

Tariro Annual Report 2019



Our mission

Educate and empower young women affected by HIV/AIDS in Zimbabwe

Our vision

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

CONTENTS

Letter from the President 2019	2
Zimbabwe Today	3
Tariro Today	4
2019 by the numbers	5
Figure 1: Number of students supported by education level	5
Figure 2: Additional academic support	6
Figure 3: Psychosocial support.....	6
2019 Financial Summary	7
Figure 4: Tariro 2019 Income Sources as Percentages	8
Figure 5: Tariro 2019 Expenses as Percentages	8
2019 Highlights	9
Primary School Students	9
Secondary School Students.....	9
Tertiary Students.....	10
Provision of Psychosocial Support	11
Library	12
Traditional Music and Dance Ensemble.....	12
Fundraising Initiatives in Zimbabwe	13
Poultry Project	14
2020 Plans	16

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT 2019

Dear faithful Tariro friends and supporters,

Life has been hard for Zimbabweans in the last year – economic hardship has affected our students and their families severely. The work Tariro is doing with your help is more important than ever because many families have stopped sending their daughters to school to save money. Tariro steps in when families are struggling to make sure girls still have access to education and pursuing their dreams, and we couldn't do it without you.

One of the things I'm most proud of this year is expanding our program to include more primary school-aged children. A student can join Tariro at any time in her education, but we love starting our relationship with a Tariro beneficiary student earlier in her education and seeing how she flourishes and thrives in the Tariro program. A huge part of our mission is the psychosocial support we offer our students, so the earlier they join the Tariro program, the bigger impact we can have.

On that note, an exciting development in 2019 was the launch of our yearlong program, *Empowerment through Hope*. In the past, we offered an intensive one-week empowerment camp during school holidays, but last year, we decided to continue the discussion of themes from these camps throughout the year, so topics would stay current and relevant to students. The program created a space where girls felt empowered through participation, dialogue, and interaction on issues pertaining to their overall wellbeing. *Empowerment through Hope* increased the girls' confidence in navigating challenging social, economic, and cultural terrain. It has been a great success, and we will continue this program in 2020.

And now, it is with very mixed feelings that I announce I am stepping down as the President of Tariro's International Board of Directors. It has been an honor and a privilege to oversee the program for the last five years. I'm so proud of the work I've done to help girls in Zimbabwe and see our program grow and thrive. I offer my enormous thanks to current and former board members I've worked with over the years. This is truly a volunteer effort and we have all given so much of our time and heart to Tariro. I also want to thank our supremely capable Executive Coordinator in Zimbabwe, Simbarashe Kanyimo. Simba's leadership has brought so much to Tariro, and we are very lucky to have him in charge in Harare.

And finally, I want to thank all of **you**. I am amazed, honored, and humbled by the support you have given Tariro over many years. Some of you have found Tariro only recently and some of you have been supporters from the beginning. Thank you for believing in our students and joining us in changing the future, one girl at a time.

With sincere and best regards,



Elizabeth Davis
Outgoing President, International Board of Directors
Tariro: Hope and Health for Zimbabwe's Orphans

ZIMBABWE TODAY

2019 is a year many in Zimbabwe would want to forget. Millions of people in Zimbabwe have been living with severe power cuts for months, affecting services and jobs, while pushing the economy to brink of collapse. Drought and mounting debt have left Zimbabwe in the dark. Access to fuel has been a huge challenge, with motorists spending hours in queues. Cash has been relatively hard to access at banks, and is exchanged on the black market at a premium. Most parts of Harare have no running water and, when available, the water is “dirty” and unfit for human consumption.

The health sector has not been spared either. The many serious socio-economic problems facing the Southern African nation have resulted in various challenges in health institutions, including critical shortages of human resources, including doctors and nurses, and essential drugs and other medical supplies. The situation in public hospitals is dire, with doctors having embarked on a strike a few months ago, and there is no immediate solution in sight. Services at private hospitals, which are functional, are expensive and out of reach of the general public.

Prices of goods continue to rise on a regular basis, but the increases do not match incomes. Many families are struggling to put food on their tables, and many pupils and students face the possibility of dropping out of school, as parents cannot afford paying school fees. Girls are often first to drop out of school in difficult times, as families find the opportunity costs of educating their daughters to be too high. The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, through the Basic Education Assistance Module (BEAM), which is a financial assistance programme that pays school fees for orphans and vulnerable children, has been trying its best over the years but, of late, the programme is underfunded. Like Tariro, other partners, including Plan International, FACT, CAMFED, World Vision, Mavambo, and Higher Life Foundation, are also playing their role in financing and supporting underprivileged students, but the demand for assistance is huge. The numbers of students in need of educational support are growing each day, and, in 2020, the demand for assistance is likely to be ten-fold.

Zimbabwe, like its neighbours in the Southern African region, is slowly plunging into the effects of what could be one of the worst droughts in decades and with the depressing economic environment, things are going to be worse and we are likely to experience a considerable number of school dropouts.

TARIRO TODAY

“When girls are educated, their countries become stronger and more prosperous.”

MICHELLE OBAMA

It is now almost 16 years since Tariro was founded. Over the years, Tariro has been dedicated to educating and empowering young women and girls in high-density suburbs of Harare, Zimbabwe. Our focus has been on providing holistic support through a comprehensive range of services. These services include paying students’ school and examination fees, purchasing uniforms, school supplies, and feminine hygiene products, providing textbooks through a lending library, offering academic support services such as tutoring, and empowering our students through monthly health education sessions and an annual week-long conference on HIV prevention and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.

At Tariro, we strongly believe that education changes everything. An educated girl will:

- ✓ earn up to 25% more for every year in secondary school
- ✓ reinvest 90% of her earnings in her family
- ✓ be 3 times less likely to become HIV-positive
- ✓ marry later and have a smaller, healthier family
- ✓ resist gender-based violence and discrimination
- ✓ invest in her children’s education

Thanks to your support, Tariro has been able to support 11 primary school students, 35 secondary school students, 8 tertiary level students, and 1 vocational-tech student over the past year.

Our approach is driven by recognition that access to education is a universal right, regardless of one’s status, beliefs and actions. We are driven by an education focus, where services are provided for the greater good and are considered inalienable to all humanity. Key to our programming has been training young women and girls to provide mentorship and life skills to young girls, and advocating for girls’ education, and providing grants for fees for girls.

Tariro’s achievements and progress in as far as programming is concerned are comprehensively documented in this 2019 annual report. The report is an effort to update and enlighten key stakeholders of the steps and direction forward that the Trust has made. Tariro continues to enthusiastically and diligently advance its intention of working and supporting the poor and the marginalized with a special focus on young women and girls in Harare’s high-density suburbs, despite the challenges posed by the deteriorating economic climate in Zimbabwe.

2019 BY THE NUMBERS

Figure 1: Number of students supported by education level

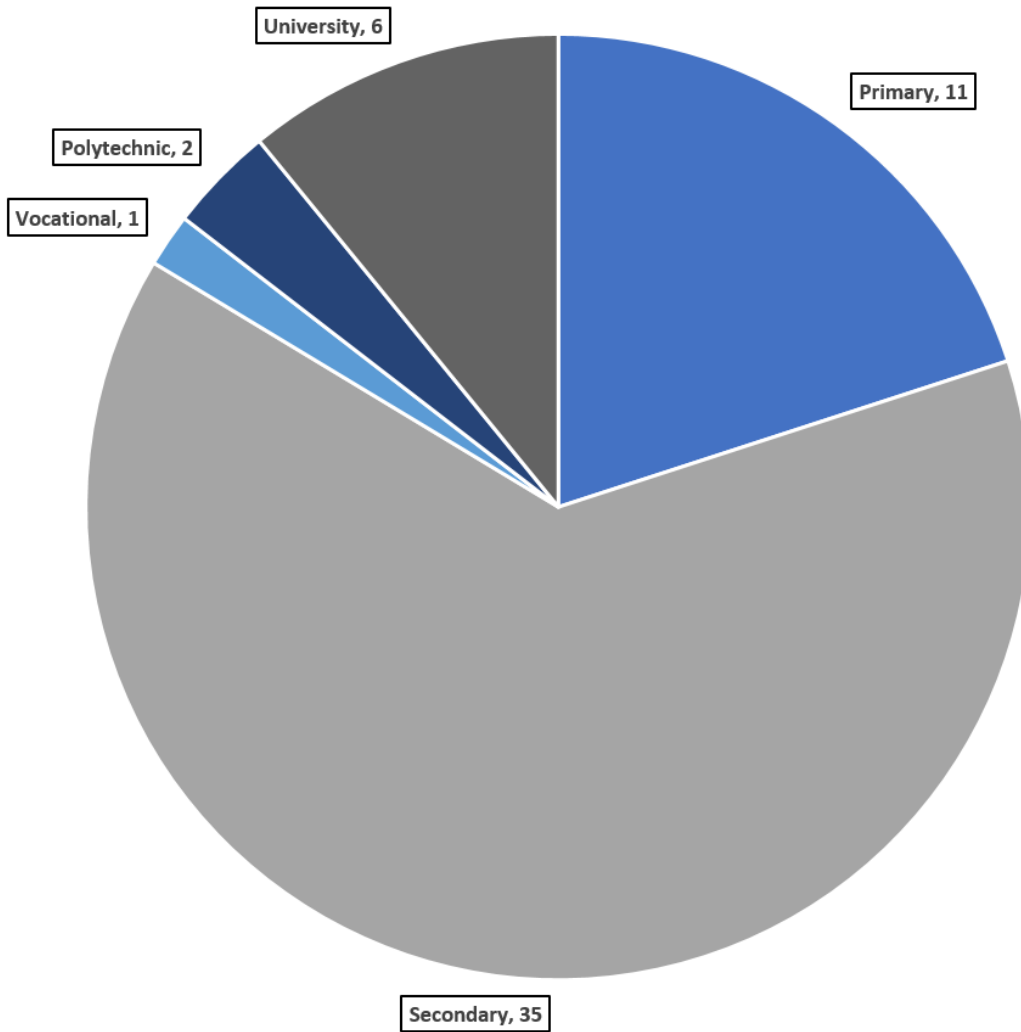


Figure 2: Additional academic support

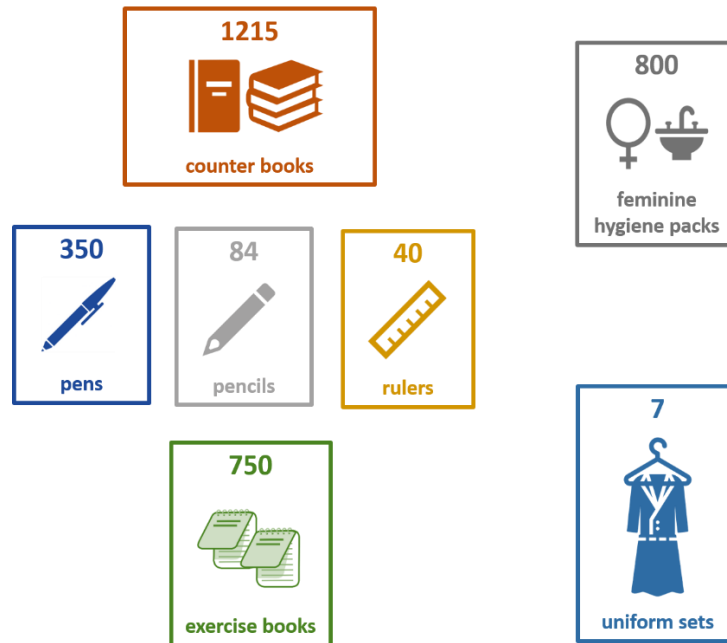
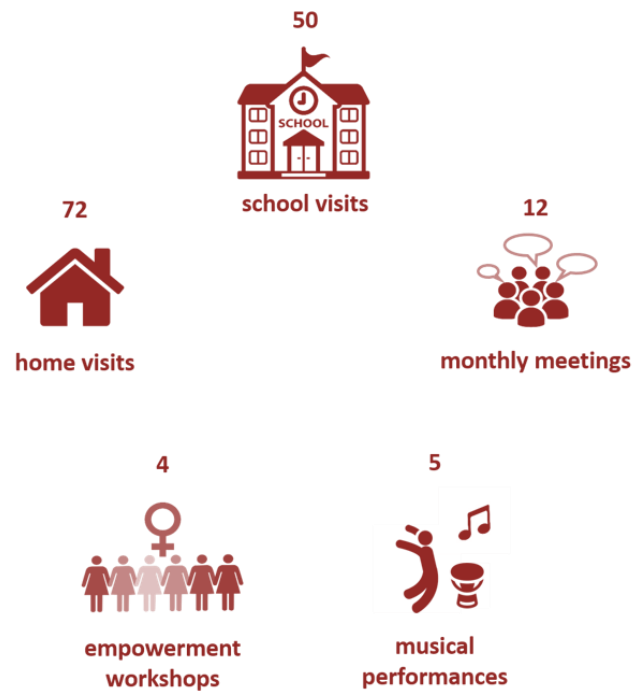


Figure 3: Psychosocial support



2019 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Income	USD
Grants	26.039,12
Benefit Events	629,81
Individual Donations	8.706,92
Fall Fundraising Campaign	5.137,06
Total Income	40.512,91
Expenses	USD
Psychosocial Support	4.915,20
School & Exam Fees	8.926,78
School Supplies	2.231,50
Salaries	12.697,00
Building Expenses	4.159,70
Bank & Transfer Fees	2.176,71
Other Administration	752,00
Total Expenses	35.858,89
Surplus	4.654,02

Figure 4: Tariro 2019 Income Sources as Percentages

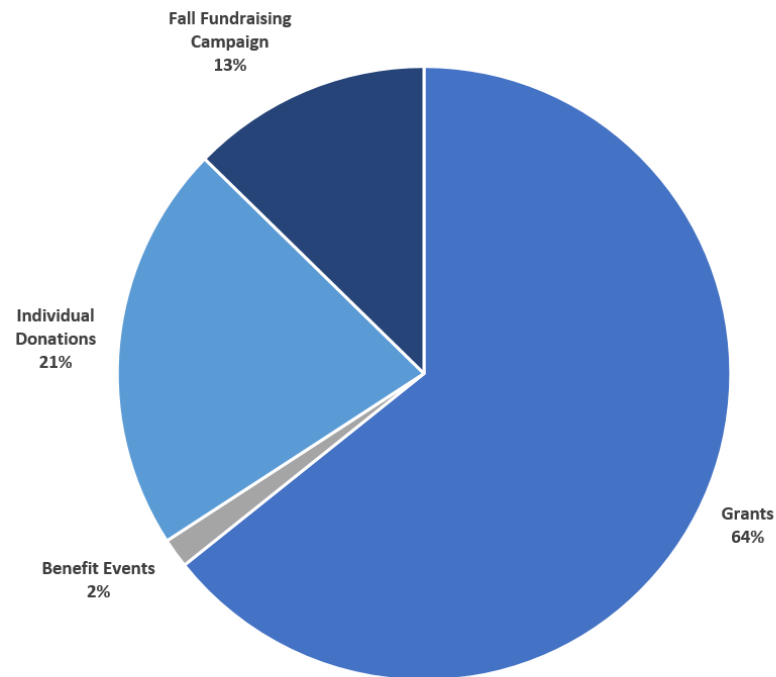
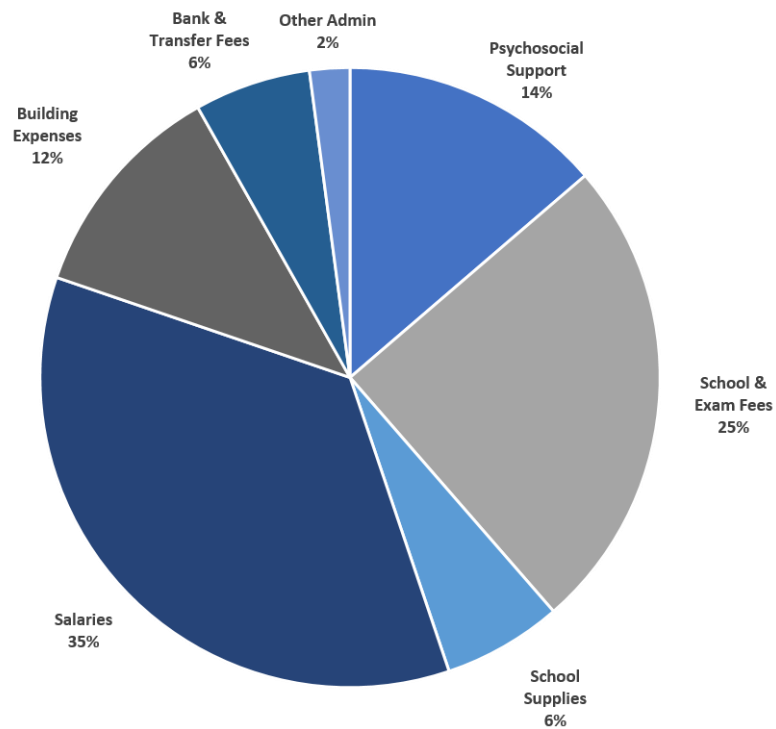


Figure 5: Tariro 2019 Expenses as Percentages



2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Primary School Students

During the course of 2019, we were able to increase our outreach in primary schools, supporting a total of 11 students in primary school. We have shifted to enrolling more primary school students because we want to establish a long and fruitful relationship with our new beneficiaries. Five students wrote their Grade 7 examinations, with Tanaka M. doing extremely well, scoring 5 units/distinctions in the five examinations she wrote. All five Grade 7 students have secured secondary school places, and we have assisted them through paying their full fees and purchase of uniforms.



Our Grade 7 students posing for a photo from left to right Makanaka M, Hazel M , Lestancia K , Anesu H and Tanaka N.

Secondary School Students

In 2019, we had five students sitting for their Ordinary Level Examinations and four students for their Advanced Level examinations. 26 other students are at various secondary schools located around Harare, and the majority of the students are doing well in their studies. Four of our students were retained as prefects (class leaders) in 2019 at their respective schools, which is a testament to their leadership abilities.

Tertiary Students

Tariro is proud to announce that one of our students, Florence, successfully graduated with a National Diploma in Transport and Logistics from Harare Polytechnic, and is now gainfully employed as Logistics Officer with a local freight company.



Florence M., who graduated from Harare Polytechnic in 2019

One new student, Tilda M., enrolled at a tertiary institution, the Chinhoyi University of Technology. She is studying for a Bachelor of Technology degree in Production Engineering. Morleen, who is studying for a degree in Business Studies, majoring in Marketing, is currently on a yearlong internship at CBZ Holdings. Winston, who is a Local Governance major at Midlands State University, is on attachment at the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Recreation.

Pride is now in her final year at Midlands State University, where she is studying Banking and Finance. Bertha M., who is an Accounting student at the University of Zimbabwe, will be starting her attachment in 2020. Nicole M. is in her first year as a National Diploma in Electrical Engineering student at Harare Polytechnic. Gillian M. is studying for a National Diploma in Chemical Engineering.

Provision of Psychosocial Support

Psychosocial support has been central to our programming from the very beginning. This year, Tariro recruited a qualified social worker, Vera, to lead our psychosocial programming initiatives. Vera holds a Master's degree in Social Work and a Bachelor of Social Work from Fort Hare, South Africa. Vera is intensively involved in carrying out home visits, school visits, counselling sessions, as well as coordinating the sexual and reproductive health and rights sessions for our students.

2019 saw Tariro implement the *Empowerment through Hope: A Programme for Teenage Girls* project. Our sincere gratitude to Kutsinhira for funding the project. Funds from Kutsinhira contributed towards meeting costs of running the yearlong project, especially transport, refreshments and stationery costs. The overall goal of the project was to create a space where girls feel empowered through participation, dialogue and interaction on issues pertaining to their overall wellbeing. The project aimed to increase girls' confidence and sense of agency so they learn to navigate challenging cultural, social and economic terrain through participating in educational activities designed. Topics covered included the following: sexuality, bullying, child abuse, peer pressure, career guidance, sexually transmitted Infections, mental health and peer education. The whole idea of peer education training was to equip the students with knowledge and build their capacity to educate their peers on topics covered.

The envisaged outcomes of the programme were:

- **Outcome 1:** Girls will build self-esteem, confidence, and a sense of agency, which will help them stay in school, develop healthy relationships, and become youth leaders in their community.
- **Outcome 2:** Girls will have a safe space to talk freely about challenges they encounter at home, school or the community, and thus will learn how to identify, articulate, discuss, and overcome such challenges.

While the longer-term benefits of the programme are yet to be realised, it is heartening to see that our girls have stayed in school, that their confidence and self-esteem have increased, and that they are engaging positively with their peers, their families, and their wider communities.

The project directly targeted more than 40 girls drawn from our Tariro participants. Each student was expected to provide mentorship to at least 3 peers, thus reaching over 120 people, and to share lessons learned with their family members. In fact, the girls kept a register of peers reached, and the total peers reached during the year was 161. The total number of family members reached was 151.

The students were able to reach out to their friends at monthly peer education sessions, school, church, home and other social gatherings thus reaching out to about 100 people each through health talks, edutainment sessions and distribution of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights from the Zimbabwe National Planning Council. Overall, the project reached out to more than 4200 community members, with 3000 being young women or girls.

Library

The library received a consignment of reading books from Fatima, who is based in the United States. The library has been handy in providing extra reading resources to meet the needs of the girls for education, information and personal development including recreation and leisure. Our hope is, funds permitting, we could furnish our library with three or four computers and internet for use by the girls and their peers.

Traditional Music and Dance Ensemble

Traditional music and dance is a big component of our psychosocial initiatives. Our traditional music and dance group continues to dazzle spectators with their well-polished performances, and the group has been key in generating significant income for Tariro. Huge thanks to Daniel Inasiyo for training the girls and taking the girls through their paces every weekend. This year, as has become a norm, the group performed at the Harare Agricultural Show. The group also performed at Africa Day celebrations held at the Star Leadership Academy and their performance saw them being called in December to perform at a graduation ceremony at the Star Leadership Academy. The group also had the privilege to perform at the US Embassy grants signing ceremony where they put up a breath taking performance. The girls have also performed at weddings and community functions.



The music and dance group performing at the US Embassy Grant signing ceremony

Fundraising Initiatives in Zimbabwe

Corporate philanthropy in Zimbabwe has continued to be a vital source of support for Tariro. For the fourth successive year CBZ Holdings, true to its motto 'Partners for Success', donated ZWL 6070.00, which went towards paying tuition fees for 8 students enrolled in tertiary institutions. CBZ Holdings is a financial services conglomerate in Zimbabwe. It owns subsidiaries in banking, insurance, investments, wealth management, mortgages and retail finance. CBZ Holdings, Zimbabwe has been our all-weather friend and, to date, it has donated more than USD 20,000 towards our education assistance programme. CBZ Holdings has also provided internship opportunities for two of our students.



At the CBZ Holdings cheque presentation ceremony

In 2019, respected chartered banker, economist and trade finance specialist, Persistence Gwanyanya's Bullion Group, a growing empire with interests in finance, advisory, trade finance, commodities trading, tobacco trading and marketing donated ZWL 6000, which went towards paying school fees for some of our students in secondary school. The Group has promised to continue supporting Tariro.

Tariro has also directly received considerable support from Alresford Methodist Church in the United Kingdom. Alresford Methodist Church is situated in the 'watercress town' of New Alresford, Hampshire. It is a friendly, local, church seeking to provide both spiritual and practical assistance to the local community. It has extended its practical assistance to Tariro, and we are forever grateful.

Tariro believes in giving back and helping out in the community and the world. We believe that the measure of a person's life is the effect they have on others. Tariro encourages the girls we support to give back and help out in the community. As a way of appreciating the assistance she received from Tariro, Tariro K (pictured below) has donated to Tariro and paid a terms fees for one of the high school

students. Tariro was assisted by Tariro from early secondary till she graduated with a BSc degree in Social Work. She currently is employed as a Monitoring and Evaluation Assistant with ITECH Zimbabwe, an organization that focuses on HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention.



“The value of a man resides in what he gives, not in what he is capable of receiving.”

ALBERT EINSTEIN

Poultry Project

As part of Tariro’s efforts to be self-sustaining, as well as equipping our students and their families with entrepreneurial skills, Tariro has been running a poultry project. This project is courtesy of a grant from the Embassy of the United States of America through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Small Grant. Initially, the project was very viable, but lately it has not been spared by the unfriendly economic environment being experienced in Zimbabwe. The project is currently operating at break-even point. Our aim is to keep the project afloat while hoping the economic climate will change for the better and we then will be able expand Tariro’s source of sustainable income through poultry management and grow our capacity to support the organization and its beneficiaries.



The Tariro poultry project

Running the project of late has been a challenge with the escalating prices of feeds and chicks, and for the last two batches, no profits were realized. Basically, what we put in was what we got out, and could only enable us to purchase the next batch and related feeds. However, despite the challenges the project has faced it has managed to equip Tariro students and their families with entrepreneurial skills through a practical and sustainable environmental friendly way.

2020 PLANS

For 2020, Tariro will actively pursue new avenues of opportunity for young women at the point of leaving school or college so that they can progress to a position of economic security and leadership. At the core of our work in 2020, we will continue to deliver on our mission to educate and empower young women and girls in Zimbabwean communities. We will actively pursue long-term partnerships that will enable us to scale up our programming as well as ensure sustainability of our programming.

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 or if you have any questions about Tariro. Email us at tariro.board@gmail.com.

Tariro Board of Directors