



Loaves & Fishes; Change for Chipata

Serving the Needy of Chipata, Zambia
as a A Non-Profit Outreach: Joliet, Illinois

INFORMATION@LFCHANGEFORCHIPATA.COM

Newsletter: May-June 2020, Vol. 1

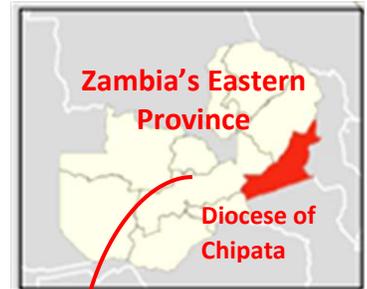
www.LFChangeforChipata.com

Introducing our new website: Loaves & Fishes; Change for Chipata. ↑

This website is a Catholic, non-profit outreach, intended to raise people's awareness of the poverty in the **Eastern Province of Zambia**, and to show what is being done to help (regardless of creed). **Fr. Dennis Phiri**, the Chancellor of the Diocese of Chipata and Director of Social Needs (Caritas), informs our group about the needs of the people.

The area of this province is 19,875 sq. miles and has a population of 1,592,661, accounting for 12.16% of the total Zambian population. Though there are some urban areas (the city of Chipata, for example), most people live in rural areas.

This website has pictures of rural living in Zambia. The people live in dire poverty, often not producing enough food to feed their families, let alone having crops to sell at the market. The people have an abundance of Faith, however. They meet every Sunday for Liturgy of the Word, though they cannot receive Eucharist until their pastor arrives weeks later. The priests often have one parish plus 8-10 outstations which they visit every 6-8 weeks. The Corona-19 virus has restricted travel, further increasing the time between visits. (See p. 3 to learn about Our Story)



Infant at Minga Mission Hospital on Oxygen

Our current project helps the rural Minga Mission Hospital which services about 250 patients each day and includes an inpatient load of about 185 persons. They have a minimum of 2000 births each year. Not only that, they need to sterilize gowns and equipment. The primary source of power to the electrical grid is hydro-electric power which does not have the capacity to handle the total needs of the country's industrial and urban business needs. Droughts over the past few years have further weakened the grid. Frequent power losses which are often long and unpredictable, with durations of a 4-5 hours per day, and sometimes for more than 24 hours are not uncommon. Due to these outages our goal is the installation of a Solar Power system along with a backup generator. Your donation can make a huge difference in providing consistent care. See p. 2.

Partnering for the Minga Mission Hospital Project

www.LFChangeforChipata.Com

www.CareAndShare.Com

Current Project:

- ❖ **Solar Power Installation and a Small Backup Generator for Minga Mission Hospital \$40,000.00 (See Appeal Letter on last page.)**



Dr. Kachuka and Sr. Asperanza, Administrator



Due to the lack of adequate power, the rural communities are victims of the higher priority needs of the urban and industrial areas of the country. As a result, their daily electric power is off for up to 6 hours a day and often lasts more than 24 hours. During periods of drought, the low water levels further reduce the electrical capacity of the electrical grid. Solar power is the best way to produce the needed electricity for the rural households and medical care facilities.



The Children's Ward



The Women's Ward

*Minga Mission Hospital
is counting on us for help.
Please pray for this project!*



Our Story

Our relationship with Fr. Dennis Phiri began when he visited St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Joliet, Illinois. Our pastor, Fr. John Klein, befriended Fr. Dennis when he came from Zambia to get an advanced degree at Mundelein Seminary and has, for the last several years, invited him to re-visit Illinois for our Mission Appeals. Then, in 2018, during one of his visits, Fr. Dennis celebrated Mass and did his homily on the Gospel of Jesus feeding the 5000 (Jn 6:3-13).

Go to our website and read about the boy in the story who had two fish and five barley loaves. Learn how St. Paul's, under the leadership of Fr. John Klein, went from just a Mission Appeal to a Catholic Parish Outreach.

St. Paul's continues to work on raising money for the Diocese of Chipata. Recently we had a Lenten collection to help with the needed projects. Unfortunately, this has been interrupted by our "Shelter in Place" orders but will resume once we are able to return to church.

My husband and I decided to add to the outreach by creating a website that informs a wider group of people about the poverty that exists in Zambia and what we are doing to help in the Eastern Province. The website can be found at: www.LFchangeforchipata.com. There you will find out much more than we can cover here. From the menu, select "Our Story" and "Our Scriptural Inspiration" for what happened next.

Loaves & Fishes; *Change for Chipata* has had a number of projects in the past four years, but they have all been of a much smaller nature. These projects included 1) installation of a water storage tank, 2) fixing water boreholes, 3) building a rural church, 4) helping a seminarian when the lack of funds threatened the completion of his studies, and 5) putting in a washing machine and purchasing blankets for a home for 40 disabled children.

But now we have a much bigger need, installing solar power and a backup generator into a rural hospital in order to provide a more reliable source of electricity. We have been blessed through our partnership with **Care and Share**, a charity based in Lockport, Illinois which has offered to help us with this project. They can be found at:

<http://www.careandshare.com/>
FOR CREDIT CARDS ONLY.

Our Pledge to You:

100%
of all donations
for the Minga Mission Hospital
in Zambia
will go directly to this project.



Minga Surgeon

Please help us to install
solar power at the
Minga Mission Hospital
and to purchase
a small
back-up generator
for emergencies.
Donate through our partner,
Care and Share (it is tax deductible).

Their website will accept credit cards.

Care and Share is located at:
16612 West 159th Street # 204,
Lockport, IL 60441
503(c)(b) Non-profit

DO NOT SEND CHECKS HERE.
SEE NEXT PAGE FOR CHECKS.



Loaves & Fishes; Change for Chipata
Appeal Letter
Spring 2020

To the friends of *Loaves & Fishes; Change for Chipata*,

The **Minga Mission Hospital in Zambia** has, for several years, been dealing with an unreliable source of electrical power, and their back-up generator is no longer working. It cannot be repaired though they tried to get parts to do so. The power loss comes sporadically and is for a minimum of 4-5 hours per day. In addition to the many medical needs which they deal with daily (surgery, birthing, respiratory care, need for the sterilization of hospital gowns/supplies, etc), the hospital services people who have very limited transportation and no money to pay for services.

The unreliable power source at the Minga Mission Hospital severely restricts its ability to treat the numerous health concerns of their people. *As I write this letter, they have been without electrical power since yesterday!* It has been determined that the best solution is a renewable energy source: solar power, backed up by a small portable generator. The cost is approximately \$40,000 USD.

The hospital is located in the Eastern Province of **Zambia** and is 280 miles East of Lusaka, the capital city. It services an area of 1,243 square miles, some of it being uninhabitable. It is the main hospital for these people, *all 276,772 of them.* The health of the people is aggravated by their dire poverty, often not producing enough food to feed their families, let alone having crops to sell at the market. So Minga is, indeed, a *mission* hospital servicing those with great need. In the more remote areas, there are outreach services to increase access to healthcare in distant areas. The nearest *referral* hospital is 75 miles East of there and is limited to specific needs.

Below are some additional statistics of the Minga Mission Hospital:

- # of beds at the hospital: 185
- # of doctors: 2
- # of total patients daily: 250 (91,250/annually)
- # of surgeries yearly: 150
- # of births yearly: minimum of 2000

To help with the cost, Dr. and Mr. Devassy of Lockport, Illinois have pledged \$5,000, and their charitable organization, *Care and Share*, has matched that amount. In addition, their daughter has pledged \$1,000, - What a great start! All pledges are contingent upon our ability to raise the rest of the money. *Care and Share* has also offered to partner with us. **100% of all donations will be put into the hospital project.**

Donations for the Minga Mission Hospital should be made via CREDIT card through Care and Share at www.careandshare.com, or sent via check and mailed in the enclosed envelope to the Klika's . All donations are tax deductible. Checks should be made out to *Care and Share* and indicated on the memo line "Minga Hospital".

(Letter adapted from a letter by our partner, Care & Share President, Tony Devassy)

Can you help? Every bit helps! We thank you for your consideration! [Please pray for this project!](#) ♥

All CHECKS should be made out as follows:

[CARE & SHARE](#) and note [Minga Hospital: \(Tax deductible\)](#)

John and Jacque Klika, Co-Chairs
Loaves & Fishes; Change for Chipata

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Our Email: Information@LFChangeForChipata.com



[Credit cards accepted through this website:](#)

www.careandshare.com

Tony Devassy, *Care and Share* President

16612 West 159th Street #204

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Cell: (630) 886-8380