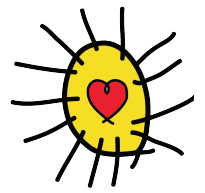


# SPECIAL HOPE NETWORK | FACT SHEET



## THE NEED

From the United Nations Enable:

- 15% of the world population live with a disability (physical and/or intellectual, the world's largest minority).
- 80% of this subset live in developing countries like Zambia.
- Only 45% of the countries in the world have laws protecting those with disabilities.

From Children: Improving Survival and Wellbeing. World Health Organization, September 8, 2020:

- Yet despite the sharp decline in global under-5 deaths, uneven progress has been achieved across and within countries, especially in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, which account for about 80% of under-5 deaths globally.
- Sub-Saharan Africa remains the region with the highest under 5 mortality rate in the world, with 1 child in 13 dying before his or her 5th birthday.

From Premature Mortality in Children with Developmental Disabilities, Bolajoko O. Olusanya & MKC Nair. The Lancet Global Health, October 22, 2019:

- In Sub-Saharan Africa the number of children under 5 with epilepsy, intellectual disability, sensory impairments, autism spectrum disorder rose by 71.3% from 8.6 million in 1990 to 14.7 million in 2016. These children have a higher risk of abuse and premature death, including infanticide, compared to children without disabilities.

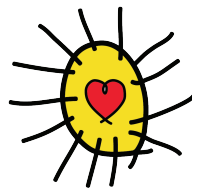
From Stories of 'Snake Children': Killing and abuse of Children with Developmental Disabilities in West Africa, Bayat, M. Intellectual Disabilities Res 2015; 59:1-10:

- Studies in low income, middle income (LMICS) countries have shown that many parents perceive severe disability as worse than death, and ironically, some families might even view premature death as a welcome relief because of the substantial lifetime costs of supporting disabled children without any social welfare benefits, especially in rural settings.

## THE SETTING

Zambia is known for safaris, Victoria Falls (7th wonder of the world), agriculture and its rich mineral deposits. The capital city of Lusaka is around 3.5 million people with a little over 2 million people living in or below the poverty level. The city is so concentrated with a vast living area in the poverty level Special Hope Network found this city to be a concentrated area for ministry work.

# SPECIAL HOPE NETWORK | FACT SHEET



Special Hope Network currently runs two major programs:

## Community Care Centers

- We currently have 6 CCCs in 6 compounds around Lusaka. There are over 70 documented compounds in Lusaka, Zambia.
- 4 local Zambian staff at each CCC. Manager, social worker and 2 trainers.
- Social worker takes measurements and documents child growth in order to provide extra protein if needed. They will also go to clinics with family for proper medication and treatment. We measure what we treasure.
- Each CCC has 65 children with intellectual disabilities.
- Each child needs to be accompanied by a caregiver.
- Total we have 390 children and 390 caregivers that attend.
- Each caregiver is given an incentive pack (monthly money) to offset the time spent at the CCC and not working. This also rewards faithful attendance.
- Trainers will work with each caregiver as they work with their child through a developmental check list such as – communication skills, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, occupational therapy, physical therapy.
- All of these developmental areas help each child reach their full potential.
- There are 4, 2-hour sessions a day Monday through Wednesday
- Thursday is a day working with alum or waiting list child and caregiver working on every day living skills.
- Friday is a staff training day.

## OUR 6 COMMUNITY CARE CENTERS



## Community Outreach

Special Hope Network's second program is our community outreach teams that work in the 6 compounds in which we have a CCC.

- Monday and Tuesday are Community Outreach Training Days with volunteers in the community. These volunteers are from the local health clinic, schools, churches, businesses or family members. Trainings are on one of the days for total of 6 hours for 8 weeks.
- CO also will work with schools to help address having children with intellectual disabilities in their schools.
- CO will talk with clinics letting them know Special Hope Network is in the area and can be a resource.
- CO will talk with businesses to raise awareness of children with ID in their area.
- CO also holds father training sessions allowing fathers to understand intellectual disabilities and meet other fathers in the area who can sympathize with them.
- Our latest father trainings we had 222 fathers show.