



2015 Annual Report

Tariro: Hope and Health for Zimbabwe's Orphans

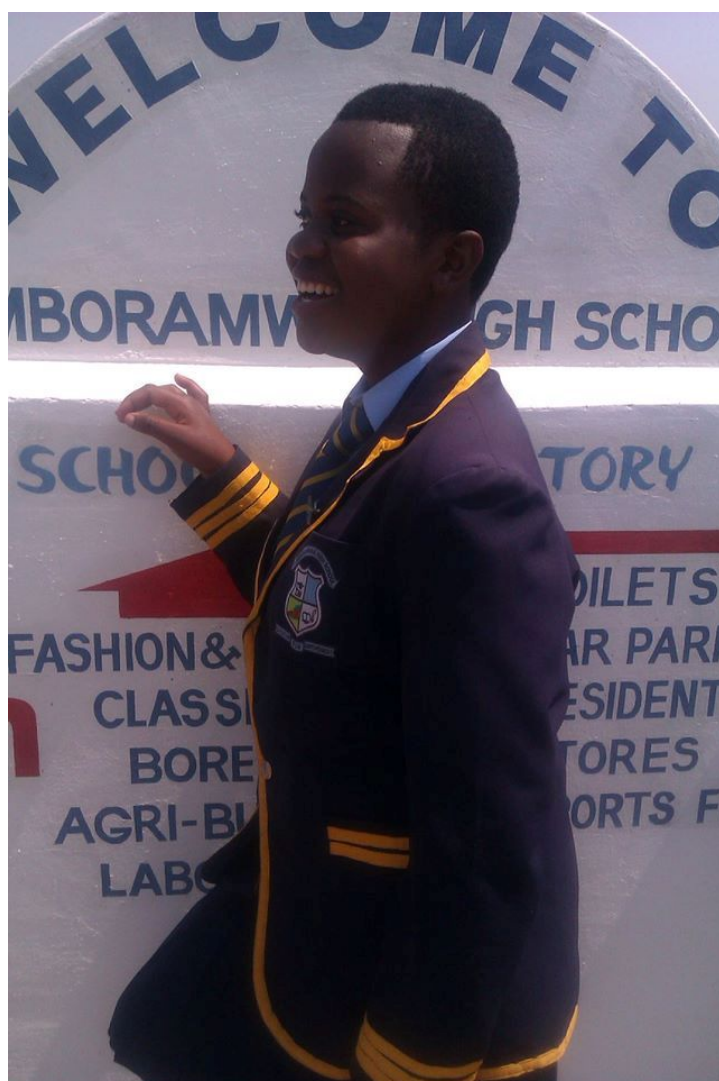
Educating and Breaking Barriers for Young Women Affected By HIV/AIDS in Zimbabwe

Tariro: Hope and Health for Zimbabwe's Orphans

Educating and Empowering Young Women affected by HIV/AIDS in Zimbabwe

Tariro's Vision:

Tariro sees education is a basic human right, which should be available to all children regardless of socio-economic status. By working with young women and girls in communities affected by HIV/AIDS, Tariro seeks to meet the challenge of ensuring that even the most vulnerable Zimbabwean children have access to education.



Tariro Today: A Snapshot

Since its founding in 2003, Tariro has been supporting orphaned girls in Zimbabwe from primary to university education, with ongoing educational sponsorship, opportunities to gain leadership skills and empowerment through co-curricular activities and psycho-social support. For over 10 years, Tariro has supported over 100 students, currently providing assistance to over 30 girls in the Harare suburbs of Glen Norah and Epworth. We've also had the pleasure of continuing to help some of our students attend and succeed in university.

Over the last decades, Zimbabwe has faced more than its share of complex economic and social challenges with HIV/AIDS, massive unemployment and growing poverty. The challenges of this beautiful nation are no secret. The cost of school fees, mandatory uniforms, and examinations fees are sometimes just beyond the income of many, many families, and unfortunately, it is often the girls of the family who are the first to leave school due to economic hardship.

More and more children are being forced to drop out of school even before graduating from elementary school. Those who are orphaned are even more at risk. In a country with one of the highest HIV rates in the world, staying in school is one of the most important and reliable ways to prevent HIV/AIDS and ensure future health and hope.

Tariro supports orphaned and vulnerable girls and empowers them through access to quality education. Our offices are inundated with applications and pleas from desperate parents and guardians seeking to have their children enrolled into our educational support program. "Tariro" means "hope" in Zimbabwe's Shona language, and, we strive to give the hope for a brighter future where education is a key to future success.

Letter from Board President

Dear Tariro supporters,

Thank you so much for your continued support for Tariro: Hope and Health for Zimbabwe's Orphans! You make such a huge difference in the lives and futures of the girls we support. I'm so proud of our students this year – they have been working hard at their studies and many have won awards and accolades and been selected for leadership positions at their schools!


A big first for Tariro in 2015 was taking part in the international giving movement, #GivingTuesday on 1 December – and what a success it was! Between donations made that day and over the course of the Fall Fundraising Campaign, *we hit and exceeded our funding goal!* Between online donations, checks mailed to our PO Box, and benefit events over the holiday season, you helped us raise more than \$10,000. Wow. On behalf of our students, we are so grateful - Thank you!

In 2015, Tariro supported a total of 34 students enrolled at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. The number of students we supported has decreased significantly over the past few years because of the increase in students who have been admitted to university. As we move into the future, Tariro will be actively seeking partnerships and scholarship opportunities for our students who are accepted to university so as to be able to build up our numbers of secondary school students again. The cost of sending one student to university is about the same as sending six students to secondary school, so we need to find new funding partners to join with us in supporting our university students.

Core to Tariro's mission is helping girls finish secondary school – this is because this age group is the most vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, and staying in school is one of the single most important ways to bring down the risk of contracting the disease. I've seen several articles lately about the continued problem of HIV/AIDS in Zimbabwe, and I am reminded that by keeping girls in school and providing a safe, caring community for them to learn about HIV prevention, Tariro – with your help – is contributing to the solution.

The biggest change for Tariro in 2016 will be welcoming a new Executive Coordinator to take the helm of Tariro's programs in Harare. We had to say goodbye in December to our previous coordinator, Kenny Magwada. Our candidate pool for the new hire is exceptionally strong, with hundreds of applicants. We are currently in the final interview phase and expect to have a new coordinator in place by 1 March. In the interim, our former coordinator, Fadzie Muzhandu – also a member of the Zimbabwe board – has stepped into the gap.

Thank you for your faithful support. On behalf of the entire board of directors, but most especially on behalf of our students – thank you.



Elizabeth Davis,
President, Tariro Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of Tariro is actively involved in Tariro's success. We are a diverse, international group with a love for Zimbabwe. We are sincerely grateful for your support! Please contact us if you have fundraising ideas in your own community, if you would like to volunteer with us, or if you have any questions about Tariro. Write us at tariro.board@gmail.com. Thanks again!

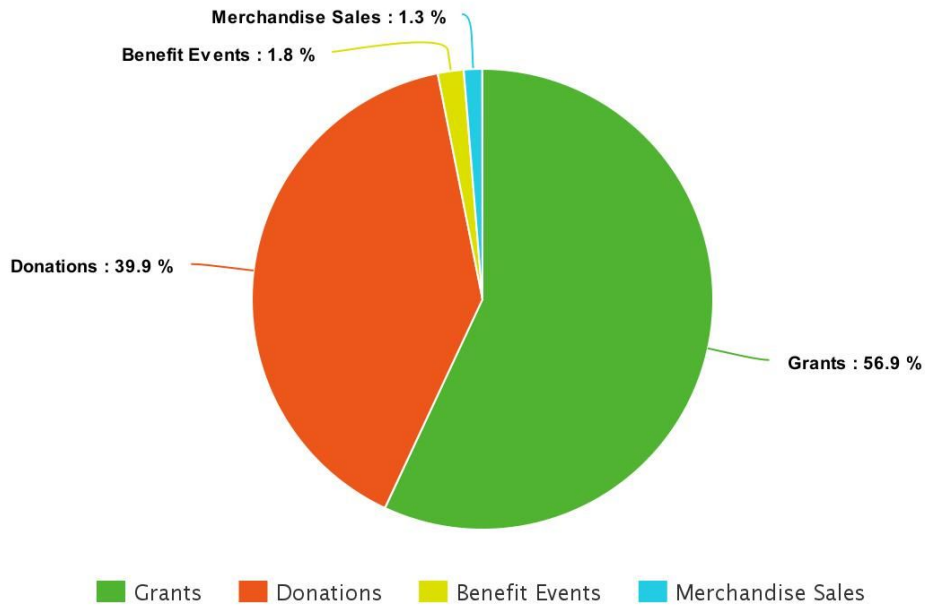
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*Denotes our members who are from Zimbabwe.

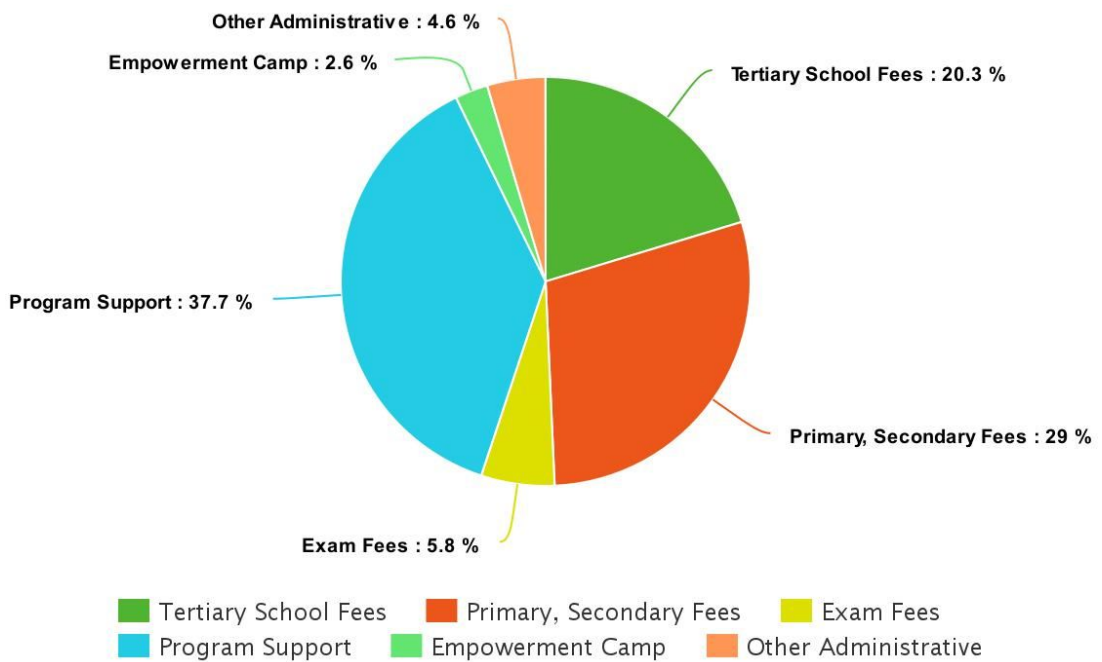
2015 By the Numbers

Income Sources 2015



meta-chart.com

Program Expenses 2015



meta-chart.com

Academic Highlights

University Students

Little did we imagine 10 years ago that we would see some of Tariro's young women entering university. We are so proud and honored to tell you the story of just a few of the young women we have supported over the years.

Melody M. received the *2015 Helper of the Year Award from the Vice Chancellor of the University of Zimbabwe* in recognition of her work as a guide to fellow student who is blind. In appreciation of her volunteer role, Melody's accommodation fees were waived for the next semester. Congratulations to Melody for her service to others and for being an example to other Tariro students! Melody is a second year student majoring in Sociology at the University of Zimbabwe.



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Two other university students, Tariro K. and Politeness N. are in their co-op/internship years during which they will apply and gain skills in their fields of study. Tariro K. is a second year student majoring in Social Work at Bindura University of Science and Technology and works with the Harare City Council in Harare. Politeness N. is a second year student majoring in Tourism and Hospitality at the University of Zimbabwe and works at the MontClaire Hotel and Casino in Nyanga. We congratulate them both for their great success in their chosen careers!.



Advanced Level (A Level) Students

Morleen W. was elected and sworn in to the Junior Council of Harare. The Junior Council is a replica of the local government where student representatives across the region represent issues affecting children and youth in their communities. This is a great leadership opportunity and we are proud of Morleen for her leadership and for being an advocate for young people in Harare.

Academic Success and Recognitions

Two of our A Level students received academic awards this year: Pride R. received 2015 Best Student in Shona and Divinity at Oriel Girls High School and Vimbai C. received the 2015 Best Student in Business Studies at Morgan High School. Congratulations! In addition, Bertha M. was chosen as headgirl of Domboramwari High School, and Rumbidzi M, also at Domboramwari, was selected to be a school prefect.

All four of these award-winning students sat for their national exams in November and we are so pleased about their ongoing academic success. With the support of our donors, we look forward to continuing to support young women such as Vimbai, Pride, Bertha, and Rumbidzai through their studies.

Co-Curricular Programs

Harare Agricultural Show Performance

This year, Tariro Dance Ensemble participated in the Annual Harare Agricultural Show in August. The Harare Agricultural Show is the premier event that facilitates and promotes agricultural development in Zimbabwe and attracts more than 500 exhibitors and over 180,000 people annually. Arts and entertainment are a core feature of the Harare Show.



As a result of this community engagement, the Zimbabwean Ministry of the Environment expressed interest in partnering with the ensemble for performances in the future. We are grateful to the Zimbabwe National Traditional Dances Association for their partnership and helping to make this showcase possible

Enhancing Learning and Academic Activities with International Visitors

Tariro founder, Dr. Jennifer Kyker PhD, Ethnomusicologist, University of Rochester, USA visited Zimbabwe this summer. She led our students through a variety of activities and met with local partners and volunteers of Tariro. Jennifer introduced Tariro students to Martha Tamu, a renowned Zimbabwean dancer who teaches dance internationally. Pictured here, Jennifer led the students in career mapping exercises.



Psycho-Social Support

Career Guidance and Peer Education - leadership and self development

A major highlight for this year was the Career Guidance and Peer Educators' Training Workshop held in March. This workshop was held in collaboration with Transformative Youth Development Association – a local school-based organization devoted to the empowerment of youths. The workshop took a participatory approach to important life skills such as decision-making, self-awareness, confidence building, goal setting and HIV/AIDS prevention. Following up on this initial workshop, a grant from Celtic Cross Mission Society enabled Tariro to hold a second weekend empowerment workshop, "A Cultural Retreat and Showcase for HIV/AIDS Awareness." The workshop enabled us to create a safe space for dialogue regarding the scourge of HIV/AIDS, which has impacted

many in sub-Saharan Africa not to mention about 90% of our beneficiaries who have lost parents and guardians to disease. Recent information by the PANOS Institute Africa (PSAf) revealed that adolescent girls between 15 to 19 years old account for 71% of new infections, so our beneficiaries are in the target group for education and awareness about HIV/AIDS. We had 31 girls, drawn from the high density suburbs of Epworth, Glen Norah and Highfield, whose ages ranged from 14 to 23 years attend the workshop. They participated in activities including songs, poetry, storytelling and drama, and through these activities, we managed to explore the many HIV/AIDS- related challenges facing the girls and their communities.

Mentorship - making dreams a reality

One of our future goals is to enhance our mentorship program for the young women of Tariro. This year we are pleased to highlight a new mentor within the Tariro program. Tsungai Mutongwizo, a practicing lawyer in Harare, is mentoring two students, Vimbai C. and Julia M. who had indicated that they were aspiring to be lawyers. Both are in form 6 and their subject combinations will make them eligible to study law if they pass well. Tsungai agreed to mentor the students and have our students visit her workplace and attend court sessions.



Home and School Visits - an holistic approach

An important aspect of Tariro programs is ensuring that adults in the lives of our students are as actively involved in the students' success as they can be. We regularly do home and school visits. Meetings with headmasters, parents or extended family work to ensure that the community is also involved in our students' success. They say it takes a village to raise a child. Tariro partners with our students' families, educators, and community to encourage academic and personal success, no matter the economic or social obstacles.

"More educated women tend to be healthier, participate more in the formal labor market, earn more income, have fewer children, and provide better health care and education to their children, all of which eventually improve the well-being of all individuals and can lift households out of poverty.

These benefits also transmit across generations,
as well as to communities at large."

The World Bank, 2014

Thank you so much for your support!

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