



**ZOCS**

Hope Through Quality Education

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2007**



### **ZAMBIA OPEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (ZOCS)**

**ENGAGING A HOLISTIC APPROACH IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN (OVC), ESPECIALLY GIRLS**

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## ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CRAIDS	Community Response to HIV/AIDS
DEBS	District Education Board Secretary
ECZ	Examinations Council of Zambia
EFA	Education for All
FHI	Family Health International
FHT	Family Health Trust
GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IEC	Information, Education, Communication
IGA	Income Generating Activities
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MOE	Ministry of Education
NCA	Norwegian Church Aid
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PCI	Project Concern International
PCSCs	Parent Community School Committees
UCA	Uniting Church in Australia
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VCT	Voluntary Counseling and Testing
VSO	Voluntary Services Overseas
WFP	World Food Programme
YAZ	Youth Alive Zambia
ZAAA	Zambia AIDS Agenda Advocacy Alliance
ZANEC	Zambia National Education Coalition
ZATEC	Zambia Teacher Education Course
ZOCS	Zambia Open Community Schools
ZNAN	Zambia National AIDS Network

## **MANAGEMENT BOARD**

### **TRUSTEES**

Mrs. Barbara Chilangwa  
Prof. Michael Kelly  
Prof. Dickson Mwansa  
Mr. Alfred Sikazwe

### **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

Mrs. Josephine Shamwana – Lungu	Board Chairperson
Sr. Elizabeth Dawson	Vice – Chairperson
Mr. Jonathan Muke	Board Treasurer
Ms. Matrine Chulu	Board Legal Advisor
Mr. Rueben Lifuka	Board Member
Mrs. Daphine N. Chimuka	Board Member
Mrs. Lillian Kabwiri	Board Member
Mrs. Josephine Luundu	Board Member
Mr. Philemon Mufwambi	Board Member – MOE Focal Point Person
Sr. Anne Kennedy	Board Member – Teachers Representative
Mr. Paul Kasapatu	Board Member – PCSC Representative
Ms. Harriet M. Sianjibu–Miyato	ZOCS Programme Coordinator

### **AUDITORS**

Stewart & Paisley – Chartered Accountants

### **SOLICITORS**

Sam Chisulo & Company

### **BANKERS**

Standard Chartered Bank Plc  
Citi Bank Zambia Limited

## **VISION, MISSION STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES**

### **VISION**

ZOCS envisages being the trendsetter in the provision of quality basic education and life skills in Zambia to the most needy children – orphans and vulnerable children (OVC), especially girls, through sustainable organizational, teacher and community empowerment.

### **MISSION**

ZOCS exists to enable some of Zambia's most needy children – orphans and vulnerable children (OVC), especially girls -access to quality education through increased enrolment and retention opportunities, teacher training, advocacy and micro-finance support to families. This will enable OVC to acquire the knowledge and skills they need (now and later) to develop to their full potential, hence giving them hope for the future.

### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

#### **1. Education Project:**

By the end of 2007, ZOCS will be able to facilitate increased enrolment, retention and provide quality education through the community schools reaching out to over 8,500 orphans and vulnerable children.

#### **2. Community Development Project:**

By the end of 2007, ZOCS will have increased and enhanced community participation in its programmes and activities in order to improve the welfare of children under their care and support.

#### **3. Micro-Finance Project:**

By the end of 2007, ZOCS will have its financial sustainability base improved, leading to at least 15% of its operational costs funded by internally generated resources.

#### **4. Quality Governance and Programme Development:**

By the end of 2007, ZOCS will have influenced a number of national policies on children's welfare, advocated for government to support community schools, improved networks and built sufficient internal capacities to carry out its programmes through good governance and programme development.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the year 2007, the social and economic status of Zambia continued to experience growing and deepening poverty trends. The impact of HIV/AIDS on OVC and communities, coupled with limited programme funding support, impacted negatively on the efficiency and effectiveness of ZOCS' work. Another challenge worth noting during this reporting period was the appreciation of the Kwacha against major foreign currencies, while the standards of living for most vulnerable groups continued to get lower.

Despite the above adverse trends during the year under review, ZOCS remained true to its vision: being the trendsetter in the provision of quality basic education and life skills in Zambia to the most needy children – orphans and vulnerable children (OVC), especially girls, through sustainable organizational, teacher and community empowerment strategies. In 2007, all its programmes were implemented in line with the Mission Statement and guided by its Objectives contained in the Strategic Plan 2005–2007, which clearly indicates ZOCS' aspirations in contributing towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of Education for All (EFA), by 2015.

Specifically, in promoting a conducive teaching and learning environment in ZOCS schools, ZOCS continued with the distribution of school supplies which included teachers tables and chairs, Supplementary readers, Stationery and building materials, as well as Grades one to seven textbooks, Teachers' Guides and pupils books.

In addition to the above, ZOCS in its continued effort to adherence to quality standards in community schools, enrolled 32 students (13 female; 19 male) for the first year MOE-ZATEC training programme.

In order to improve the welfare of children and their access to school, the care and quality of life for children ZOCS continued to supplement the School feeding programme in sixteen (16) ZOCS schools in Lusaka and Kafue districts of Lusaka Province and in one hundred and twenty-six (126) ZOCS affiliated schools, in Choma, Kalomo, Kazungula and Livingstone districts of Southern province which benefited more than 30,000 children. The feeding programme in three districts of Southern province also supported 12,000 households through Take Home Rations (THR) for the most needy OVC-carers (2,640 in Livingstone, 4,320 in Kazungula and 5,040 for Kalomo). It is hoped that new partnerships established between ZOCS/UNWFP and CHANGES2 will add value to the ongoing School feeding programme, by expanding it to other ZOCS remaining districts: Chibombo, Kabwe and Mumbwa in central province; Mambwe in Eastern province; Namwala, Siavonga, and Sinazongwe in Southern province, through the promotion of sustainable School Health and Nutrition programmes, with a focus on health needs of all school children through de-worming, micronutrient and vitamin supplementation, care for sight and hearing, and sexual reproduction health.

The issue of HIV/AIDS still remains a major area of concern with a National prevalence rate of 16.5%. It is also estimated that nationally 2,000 teachers die every year from HIV/AIDS related illnesses. The increasing number of the OVC living positively with the HIV virus Of 36 pupils and 3 teachers by December 2006 to 60 pupils and 5 teachers, as wells as 42 chronically-ill children by December 2007 is yet the biggest challenge the organization continues to face. The inferior social status of women and girls refuels AIDS and impacts negatively on children. Another worrying situation is that out of the 1,905,000 households, 130,000 are child-headed (6.8 %).

ZOCS extended its self-sustenance strategies through the construction of a multi-purpose Resource Center, at Head-office premises which commenced in 2006. In 2007, ZOCS continued with the construction of the centre and also sending out Proposals to different organizations seeking support for the operationalization of the Resource Centre once completed. It is also hoped that through out-sourced services of the Resource Center, ZOCS programmes will be partially sustained using internally realized resources from early 2008.

Specifically, the period under review, ZOCS with the help from different donors, undertook a number of activities and some of which included the following:-

1. The increase in the number of pupils admitted in 19 directly supported ZOCS Schools to 8,338 in 2007 from 7,328 pupils in 2006 from 17 ZOCS Schools.
2. The recruitment of 36 ZOCS / MOE ZATEC graduates (21 Male; 15 female) on GRZ payroll.
3. The enrollment of 32 First Year ZATEC Students (13 female; 19 male)
4. The donation of a second hand 4x4 Toyota Prado vehicle and a second hand Fax machine from UNICEF.
5. The donation of 30 Computers to 6 ZOCS Schools, from Computers for Zambian Schools (UK) and 1 computer from One world Africa for ZOCS Head Office.
6. The intensive review of Sections of Part III of Draft Education bill 2006 – (section 70 – 88), by community School Stakeholders
7. Capacity Building training for 13 Women’s Club Members at Kalalaska Community School in Tailoring and Designing by Chodort, Choma-UCZ and School Construction materials and clothes with funding from Uniting Church of Australia (UCA) for pupils.
8. Capacity Building workshop for 147 participants (89 female; 58 male) to impart and strengthen capacities for PCSC Members in School and Project Management and Widows Revolving Fund Beneficiaries.
9. Successful review of ZOCS Strategic Plan (2005 - 2007) and the development of a new ZOCS 5 year Strategic Plan (2008 -2012) and Annual Workplans for 2008,
10. Annual reviews and annual audits for 2007.
11. School construction works at Kabwe Open Community School, Central Province, supported by Danish Embassy and Zambezi Saw Mills in Southern Province supported by Hope Through Education (HTE – USA).
12. The development of a ZOCS Profile Document which was sent to Partners.

However, the sad development during 2007 was the taking away of Community School teachers who were put on Government payroll to teach in basic schools, instead of leaving them to teach in their respective community schools, which own them. Unfortunately this development caused uneasiness amongst teachers, and uproar from communities that trained these teachers, as it compromised the quality of education offered in community schools. But negotiations were made with the Permanent Secretary (PS) of the Ministry of Education, that the government should second teachers put on government payroll to the same community schools where they have been teaching. These negotiations have reached an advanced stage whereby representatives of the Parent Community School Committees have been constantly having meetings with the Permanent Secretary and DEBS offices. The first meeting was held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2007, while the last one was held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2007.

ZOCS would like to thank our Board, children, Parent Community School Committees (PCSCs), Teachers and Facilitators and other Stakeholders who actively participated and contributed to the advanced knowledge and the understanding of the need for holistic OVC care and support, in the provision of quality education.

## **INTRODUCTION**

This Report highlights the activities undertaken by Zambia Open Community Schools (ZOCS), during the period January 2007 to December 2007 during which the organization continued implementing its programmes within the confines of the ZOCS Strategic Plan for 2005–2007.

In 2007, ZOCS continued working around the theme: **“Engaging a Holistic Approach in the Development of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), especially Girls”**

The choice of the theme was based on the organization’s continued effort in ensuring that the orphans and vulnerable children’s *rights* to education, love, care and support are achieved, with economically empowered communities. ZOCS’ understanding is that of considering education as the principal tool in the fight against HIV/AIDS and reducing poverty by the Learners through *“Learning to know, Learning to do, Learning to live together and Learning to be* supportive to the development of life-affirming attitudes, skills and value systems that help them make responsible life choices, resist negative pressures and minimize harmful behaviours”.

This Report however brings out some constraints/challenged in 2007 and opportunities for growth into the future.

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1- EDUCATION**

By the end of 2007, ZOCS will be able to facilitate increased enrolment, retention and provide quality education through the community schools reaching out to over 8,500 orphans and vulnerable children

### **ACTIVITIES ACHIEVED**

#### **1.0 More OVC access education and increase number of Community Schools**

- The increase in the number of ZOCS directly supported schools from 17 in 2005 to 19 in 2007, which included 2 reinvigorated old ZOCS schools in Mambwe district of Eastern Province, bringing the total number of ZOCS OVC to 8,338 by end of 2007, as well as approximately 3,000 OVC from ZOCS affiliated schools, compared to 6,500 in 2004.
- ZOCS continued to supplement current allowances for 109 teachers in the year 2007, while the Community has also played its part by paying for some of the community teachers.

- ZOCS also continued to encourage its schools to enroll children aged 9 years and above into level one and complete the basic education programme (grades 1-9), aimed at retaining more OVC in schools and to see them progress into higher grades.



*Makangwe Open Community School level 1 class*

- In November/December 2007, all ZOCS Schools carried out enrolment exercises for level 1 for 2008 intake, with approximately 680 pupils enrolled.
- 17 ZOCS schools with Grade 7 classes wrote the examinations. A total number of 1,350 pupils wrote their Grade 7 examinations (for details – see Annex III).
- 5 ZOCS schools namely Garden, City of Hope, Chawama, Mary Alkenhead and Mancilla, which had grade 9 classes managed to write examinations and 320 pupils wrote their Grade 9 examinations.
- Maintenance and building programmes continued in most ZOCS Schools. The school maintenance committees repaired broken desks in all schools.
- Some schools were painted with the help of partners such Barclays Bank which helped to paint Makangwe Open Community School while renovations of the school buildings were achieved with funding from Changes II for Linda and Garden Open Community Schools.
- On 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2007, Kabwe Open Community School signed a contract with the Royal Danish Embassy for the construction of a 2 x 3 classroom block, Ablution blocks for both teachers and pupils and supply of desk for the classrooms. The Danish Embassy will also provide teaching and learning materials, chairs and tables for all classrooms and offices. In addition, the Danish Embassy will also support the training of volunteer teachers. The total grant for this project was K1,035,800.00.



*Construction of 2 x 3 classroom block at Kabwe Open Community School*

- In November 2007, a Project Proposal for the construction of a 1 x 4 classroom block, 1 x 2 science laboratory and an ablution block were submitted to NCA for possible funding for Linda, Rosamystica (Matero) and Mancilla Open Community Schools for funding in 2008.
- Through UNICEF, two schools namely Rosamystica Open Community School in Matero compound and Mwenda Kwisano Community School in Mambwe district, in Eastern Province received roofing materials (roofing sheets, steel trusses and J hooks), for the completion of school construction projects.
- Through UNICEF good will Ambassador from UK Nation, four schools namely Chawama, Linda, City of Hope and Chipata Open Community Schools were selected as beneficiaries.

## **SUCCESS INDICATORS**

- The supplementing of teachers allowances motivated the teachers and in turn quality education was delivered to OVC, as well as improving teachers livelihoods, as a Human Right principle.
- The increase in the number of classes saw more OVC accessing quality basic education from 7,328 in 2006 to 8,338 in 2007. Pupils will also have access to relevant educational materials. Quality education will also be provided by the fully trained qualified teachers.
- The introduction of grade 8 and 9 classes in 6 ZOCS schools saw more OVC access basic education, than going back into streets.
- More OVC and schools were technically supported by ZOCS by the end of 2007 and more teaching and learning materials were distributed.

## **COMMENT:**

- The organization was faced with the challenge of the deployment of approximately 80 MOE-ZATEC ZOCS qualified teachers to Govt. Basic schools once put on GRZ payroll which had a negative impact on the quality of education offered in community schools. However, efforts were still being made by the ZOCS Board of Management to have these teachers seconded back to community schools; though the pace at which Government was resolving this matter was extremely slow.
- ZOCS was faced with the continued increase in the number of requests from communities to have more teachers' allowances supplemented. This was caused by the minimum or lack of capacity by most communities to raise funds to supplement teachers' allowances, despite the encouragement given by the organization for each community school to have at least 3 Income Generating Projects from 2005 - 2007 for the sustainability of schools

## **2.0 CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS**

### **2.1 Teacher Training**

During the period under review, capacities building training workshops were undertaken for pupils, teachers, OVC Caregivers and the PCSC members.

- ZOCS continued to conducted upgrading courses for 9 community volunteer teachers with academic qualifications below grade 12 qualifications, which is a minimum standard requirement by MOE for them to be admitted into teacher training institutions. The upgrading course was made possible with support from Swedish Partners.
- The MOE-ZATEC Training programme through distance learning has also continued running smoothly.
- The 32 First Year students (15 female, 17 male) were enrolled in January 2007 and continued with the MOE-ZATEC programme while the 25 (11 female, male14) Second Year MOE-ZATEC students also continued with their programme, under the supervision of ZOCS Education Programme staff and Lecturers.
- Intensive monitoring and mentoring of first year students was jointly undertaken by the ZATEC Consultant and old ZATEC Graduate teachers.
- Two Residential sessions were held at Mulelemwana Open Community School from 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2007, at which 27 students attended (14 female, 13 male). Of the 14 females, 2 of them came with babies. The sessions were conducted by 9 Lecturers from Charles Lwanga Teachers College and ZAMISE College.
- In August 2007, ZOCS recruited a Programme Officer – Education, who has been coordinating the programme in liaison with the ZATEC Consultant. To date ZOCS has witnessed the graduation of 270 community school teachers from the ZATEC programme, since its inception in 2001.

- A joint meeting for Mentors and Focal Point persons was held at ZOCS office on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2007, where roles were stipulated. The meeting was attended by 14 participants from different ZOCS Schools. The ZATEC Consultant continued to work hard to intensify the monitoring of the programme through out the year.
- ZOCS continued to support Schools with teaching & learning materials.
- Youth Friendly Corners in schools were supported through the provision of IEC materials.
- ZOCS continued to advocate for Children's Right to Education by participating in the Global Action week March past which was supported by Zambia National Education Coalition (ZANEC) whose Theme was "Education as a Human Right"
- A Life Skills Training Workshop for in and out of school youths was conducted at Mulele Mwana from 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> November 2007. The Workshop was well attended as all ZOCS Schools were represented except one. There were 149 participants (90 females; 57 males), who were in the company of 9 female and 5 male teachers, bringing the total number of participants to 163. The workshop was facilitated by two ZOCS Facilitators. This workshop was funded by CRAIDS.
- ZATEC Interviews for the 2008 intake were held on 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at ZOCS office, which was attended by 43 candidates (19 female, 24 male). Out of this number only 32 (15 female; 17 male) were selected as suitable candidates (with at least 4-5 Credits including English as a minimum standard requirement by MOE for ZATEC 2008).
- ZOCS has continued supporting supervisors, teachers and parents in schools through meetings, visits and providing advice on professional matters, to enhance quality education.
- A graduation ceremony for some of the 16 students who graduated in 2006 was held at ZOCS Offices on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007, which was attended by 10 graduating students (8male, 2 female).



*2007 ZATEC Students Graduation Ceremony*

## **OUTCOMES**

- The increase in classes will see more OVC accessing quality basic education. Pupils will also have access to relevant educational materials and quality education provided by the fully trained qualified teachers.
- Communication between PCSCs, Supervisors and Teachers improved due to these meetings and relationships between the groups strengthened.
- IEC materials helped Peer educators to increase their knowledge levels, especially on HIV and AIDS and STIs and are now able to disseminate more health awareness messages to their peers and communities.
- In and out of school youths were equipped with skills which would help them to grow up as responsible adults and aware of issues of HIV/AIDS and how these can be avoided.
- Teachers, guardians, parent and communities were sensitized on OVC education by ZOCS Programme staff.

## **COMMENT:**

- ZOCS had continued to experience the loss of teachers to the government. In 2007, 36 teachers were put on government payroll and posted to Government Basic Schools, bringing the total number of community ZATEC trained teachers posted to approximately 80 from 2005 – 2007, when the recruitment exercise started.. Though efforts are still being made to have these teachers seconded to community schools, the pace at which government was tackling this matter was extremely slow.

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2 - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

By the end of 2007, ZOCS will have increased and enhanced community participation in its programmes and activities in order to improve the welfare of children under their care and support.

### **2.0 Community participation improved and strengthened**

#### **ACTIVITIES ACHIEVED**

- Two Planning and consultative meetings were held at ZOCS office on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2007 and on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at which 5 ZOCS Program staff and 5 ZOCS Facilitators attended.
- A total number of fifty four (54) monitoring and evaluation meetings were held from January and December 2007 in the various zones and included all the nineteen (19) ZOCS Schools namely: Garden, Linda, Rosamystica, Chawama, Mancilla, Chainda, Ng'ombe, City of Hope, Mary Aikenhead, Chilenje, Bauleni, Chifwema, Chipata, Chilambila, Makangwe, Kalingalinga and Kabwe Open Community Schools, as well as Mwenda Kwisano and Uyoba in Mambwe district in Eastern Province. ZOCS took other monitoring trips to three (4) affiliate schools that included Cobet in Chawama, Jack Kechup, Bissell in Lusaka West and Kalalasaka in Choma District.
- The ZOCS/WFP Livingstone Sub Office also undertook monitoring visits to 125 community schools in the 3 district of Kalomo, Kazungula and Livingstone supported by WFP.
- A total number of nine hundred and sixty (960) - (573 women and 387men) PCSCs members attended these meetings and provided solutions to challenges faced by their schools.
- ZOCS Facilitators worked hard during the year by making visits to all schools, conducting meetings and giving advice on different issues affecting the school. Topics of discussion in these meetings included members' sharing and learning experiences and challenges, identifying the needs of the schools and the development of sustainable solutions to problems faced by schools, as well as the need for the implementation of Income Generating Activities (IGAs).
- Specific discussions during these meetings were centered on the necessity to have at least 3 sustainable IGAs at each school by the end of 2007 in accordance with the ZOCS Strategic Plan for 2005 to 2007. The PCSCs also learnt from each other on how

to handle teachers' issues and also fellow members. Community views on the new school structure were also given and most of the communities said it was a good thing and they trusted ZOCS because of the continued impact in the communities it operated from in providing quality basic education to the needy children.

- Guidance was given to PCSC on effective school management and most of them have been able to send out project proposals on their own to donors, sourcing for funding.
- Sensitization for communities to build their capacities was done for all schools visited. To further strengthen their capacities, a Capacity Building Workshop was held from 4th to 5th October, 2007 at Mulelemwana Open Community School at which a total of 147 Participants (89 female, 58 male) attended. The aim of the workshop was to impart and strengthen capacities of the PCSC members and the CRAIDS Windows Revolving Fund Beneficiaries in the management of their schools and their Income Generating Activities (IGAs), so that they can effectively manage the affairs of their schools and improve their livelihood at household level and the use of local materials for their IGAs in schools. The workshop was made possible with funding from CRAIDS.



***Capacity Building Workshop at Mulelemwana Open Community School (Chilenje)***

## **EXPECTED RESULTS / OUTCOME**

- Communities were able to prioritize their school activities. Team work in schools between PCSCs, Supervisors and teachers was also strengthened.
- As a result of these monitoring visits and discussions held, communities have become more energized to implement developmental activities and their sense of ownership of schools has been enhanced.
- Different administrative problems previously encountered at Chilenje, Bauleni, Rosamystica and Linda open community schools were sorted out. Linda which had a land wrangle with some organization which had a plot within the school plot was also addressed. The problem was resolved and the demarcation of the land by surveyors was to be done as soon as funds were available for the activity.
- Community ownership of schools instilled, and community involvement in schools was expected to be strengthened especially with the current structure, which emphasized on the decentralization of ZOCS Management, through community empowerment.

## **COMMENT**

- The spirit of volunteerism is still a problem in some schools such as Rosamystica, Chipata, Chilenje and Bauleni open community schools, which mostly were as a result of high poverty levels prevailing in the country.
- Late release of operational funds from donors made it impossible for ZOCS programme staff to implement the planned activities on time.

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3 - MICRO FINANCE**

By the end of 2007, ZOCS will have its financial sustainability base improved, leading to at least 15% of its operational costs funded by internally generated resources.

### **3.0 Improved ZOCS Financial Base.**

#### **ACTIVITES ACHIEVED**

- During the period under review, two Micro Finance Groups were formed at Ng'ombe and Garden Open Community Schools and they were given K1.5 each. The group in Garden was given a cycle 2 loan of K3,000,000 after completing the loan repayment for cycle 1.
- Two schools were given for K1.5million each for IGAs namely Chilenje and Garden Open Schools as additional support to expand their garden and Tuck-shop projects respectively. The loans given to the two schools (Chilenje and Garden) were to help improve living standards of the under privileged (OVCs and their carers) and a little support to the school.

- Makangwe was supported with a Hammermill as an Income Generating Activity (IGA) which was delivered to the school on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2007 and so far it is doing very well. The school has an Orchard which is being developed as a long term project, as well as building of a piggery unit as their third IGA. They have also identified Goat rearing as another project for 2008.
- On 18<sup>th</sup> October 2007, two Hammermills were delivered at 2 ZOCS Schools namely; Mwenda Kwisano and Uyoba Community School in Mambwe District of Eastern Province. These were the first IGAs at these schools, supported by Zambia National Aids Network (ZANAN).
- By the start of the second quarter of 2007, construction of the Resource Centre had progressed well with Roofing and plastering of the building both inside and outside completed.



***ZOCS Resource Centre under construction***

In November 2007, officials from the Japanese Embassy came for physical inspection of the Resource Centre. The continuous rising costs of building materials, labour charges that had remained static, despite the appreciation of the Kwacha and seasonal changes all made it difficult to have the building completed as planned. However, it is hoped that the projection would be fully completed by April 2008.

- During the year under review, the truck was only booked twice by Care International to make local deliveries, while in last quarter of 2007, the truck was fully utilized in Livingstone district under the WFP Feeding Programme for food distribution in schools.
- The ZATEC programme which had been implemented through a cost-sharing strategy was still not self sustainable and difficulties in collecting partial payments from volunteer trainee students had persisted. However, K15,000 non refundable registration fee was successfully implement for first year ZATEC Students. All 43 first year students paid this amount and a total amount of K645,000 was raised. This strategy was also employed to

ensure that students were committed to the programme and to their communities after the completion of the ZTEC Course.

- During the year under review, ZOCS continued with its efforts in Proposal writing. The donors that were written to included: ELMA Foundation, Irish Aid, CRS, VSO, WFP, Hope Through Education, PCI, UNICEF, NCA, UBS Foundation (Switzerland), Global Fund for Women and Celtel.
- A positive response was received towards the end of the year from Irish Aid who co-funded the Evaluation and the Dissemination Workshop for the Evaluation Report of 2005-2007 Strategic Plan, while NCA funded the development of the new ZOCS Strategic Planning process for the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan. Other positive responses were received from Global Fund for Women and Hope Through Education.
- Since 2004, ZOCS has been lobbying aggressively for donor support towards self-empowerment programmes for the sustainability of the organization especially in promotion of food security, water and sanitation programme in schools, as well as economic and social community empowerment programmes.

## **EXPECTED RESULTS / OUTCOMES**

- The fully functioning of the truck and the completion of the Resource Centre under construction as projected was to allow ZOCS increase its financial base, and move towards self-sustenance of its programmes
- The funded proposals had enhanced the evaluation of ZOCS programmes and also assisted ZOCS to carry out a long term plan of 5 years (2008-2012) and to enhance the provision of quality basic education to OVC with envisaged empowered communities, able to provide indigenous, adequate nutrition diets in schools and other health provisions.
- The Micro-finance facility given to widows had helped improve their living standards, since these were identified as another group in our society which was disadvantaged, and yet one which was giving hope through quality education to the OVC.

## **COMMENT:**

Although ZOCS has been determined to have the Center completed on time and move towards enhanced self-sustenance in the implementation of its programmes, Japanese Embassy was not agreeable to reviewing the Funding conditions of the resource Centre Project. However, an additional new proposal for drilling a borehole at ZOCS premises, in promotion of water and sanitation health education (WASHE) was submitted, with possible support once the centre had been completed.

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4 - GOVERNANCE AND PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT**

### **4.0 ZOCS/MOE ZATEC Teachers put on GRZ Payroll**

#### **ACTIVITIES ACHIEVED**

- ZOCS continued to encourage all qualified community school teachers to apply to the Ministry of Education to be put on the government payroll. During the year under review, 36 teachers (21Male; 15 female) were put on government payroll and ZOCS had continued to lobby government to second these teachers to community schools. This was not effective because the government continued to make promises that were not fulfilled. ZOCS however did not lose hope and had continued to dialogue with government on this matter, and even for secondment of more qualified teachers to community schools.
- During the period under review, a meeting was held between the Honourable Minister of Education, Honourable Godfrey Lungwangwa and ZOCS Board of Governors on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2007 at the Minister's office. This meeting was aimed at familiarizing the Minister with the works of ZOCS and the Board took advantage of the opportunity to discuss issues affecting community schools, which included deployment of teachers by government and the need to second them to teach in community schools which recruited them, the needed resources support to community schools through Grant Aid and the training of teachers and the distribution of teaching and learning materials in schools, as well as leaving the ownership of community schools with communities. The Draft 2006 Education Bill was discussed in brief. The Minister thanked the ZOCS team for the briefing and encouraged ZOCS to continue with the good work it was doing for OVC and that the Ministry of Education will support ZOCS in teachers' upgrading programmes, in-service training, as well as in the provision of teaching and learning materials and through teacher secondment into community schools..

#### **Expected Results / Outcomes**

- Improved conditions of service for an additional 36 teachers who were put on Govt. payroll, hence a motivation for them.
- Continued contribution towards the achievement of the millennium development goal (MDGs) on Education for All (EFA) by 2015, through training of teachers who in turn were delivering quality basic education to the orphans and vulnerable children.
- It was hoped that more ZOCS ZATEC graduate teachers would be put on the Government payroll and that government hopefully would second more teachers to community schools. If that had happened conditions of service for more community school teachers were going to be improved and the provision of quality basic education in community schools achieved and more resources would be programmed to turn ZOCS schools into centres of care and support for OVC

## **COMMENT:**

- While the action of transferring community teachers to government schools when put on the payroll worked against the heavy investment that ZOCS made in the training of community school teachers, it has also compromised the quality of education offered in community schools and impacted negatively on the intended Objective of improving the quality of education offered in community schools.
- However, PCSC Representatives have also taken the issue up by seeking audience with the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education. The PCSC Representatives first met the PS on 16<sup>th</sup> November 200, while subsequent meetings were also held at DEBS offices. These meetings were aimed at trying to find a lasting solution to issues affecting community schools, which included, teacher recruitment, the needed resource support to community schools through Grant Aid, training of teachers and the distribution of teaching and learning materials in schools, as well as leaving the ownership of community schools with communities.

### **4.1 Improved conditions for ZOCS Teachers**

#### **ACTIVITIES ACHIEVED**

- During the period under review, funeral assistance was given to the family of one teacher of Garden Open Community School who passed away. Medical assistance was also given to some teachers.

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS / OUTCOMES**

- The medical and funeral assistance rendered to families gave hope to our teachers, as they then knew that they had a management which had continued with the interest of its teachers and OVC at heart. However, more could be done with the availability of resources.

### **4.2 More partners and improved relationship with existing partners**

#### **ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED**

- ZOCS continued to maintain warm working relationship with its donors and partners. In addition to existing partners, new partners have been approached to support the organization which includes:- Celtel, Irish Aid, Hope World Wide Zambia, Action Aid, Oxfam and CRS, some of which have already started supporting ZOCS programmes e.g. Irish Aid and Hope World Wide Zambia.
- ZOCS continued to attend meetings with partners. A total of 27 partner meetings were attended during the period under review. Meetings were held with MOE, Irish Aid, Hope World Wide - Zambia, VSO, Dan Church Aid, Diakonia, JICA, PCI, Action Aid, CRS,

UNICEF, WFP, ZANEC, Women for Change, NCA, VSO, Celtel, Japanese Embassy, World Vision and Care International.

- ZOCS managed to hold three Board meetings during the year. Board Meetings were held on 2nd May, 21<sup>st</sup> July and on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2007.
- ZOCS continued to acknowledge receipt of resources from its donors/partners and timely reporting has been maintained . ZOCS has continued to engage Auditors to audit its finances annually. The 2006 Annual Audit was conducted by Stewart and Parsley in February 2007 with financial support from NCA.
- By December 2007, ZOCS had already started preparing for the 2007 Annual Audit which was scheduled to be conducted in February 2008.
- The agreement signed between ZOCS and WFP in 2006 for the school feeding programme,, continued to be implemented in 2007. Three districts covered under this project were Livingstone, Kazungula and Kalomo in the Southern Province of Zambia and 125 schools with over 25, 000 beneficiaries in schools and household levels covered. Ways of strengthening collaboration and possibilities of networking were being exploited for the sustainability of this feeding programme through Ministry of Agriculture Ministry of Community Development and Ministry of Education
- Another partner from USA (Hope through Education) partnered with ZOCS in 2007 for the construction of 1 x 3 classroom Community School in Zambezi Sawmills of Livingstone District in Southern Province, which was at roof level by December 2007. This project was jointly supervised by ZOCS and Ministry of Education – DEBS of Livingstone District. Once completed, this project would be used as a fundraising spot for ZOCS through tourists visiting the Victoria Falls in Zambia.
- The Uniting Church in Australia through the Prestons continued to support 2 ZOCS associated schools (Kalalasaka Open Community School in Choma District, Southern Province and Bissell Open Community School in Lusaka District, Lusaka Province), which were supported with teachers allowances and construction.
- Kalalasaka Open Community School was supported with financial resources for construction of 1 x 3 classroom block as well as training for 18 women ( a club) in tailoring and designing, two sewing machines, materials, second hand clothes and HEPS for feeding OVC.

## **EXPECTED RESULTS / OUTCOMES**

- New partners were brought on board and the organization’s delivery of services for OVC has been enhanced.

The meetings held with partners tackled many issues concerning children’s Information whose funding were shared with different organizations hence increased collaboration and networking.

- Although more children were being enrolled in the Community Schools, there was need for extensional structures to accommodate them (more classes).
- If the importance and need to support community schools through advocacy succeeded, it will have to see more OVCs enrolled in schools; this was to be in line with the millennium development goal number two (2) which states the achievement of universal primary education by the year 2015.
- Donor confidence on ZOCS work was instilled. Most donors supporting affiliate schools have channeled their funding through ZOCS e.g. New Zealand Aid who are supporting Rehoboth, Uniting Church of Australia who are supporting Kalalasaka and Dr Jan Stevens who is supporting Cobet, Jack, Kadesh and World of Life and other ZOCS Schools.
- Board meetings strengthened the relationship between ZOCS Board and Management. Furthermore, issues pertaining to the running of the organization were discussed and coordinated.

#### **4.3 IMPROVE ACCESS TO MORE INFORMATION**

- The ZOCS Local Area Network and the Website developed in 2005 has been active the whole of 2007. Information flow within and outside ZOCS has been effective. In this regard, ZOCS was able to receive more inquiries from both inside and outside Zambia and been able to create new contacts such as Hope Through Education – USA, Hope World Wide, Room to Read, Gower of Australia for the possibility of constructing a school in Kafue District.
- ZOCS has continued paying the website hosting fees to keep it up and running throughout the year. More activity reports have been posted on the website to keep browsers posted about ZOCS Activities at [www.zocs.org.zm](http://www.zocs.org.zm).
- ZOCS developed a Profile document on the 19 ZOCS directly supported Schools as well as additional information on ZOCS affiliated schools. This document was posted on our Website as information to or partners.

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS / OUTCOMES**

- The website continues to market ZOCS work to the outside world and improve ZOCS reputation as more people know the good cause the organization is striving to achieve.

#### **4.4 IMPROVE DONOR CONFIDENCE**

- Acknowledgement of received resources (funds, teaching/learning materials etc.) had been done and on time, to all donors/partners that supported the Organization in 2007.
- Timely reporting to Donors had been achieved in 2007.

- ZOCS was among a few organizations of its size that had managed to continue engaging Auditors to audit the financial statements of Accounts annually, as well as conducting evaluations on the programme openly with stakeholders for enhanced accountability to OVC resources.

#### **4.5 USE OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PERSONNEL, CONSULTANTS AND INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS**

- ZOCS undertook two consultancy works. In October 2007, a Consultant was engaged to undertake an Evaluation study of the three years Strategic Plan (2005 - 2007). The study looked at achievements and constraints during the plan period. The study also looked at the strengths and weaknesses of ZOCS in implementing strategies to achieve the operational objectives. The study further looked at issues that should be considered in the next strategic plan. The dissemination workshop for this was held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2007. The Report recognized the good Mission ZOCS has endeavored to achieve, but further encouraged ZOCS to be an advocacy organization for OVC in Zambia and to strengthen its monitoring and programming in economic, social and reproductive health rights for communities and OVC, especially the girl child under the advert of the HIV and AIDS pandemic and poverty
- Based on the above recommendations, in December 2007, ZOCS engaged, another Consultant to undertake the development process of the next five year Strategic Plan 2008 -2012, with the involvement of community school stakeholders (PCSC, children and teachers) in the planning process. The Strategic Planning Workshop was held from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> November 2007 at Lake Kariba Inns in Siavonga. All ZOCS staff and facilitators attended this workshop.
- In 2007 ZOCS recruited a ZATEC Consultant, (formerly Lecturer at Kitwe Teachers College) who has been helping with the running of the ZATEC Programme under the Education Programme, and continued to monitor ZOCS ZATEC Graduate teachers who were pursuing Diploma in Education Programmes at the National In-service Teaching College (NISTICOL) – Chalimbana and Nkhrumah Teachers College.

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS / OUTCOMES**

- The use of consultants and technical assistance personnel from VSO has helped the organization to be more efficient and affective in the implementation of its programme.
- The expertise and the vast experience coming with consultants have helped the organization to continue making improvements in its programming and programme operations.

#### **4.6 OFFICE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE**

- ZOCS managed to buy 5 new computers for improved office operations
- ZOCS managed to service its office equipment. e.g. the photocopying machine, and computers and the Server.

- Two ZOCS Vehicles were also taken for minor and major servicing

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS / OUTCOMES**

- ZOCS staff would be able to process information and reports efficiently.
- Well serviced and operational vehicles would allow ZOCS staff to carry out its administrative, monitoring and evaluation trips effectively.

#### **4.7 MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK TOOLS**

- During the fourth quarter of 2007, VSO supported ZOCS with 2 Volunteers from USA and Kenya. With Information and Communication Technology (ICT) qualifications, they have helped the organization with the development of the database to help monitor ZOCS work more effectively, as well as the management of the Website.
- Development of Monitoring & Evaluation tools was done during the fourth quarter of 2007 to be finalized in the first quarter of the year 2008.

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS / OUTCOMES**

- ZOCS would be able to monitor its activities closely when the monitoring and evaluation tools were finalized. This will promote to bring about efficiency in producing statistics for the quantitative data for use during programme planning.

#### **5.0 OVERALL PROGRAMME CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES**

- Mobilization of community members was still a challenge due to high levels of poverty and unemployment. Communities were more often engaged in activities they felt helped them sustain their livelihoods as opposed to being involved in non-profitable school activities.
- The need to focus on rights based approach to programming, for all children (OVC), including those with special education needs.
- The demand for more strategic social services, such as the provision of bursaries, health care and nutritional needs for the OVC and teachers infected with HIV/AIDS, as well as responding to teachers Human Rights obligations, as volunteers.
- ZOCS has had difficulties on how to achieve financial sustainability in order to guarantee continuation of its programs with its own resources.
- Funding not released on time by partners to enable timely implementation of activities.
- The increased number of OVC that need educational support due to loss of parents or guardians due to HIV/AIDS related illnesses.
- The failure by Government to second MOE-ZATEC certified community school teachers to community schools.

- The movement of ZATEC certified community trained teachers from community schools to government school
- Provision of teaching and learning materials to increasing number of schools and the need for infrastructure development.
- Providing a nurturing and conducive environment for learning to an increasing number of OVCs.
- The number of teachers available in community schools is less compared to the demand from the OVC whose enrolment and retention rate has increased
- High staff turnover due to poor conditions of service. Staff use ZOCS as a training ground and leave for greener pastures after gaining relevant experience

## **6.0 LESSONS LEARNT/ RECOMMENDATIONS**

A holistic approach has to be considered in the implementation of OVC Education and HIV/AIDS intervention programmes, in order to turn ZOCS Schools into Centres of Care and Support for children.

- Community participation in OVC HIV/AIDS interventions is inevitable to attaining effective programme results.
- Bursary Schemes for OVC access, retention and progression rates to quality education are cardinal.
- Volunteerism in the sustainability of school programmes poses a big challenge in the advent of poverty and severe impact of HIV/AIDS on poor communities.
- Need for the sustainability of the feeding programme, through the acquisition of a ZOCS farm for promotion of food security diversification, intervention and land acquisition by all ZOCS Schools.
- Close monitoring of school activities and accountability to resources are critical for effective implementation of programmes.
- Life Skills education and entrepreneurship skills for youth need to be addressed in 2008.
- High illiteracy levels in communities, especially women, need to be addressed in 2008.

## **7.0 WAY FORWARD IN 2008**

- Advocacy and lobbying GRZ – as duty bearers to pay qualified teachers and leave them to teach in community schools
- Lobby Government to provide Bursaries for OVC, for their progression into upper grades.
- Lobby Government to improve infrastructure in community schools.
- Train communities and pupils to claim their rights from duty bearers

- Train communities on the sections of the Draft Education Bill and operational guidelines for the community schools framework document.
- Purchase a farm for the promotion of food security, water and sanitation for ZOCS Schools.
- Establish additional special needs units in ZOCS Schools.
- Implement fundraising activities to mobilize resources
- Lobby Government to Support acquisition and delivery of learning and teaching materials requirements for all ZOCS schools and other affiliate schools to ZOCS.
- Continued support to IGAs at school level and food security programmes.
- Construction of feeding shelters – where feeding programmes are taking place and the introduction of deworming drugs as part of the school feeding programme.
- Conducting an internal and annual audit for 2007.
- Implement Finalizing the new ZOCS strategic plan for 2008 – 2012.
- Complete the Construction of resource centre and to have it commissioned and fully operational (ZOCS/Japanese Embassy/Government).
- Programme support costs/ Monitoring and Evaluation.
- Expansion of Youth Friendly Health Corners in schools with a referral system to DHMTS.
- Review, revise and implement relevant human resource management and development policies and strategies.
- Finalize the development of the Monitoring & Evaluation system and effectively use the tools.
- Develop a ZOCS HIV/AIDS Workplace Policy document.

## **8.0 PARTNERSHIPS**

Zambia Open Community Schools wishes to acknowledge the contributions from a number of partners and donors who worked with us in 2007. The achievements made would not have been possible without their unwavering support. These include Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), Ministry of Education and the Curriculum Development Center, Ministry of Health, Project Concern International and the United Nations World Food Programme PCI/UN-WFP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Community Response to HIV/AIDS (CRAIDS), Zambia National AIDS Network (ZNAN), Japanese Embassy, Dr. Janice Stevens, The Zambia Project-USA, Care International, Children in Need (CHIN), Forum for African Women Educationalists of Zambia (FAWEZA), Zambia Episcopal Conference, Uniting Church in Australia (UCA), New Zealand Aid, Hope Worldwide, Irish Aid, ELMA Foundation, Volunteer Service Organization (VSO) and Sisters of Sacred Heart.

## **CONCLUSION**

During the year under review (2007), ZOCS had a big challenge in terms of the cash inflow. Funding of most of its programs was not consistent. However, those activities which took off were successful. With adequate funding, more could have been done especially with regard to the meetings with the communities and regular monitoring of most of the school activities which are very vital. This could only be possible with adequate funding and quick response from our partners for funding. ZOCS being the only Organization most of the community schools are looking up to, will have to continue giving hope to the OVC on a wider scale by increasing support to more affiliate schools through Advocacy on OVC rights to quality education. An

objective that can only be achieved with increased funding, especially in facilitating distribution of materials to community schools.

ZOCS being an Organization that works with communities that support community schools will continue to scale up the Income Generating Activities in schools in order to improve the sustainability of the running of the schools. This will also give a sense of ownership and self sustenance by the communities. This is also an important intervention to improve the operations of community schools. It is our sincere hope that our partners will continue supporting ZOCS operations for the benefit of the Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Zambia.

## ANNEX I: SCHOOL ENROLMENT STATISTICS

### GENERAL STATISTICS 2002 - 2007

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Total Pupils</b>	<b>4895</b>	<b>5704</b>	<b>7148</b>	<b>7548</b>	<b>7328</b>	<b>8,338</b>
Girls	2830	3222	3795	4131	4005	4,488
Boys	2065	2482	3353	3417	3323	3,848
<b>Orphans</b>	<b>2136</b>	<b>2800</b>	<b>3138</b>	<b>3229</b>	<b>2772</b>	<b>3,739</b>
<b>Special Needs</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>Grade Seven</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>1411</b>	<b>1180</b>	<b>1260</b>
Girls	482	724	545	825	849	2444
Boys	446	756	446	586	732	264

## ANNEX II SCHOOL STATISTICS – 2007

No.	SCHOOL	TOTAL	Single Orphan	Double Orphan	Vulnerable Children
1	Chifwema	306	34	27	245
2	Mancilla	484	177	52	255
3	Kabwe	481	99	59	323
4	Linda	1,028	186	97	745
5	Chipata	980	263	141	576
6	Makangwe	256	57	23	176
7	City of Hope	746	339	108	299
8	Chawama	570	170	100	300
9	Chilambila	237	44	19	174
10	N'gombe	506	120	34	352
11	Chainda	301	75	20	206
12	Mulelemwana	142	39	47	56
13	Mary Aikenhead	585	232	136	217
14	Kalingalinga	291	119	70	102
15	Rosamystica	232	92	56	84
16	Bauleni	336	100	57	179
17	Garden	507	194	115	198
18	Uyoba	268	138	30	100
19	Mwendakwisano	82	30	40	12
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,338</b>	<b>2,508</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>4,599</b>

### ANNEX III: 2007 GRADE SEVEN RESULTS STATISTICS BY SCHOOL

SCHOOL	NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO SAT	NUMBER OF STUDENTS SELECTED TO GRADE 8	BOYS	GIRLS	% OF SELECTED
Chainda	37	22	12	10	59
Chawama	128	01	01	00	01
Chifwema	34	13	09	04	38
Chilambila	37	17	12	05	46
Chilenje	32	08	06	02	25
Chipata	135	37	16	21	27
City of Hope	90	23	11	12	26
Garden	140	76	37	39	54
Kabwe	94	40	27	13	44
Kalingalinga	44	26	13	13	59
Linda	216	159	86	73	74
Makangwe	35	17	09	08	49
Mancilla	43	01	01	00	02
Mary Aikenhead	96	21	-	21	22
Ng'ombe	72	30	14	16	42
Rosamystica	27	17	10	07	63
Bauleni	90	41	26	15	45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1350</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>259</b>	

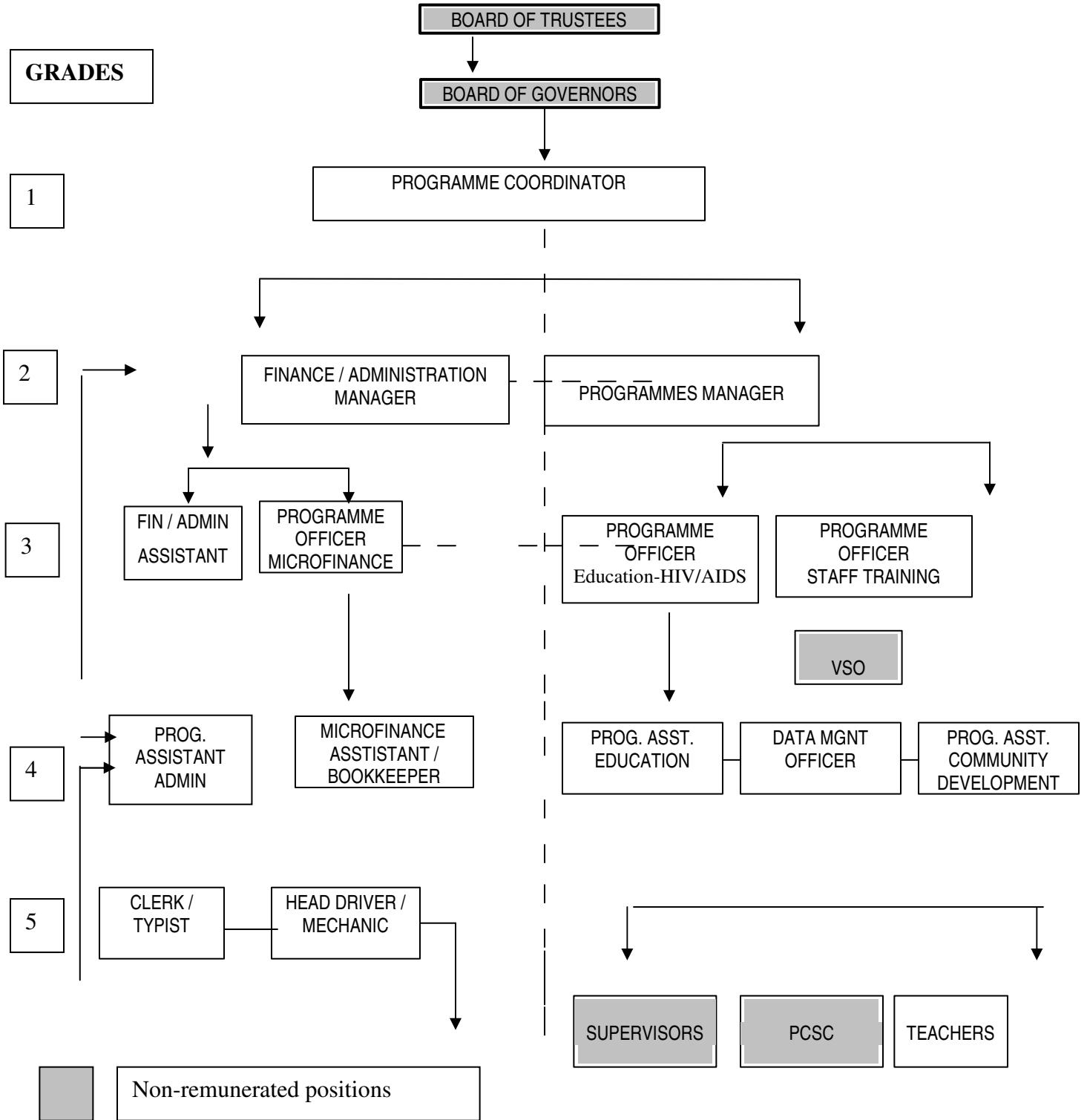
Out of the 1180 candidates who sat for grade 7 examinations in 2006, 502 passed to grade 8, while in 2007, 1390 candidates wrote and 549 passed, showing a 4% decrease in the pass rate, with boys performing better than girls at grade 7.

### ANNEX IV 2007 GRADE NINE STATISTICS BY SCHOOL

SCHOOL	PUPILS WHO SAT FOR GRADE NINE EXAM		TOTAL	SELECTED TO GRADE 10 AND BASIC		TOTAL PUPILS SELECTED
	BOYS	GIRLS		BOYS	GIRLS	
Chawama	16	20	36	4	6	10
Chifwema	3	06	09	03	03	06
Mary Aikenhead	-	48	48	-	08	08
City of Hope	24	21	45	-	01	01
Ng'ombe	08	10	18	04	02	06
Mancilla	15	25	40	09	04	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>44</b>

*Note: No comparisons between 2006 and 2007 grade 9 results because at the time of analysis for 2006, there was a break in at the office and all the information on our database was disturbed.*

**ANNEX VII: ZOCS ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**



## ANNEX VIII: DISTRICT INTERVENTION

