/Qualifications
Helping prepare meals	It is a HUGE blessing to have someone willing to help prepare meals and do shopping for visiting teams when people arrive.	A willingness to serve is most important. Ability to two or three cook simple dishes for a large group of people

Assist with hosting	Help our hospitality team prepare and clean our accommodation units	A willingness to serve.
---------------------	---	-------------------------

Church Planting

Ways to Serve	Explanation	Useful Skills/Qualifications
Outreach with church planting team.	You will join a local missionary team as they go minister in their relevant area. The opportunity is not guaranteed.	Willingness to camp in rural conditions and to serve.
Outreach with water well instillation team	Join a team as they go to install a water well. The opportunity is not guaranteed.	Willingness to camp in rural conditions and to serve.



VOH Discipleship: This is where we disciple the children in our school to learn to love and obey Jesus. We also encourage them to develop their God-given talents.

Ways to Serve	Explanation	Useful Skills/Qualifications
Discipleship clubs	We have a drama and singing discipleship club that uses creativity to explore God's word,	An interest on drama, singing or other forms of creative expression. You will work alongside the person currently leading the club.
Any lessons that our children will	You could possibly start a group that meets together	A reasonable level of skill and any craft that you are willing to teach.

benefit from (craft, drawing, sewing, music, singing etc.)	once a week and learns a certain skill	
--	--	--

VOH School: a preschool, primary and secondary school with 800 children.

Ways to Serve	Explanation	Useful Skills/Qualifications
Literacy and learning support	Helping with reading lessons and extra school lessons	Any background in teaching/ tutoring is useful but not critical. Anyone can serve in this capacity
Sports (in season)	January - March is athletics season. April- July is ball sports (netball, football and volleyball)	An enthusiasm for and background with these sports.
Early childhood development	Assisting at our preschool and Grade R by doing regular age-appropriate crafts/games	Any background in early childhood development is useful but not critical.



Clinic: We see school children and children from the surrounding community.

Ways to Serve	Explanation	Useful Skills/Qualifications
Providing medical services.	You would be working alongside our employed staff.	A medical qualification is crucial (e.g. medicine / nursing/ dentistry). You will need to register with HPCZ if you will be practicing independently.

Champions Club Program / Therapy: Our ministry to children with special needs.

Ways to Serve	Explanation	Useful Skills/Qualifications
Forming part of our volunteer team	You would be working alongside our employed staff and assisting in executing the program.	Anyone can serve in this capacity. A background in education, especially special needs education is greatly beneficial.
Providing therapy services.	You would be working alongside our current occupational therapist.	A therapeutic qualification is crucial (OT, physio, speech therapy, audiology). You will need to register with HPCZ if you will be practicing independently.



Save-a-Life Feeding Program:

This is a six month program for children with malnutrition that runs throughout the year. About 100 children are admitted to this program annually.

Ways to Serve	Explanation	Useful Skills/Qualifications
Providing medical services – especially related to child nutrition.	You would be working alongside our employed staff.	A medical qualification is crucial (e.g. medicine / nursing/ nutrition). You will need to register with HPCZ if you will be practicing independently.

Hope Family

We will be asking you to serve at church on a Sunday. It's a great way to become part of our church community.

Ways to Serve	Explanation	Useful Skills/Qualifications
Kids Church	Initially you will take on a supporting and observing role. You will be with the children and support the teacher in making the lesson a success	Experience in kids church would be great, but a love for children and a willingness to serve is all that we need.
Ushering	Greeting people	Friendliness.
Production	Supporting our production team in running an excellent service	Must have served in a church production team.
Youth	The youth meet on Sunday afternoons. If you are younger than 24 years you will be expected to attend.	Experience in youth ministry is great, but passion for youth and a willingness to serve is all that we need.

4. Budget

This budget will vary greatly due to personal interests and needs but you can use it as a guideline.

One Time expenses

Item	Rands	Dollars
Return Flight Tickets to Livingstone/ Lusaka	Varies depending on where you fly from	
Entry Visa (non-SADC countries):		50



Transportation in Lusaka/Livingstone if you fly in	1000	80
One way bus fare to Mongu	400	25
3-month Temporary Work Permit (required after 30 days):	7000	400
Travel Accommodation	700pp/night	35pp/night
HPCZ registration (Health Care Professionals) – Doctors	13 000	670
Allied Health / Nurses	7 500	400

Monthly expenses

Item	Rands	Dollars
Base Fees (You won't pay for accommodation, rather you will pay base fees. This is a fee paid by everyone living on the base regardless of where you live. Contributes to the monthly water, electricity, security, and maintenance fees of the base as a whole)	2100 (R70pp / day)	150 (\$3pp / day)
Swimming pool fees (applicable from September to April - those who swim all contribute to the upkeep of the swimming pool)	R200	10
Groceries one adult	3000	200
Groceries two adults	5000	350
Domestic worker once per week (4*/month)	250	20
Private taxi's to get around in Mongu	800	40
Cell phone data and airtime	150	10
Other personal needs	600	40
Ministry Cost (A budget for generosity, hosting or buying things that you need to work in your area of service)	1500	100

5. Next Step: Application process

At this point you should prayerfully consider if God is leading you to come volunteer with us. If you feel lead please fill in an application form by the link on our website under "Volunteers" with your CV and a recommendation letter from the pastor of your sending church (if you don't have one you can email to ask for one). Once we receive your application and reference letter, we will schedule a call with you. From there we in turn will prayerfully consider your application and let you know the next steps.

6. Our History

In 2003 Paul and Marinette van Collier moved to Mongu in obedience to the burden that God had placed on their heart for unreached people in Western Zambia, and the Zambia

Project was established. In 2008 we started Hope Church Mongu. God showed us that we needed a missional church in Mongu that could set an example for what a healthy church looks like, that teach accurate, biblical theology, that models Christlike leadership and that raises up Christian leaders who are burdened with spreading the gospel and having a positive impact on their community. The church started with 5 people at a nearby lodge. Today we have around 1300 members. Our organisation's leaders, staff and local church planting team are the fruit of Hope Church Mongu and work alongside our missionary team to accomplish our vision. To date we have planted just under 200 churches in rural villages all over western Zambia.

Initially the project focused only on planting churches in villages. However, we soon realised that God wanted us to not only tell people about salvation through faith in Jesus, but that God also wanted us to play a role in alleviating the suffering that many people found themselves in. We had to respond to the spiritual as well as the temporal needs around us. One such need was for a sanitary water. Children were drinking contaminated water and dying from diarrhoea and parasites in the water. In response we started installing water wells in villages. To this day we have installed 156 water wells.

Around 2009 we started getting requests from our village churches for the Bible in their language. Often in villages, men understand Silozi but woman and children don't. Five languages were identified which would enable 200 000 – 300 000 people to access the Bible in their language. Shortly after we started our Bible translation workshops to start writing down and translating the Bible into these 5 languages. In 2023 we finished 100% of the first draft of the New Testament.

Another need was for high quality, Christian education. Paul and Marinette's children, Seth and Nathan, were being home schooled on our base and a few children from the community started joining the classes. This was the start of the VOH School. We now have 800 students from Preschool to Grade 12. We pray that our school is equipping Zambia's next generation of Christ-honouring leaders.

God also opened our eyes to become aware of the 100 000 orphaned children in Western Zambia. We collaborated with VOH Africa to start VOH Mongu in 2010. We now have 6 children's homes with nearly 50 children.

Hope Art was started in July 2009 with the purpose of generate funds for VOH while providing a source of income for women. They started by creating beautiful, hand-made paper beads. Hope Art has grown and expanded beyond paper beads to fashion bags and stuffed animals hand stitched from socks. In August 2016, Hope Art launched a second location in South Africa. Most of the Hope Art artists are the sole providers for their families. To date, Hope Art has been able to invest over four million Rand into VOH.

In 2010 a mother arrived at our base with triplets who were malnourished. We soon realised the need to help malnourished children and started the Save-A-Life program. To date, with God's help, we have saved 920 lives.

From the feeding program we became aware of children with disabilities in Mongu. God enabled us to provide occupational therapy services for such children. In 2022 we partnered with the Champion's Club Foundation to start a ministry for children with special needs. We work with their families to support the children in fulfilling the destiny that God has for their life.

In 2022 God enabled us to launch a radio station, Hope FM. The radio station aims to provide high quality Christian teachings across the province. This enables us to train and disciple the pastors with churches in very rural areas.

We are humbled to reflect on how God has established His work throughout the years. What a privilege to partner with Him!