

Tariro: Hope & Health for Zimbabwe's Orphans



Tariro's 2022 student cohort, pictured at Chembira Primary School in Glen Norah, Harare

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Our mission

To educate and empower girls and 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 socioeconomic status. By working with girls and young women 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.

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As one of Tariro's original co-founders, I am especially thrilled to have been able to officially step back into my previous position as Executive Director of Tariro this year. My position is separate from the board, and I will be working primarily to maintain, develop, and strengthen the programs side of our work in Zimbabwe. I will also be actively working in fundraising to support our programs. I am very excited that I have the time and space to be able to resume this work, especially as Tariro enters our twentieth year of operations.

I'd like to begin with some of the many highlights from our work in 2022. Four of our students – Fadzai M., Jamilia R., Cheryl K., and Rufaro M. – have started their university studies this year, reflecting our students' exceptional results on A Level exams. Two more students are graduating from university this year – Vimbai C. has earned her BSc in Sociology, and Bertha M. has earned a Bachelor of Accountancy degree. These students' accomplishments demonstrate the real successes that our students are achieving through our comprehensive academic and psycho-social support programs.

Over the past nineteen years Tariro has enabled hundreds of Zimbabwean girls from vulnerable households to complete their education, dramatically lowering their risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. Our former students are now mothers, teachers, urban planners, IT workers, musicians, bankers, netball players, and public health workers making a difference in their own communities.

This year also saw the beginning of a new mentoring program initiated by board member Fatima Madondo. Our mentors this past year included a lawyer, a public health expert, and a chartered accountant, each of whom visited to speak to our girls about academic and professional paths to success. During school holidays, Tariro also offered intensive academic tutoring for students approaching their O Level and A Level exams.

Finally, Tariro's traditional music and dance group, Ngoma YeKwedu, had several high-profile performances in 2022, including performances at the CBZ Bank Marathon, the Harare Agricultural Show, and the USAP Community School. Group members also participated in a workshop with Rujeko Dumbutshena, a faculty member at the University of Florida. Through generous donations, Ngoma YeKwedu was also able to purchase a much-needed new set of marimbas.

This year, also began actively preparing several important new initiatives to mark Tariro's twentieth anniversary year in 2023. First, we have laid the groundwork for a contact tracing study, through which we will conduct outreach to identify and survey as many of our former students as possible. We have also begun preparing for a new project that will expand the work being done in our traditional music and dance ensemble to include a new instrument, the mbira dzavadzimu. Finally, we are planning an end-of-year public concert, as well as a reunion for all former Tariro students. I look forward to sharing further details about these important activities in next year's Annual Report.

Our Annual Report offers a detailed overview of our work in 2022, and we hope you will enjoy reading it. Please reach out if you have any questions, as we always love to hear from you! From all of us at Tariro, we send many thanks for your continued support, and best wishes for 2023. Together, we are making a difference.

Warm wishes,

Dr. Jennifer W. Kyker

ROCHESTER, NY, USA

ZIMBABWE'S EDUCATIONAL LANDSCAPE TODAY

Zimbabwe's education system ranks among the best in Africa in terms of primary school attendance and overall literacy rates. Yet Zimbabwean students and their families face a number of challenges stemming from the country's complex and protracted economic crisis, characterized by rising inflation, high unemployment, failing infrastructure, and a sharp increase in poverty.

This crisis has affected Zimbabwean students in many ways. Most significantly, school fees are financially out of reach for many poor students and their families. Indeed, one recent global study by WorldRemit suggests that Zimbabwe's education system is one of the most expensive in the world relative to income:¹

Zimbabwe showed the highest costs relative to average family size and monthly income at nearly 700% of the average family household income.

With the majority of Zimbabwe's population struggling to make ends meet, the number of school dropouts significantly rose in 2022. In April of 2022, for example, UNICEF released a report saying nearly half of the country's youth were not actively attending school due to poverty exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. As the report specifies:²

Before the pandemic, 21% of Zimbabwean youth were not in school. Now the number stands at 47%... In Zimbabwe, families pay less than \$100 per year to send their children to an elementary school, and about \$300 for a secondary school. The fees may sound low but are a lot for people who sometimes get by on one dollar per day.

Given these sobering statistics, the need for Tariro's work remains greater than ever. Tariro is making a difference in Zimbabwe's challenging educational landscape by identifying students who would otherwise be unable to attend school through referrals from local school headmasters and other community leaders. We commit to supporting all of our students through to the end of secondary school, enabling young women and girls to reach their full potential, to participate in Zimbabwe's economic and human development, and to work toward social change.

¹ WorldRemit Data (2022). *Families around the world to pay up to 57% more on school supplies this year*. Available at: <https://www.worldremit.com/en-us/news/cost-of-school-study>

² VOA News. (2022). UNICEF: Nearly 50% of Zimbabwean Youth Not in School. Available at: <https://www.voanews.com/a/unicef-nearly-50-of-zimbabwean-youth-not-in-school/6547669.html>

OVERVIEW: TARIRO'S WORK

Girls' education is the single best investment that any society can make.

CAROL BELLAMY

Founded in 2003, Tariro is dedicated to educating and empowering girls in Harare's high-density neighborhoods. Our work emphasizes women's education as an effective response to HIV/AIDS. According to the Zimbabwe Demographic Health Survey 2015, 70% of new HIV infections occur in adolescent girls. Attending school dramatically reduces the risk that young Zimbabwean women will become infected with HIV/AIDS. By educating young women, Tariro empowers them to build a future free from poverty and disease and ensures our students have the opportunity to live prosperous and fulfilling lives as valued members of their communities.

In 2022, Tariro supported a total of 50 students, including primary school students, secondary school students, and students studying at the tertiary level.



For each of our sponsored students, Tariro provides a comprehensive range of services, including:

- paying for school and examination fees
- purchasing uniforms and supplies
- distributing free sanitary ware to improve school attendance
- making textbooks available through a lending library
- providing academic support services such as tutoring
- offering extra-curricular activities including life-skills workshops
- participation in Tariro's traditional music and dance ensemble
- home and school visits to check on the well-being of our students.

Our achievements and progress in programming are comprehensively documented in this 2022 annual report. We are thankful to everyone in Tariro's global network who is working tirelessly to secure girls' rights to quality education.

2022 BY THE NUMBERS

Figure 1: Number of Students Supported by Education Level

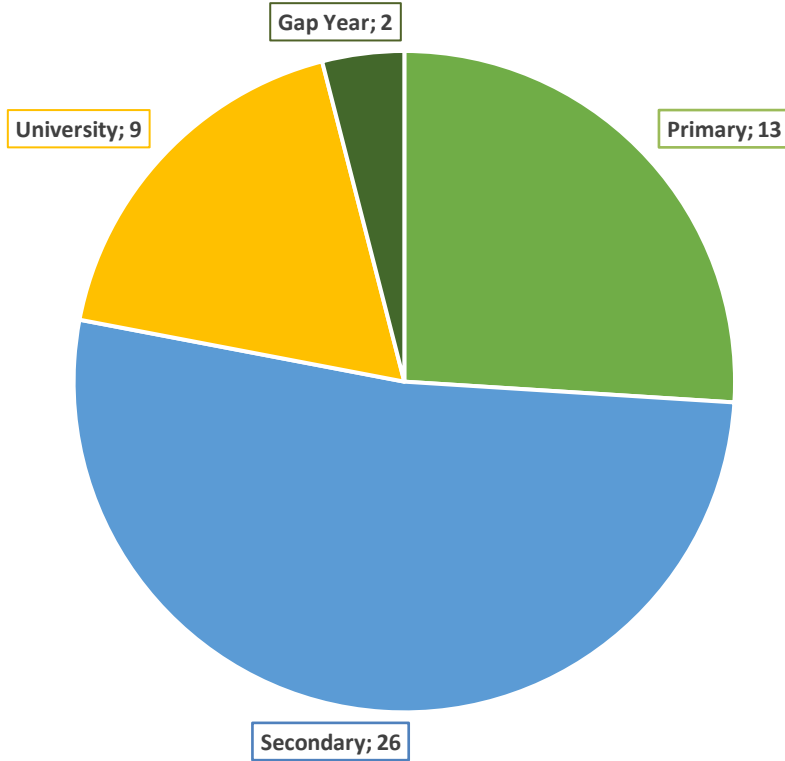
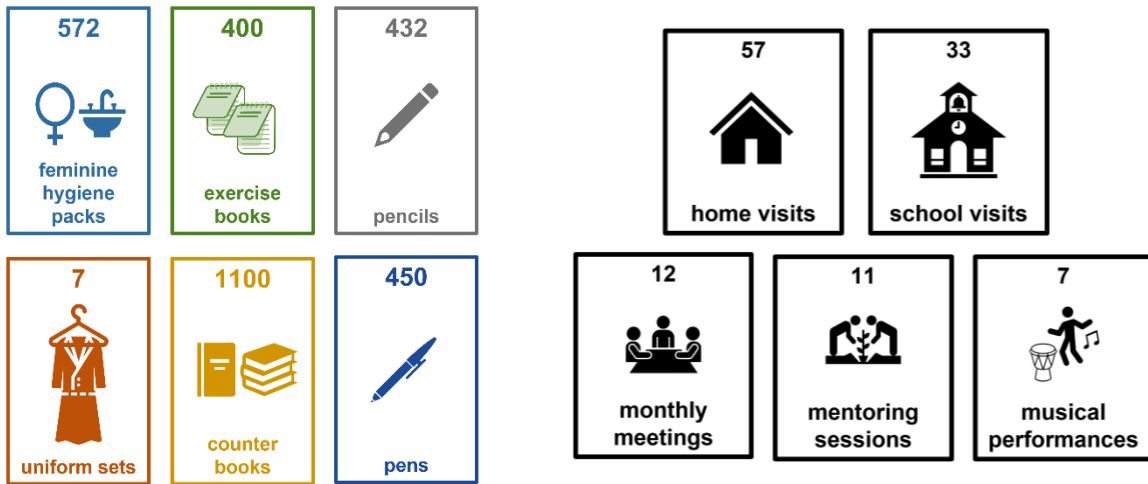


Figure 2: Additional Academic & Psychosocial Support



ACADEMIC SUPPORT

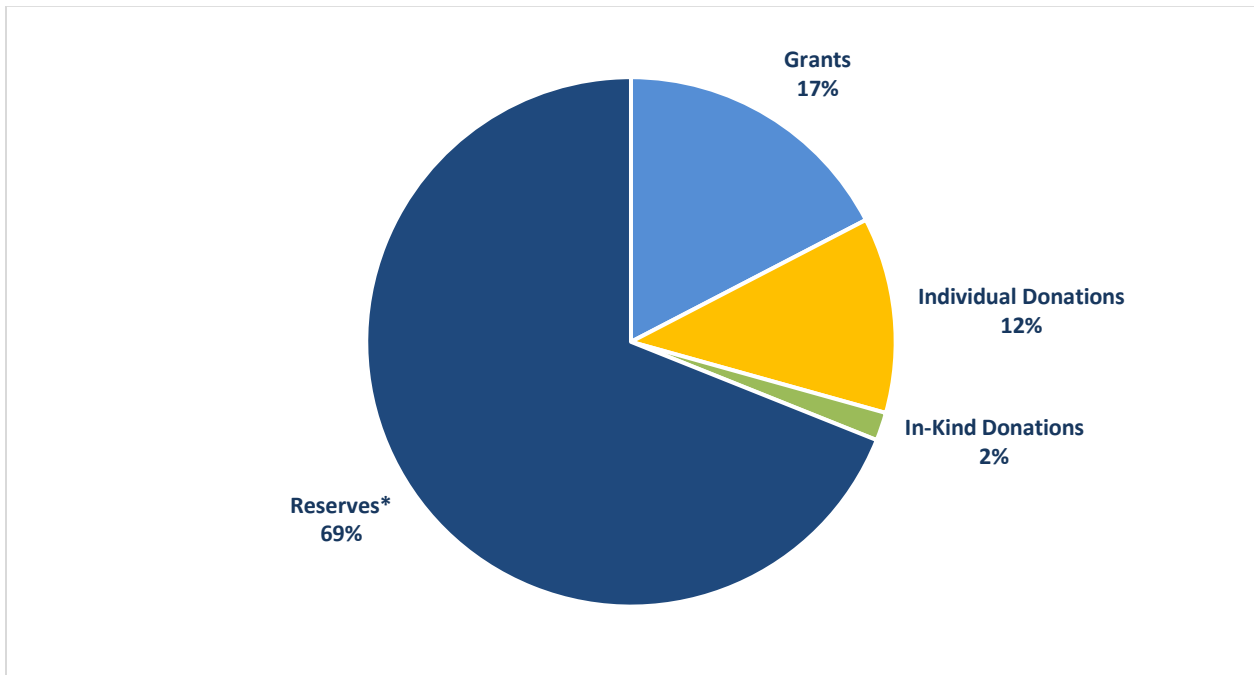
PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Income	USD
Grants	10.581,05
Individual Donations	7.278,07
In-Kind Donations (Zimbabwe)	1.050,00
Total Income	17.859,12
Surplus Carried over from 2021*	41.978,13
Total Income + Reserves	59.837,25
Expenses	USD
School & Exam Fees	9.735,37
School Supplies	2.642,00
Psychosocial Support	5.054,50
Salaries & Allowances	20.069,00
Administration Costs	5.101,23
Other Costs	969,00
Total Expenses	43.571,10
Surplus	16.266,15

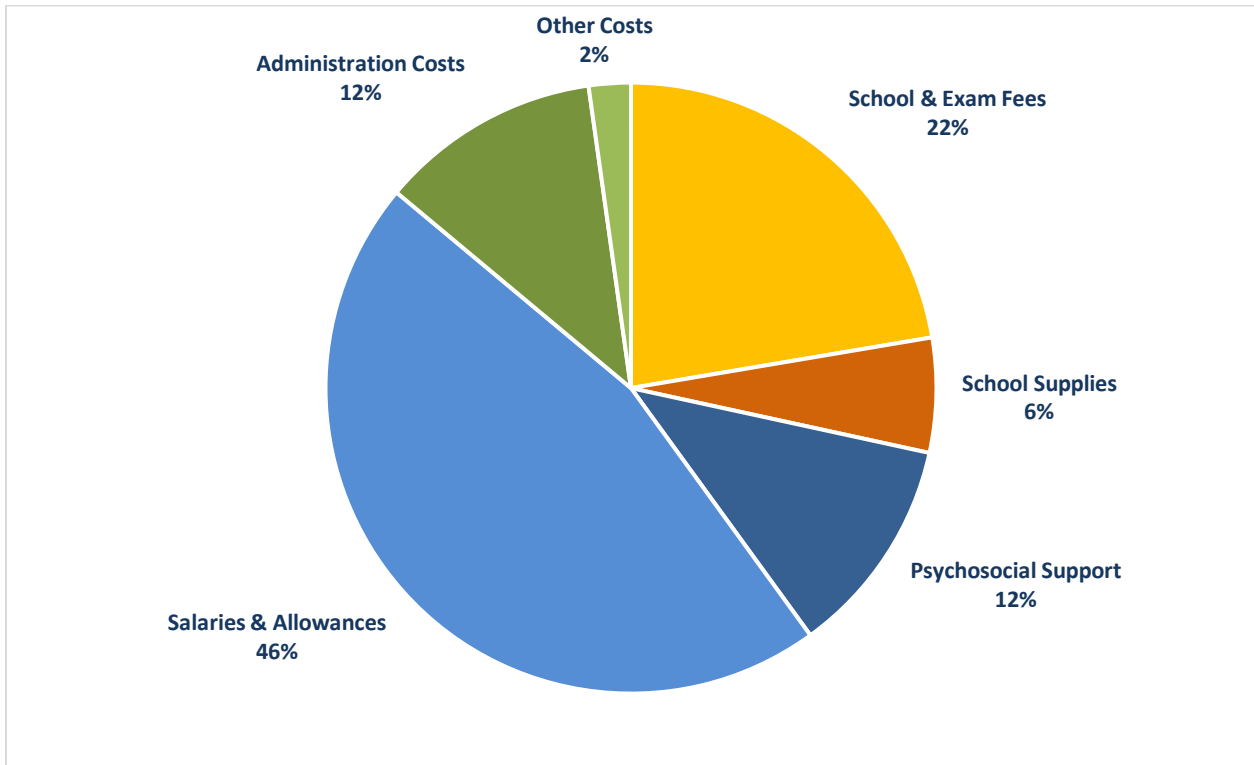
* Figure includes a grant of 23.000 USD received in 2021 for the 2022 financial year

Figure 3: Tariro 2022 Income Sources as Percentages



* Includes a grant of 23.000 USD received in 2021 for the 2022 financial year

Figure 4: Tariro 2022 Expenses as Percentages



TARIRO'S STUDENTS

"I became the first one in my family to break the chain of child marriages as a result of Tariro."

VIMBAI C.

Primary School Students

In 2022, Tariro supported 13 primary school students. In terms of new enrollments, Tariro admitted 15 students who will begin participating in our programs in 2023. This reflects a conscious decision to focus on identifying primary students in need of financial assistance to stay in school. By identifying girls who are in need at this stage, we are able to establish a long and fruitful relationship with our beneficiaries.



Some current primary students (Top: Precious D., Langehile S. Middle: Tanyaradzwa S., Alice M. Bottom: Mellanie I., Alice M.)

Secondary School Students

Tariro sponsored 26 secondary school students in 2022. Of the eight students who completed secondary school, two passed their Ordinary Level Examinations with flying colors and will proceed to A Levels.



Some current secondary students (Top: Salma K., Rudaviro G., Elsah C. Middle: Angela G., Takudzwa N. Bottom: Natasha R., Tanaka N.)

Tertiary Students

Tariro supported nine university students in 2022, including four students who began their university studies this year. Among them, Jamilya R, Rufaro M, and Faith B enrolled at the University of Zimbabwe, and Fadzai M enrolled at Midlands State University.

Two students enrolled at Chinhoyi University of Technology participated in required internships for their degree programs this year. Tilda M., who is studying mechatronics, completed an internship with the Ministry of Local Government and Public Works, while Brenda S., who is studying supply management, started an internship at a local logistics company. Both students are now well on their way toward earning their degrees.

Finally, we are immensely proud of two Tariro students who successfully completed their university studies in 2022. Bertha M. graduated with a Bachelor of Accountancy degree from the University of Zimbabwe, and Vimbai C. received a Bachelor of Science Honors degree in Sociology from Midlands State University respectively.

Upon graduating, Vimbai wrote a letter of gratitude thanking Tariro. Here are some of her words:

I would like to thank Tariro Trust for funding my education from the Ordinary Level to the tertiary level. I am grateful for everything that you have done for me throughout my education journey. It was my greatest wish to attain a degree but I was just a grade seven dropout after financial constraints. Now I am emancipated to do greater things which could not have been possible if Tariro wasn't part of my life. I am grateful for your support, which has allowed me to become a degree holder in Sociology.



Some current university students (Top: Faith B., Tilda M., Rufaro M. Bottom: Jamila R., Brenda S.)

TARIRO'S PROGRAMS

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

ALBERT EINSTEIN

Psychosocial support is central to Tariro's programming. We work to identify and address the psychosocial needs of each of our students, enabling them to fully achieve their goals.



Tariro students receive school supplies and sanitary pads at one of our monthly meetings at Chembira Primary School

Tariro believes in our students' potential to reshape their world and actively encourages our students and alumnae to give back to their community. To this end, two of our former students, Tatendah Chizanga and Melody Mutemasango, are now active members of Tariro's Zimbabwean board. Together with Tariro alumna Tendai Chinyama, Melody also took time off her busy schedule to grace our monthly meetings and mentor current girls.

Home Visits

The home visit is at the heart of Tariro's social work practice with children and families. It gives us an opportunity to see the girls we support in their own environment, and helps us build a picture of what life is like for the girls. The home visit helps establish strong, positive communication between our staff and our sponsored children's parents and guardians. It can also motivate parents to become more

involved in their children’s school and extra-curricular activities. The home visit offers a perspective on each individual family’s struggles, needs, and specific challenges. When our staff sees these harsh realities for themselves, they become better equipped to provide each child in our program with the exact support they so desperately need. Additionally, when our staff visits the homes of our sponsored children, we can see more clearly what a tremendous impact our programs are having in the lives of the children we support.

After suspending home visits in early 2020 due to COVID-19, Tariro was finally able to resume home visits during the last quarter of 2022, after remaining restrictions were lifted. In this short amount of time, we carried out 57 home visits, including 38 initial home visits and 19 follow-up visits.

School Visits

School visits complement home visits by providing opportunities for our staff to discuss the girls’ progress and highlight areas in need of improvement with their teachers. School visits also help us form close partnerships with school authorities, setting the tone for positive communication between Tariro staff and our students’ schools. We resumed school visits after the restrictions imposed as a result of COVID-19 were lifted.



Vera, our Social Worker, carrying out a home visit

“Ngoma YeKwedu”: Tariro’s Traditional Music and Dance Ensemble

Traditional music and dance are an important part of our psychosocial initiatives. Our music and dance instructor Daniel Inasiyo, popularly known as Mukoma Danny, takes the fifteen students enrolled in Ngoma YeKwedu through their paces for several hours every Saturday. In 2022, Ngoma YeKwedu

performed at a number of important events including the Harare Agricultural Show, the CBZ Holdings Marathon, a private function hosted by Stanbic Bank, the Let Them Annual Schools Arts Festival, the Higher Life Foundation’s Africa Day celebrations, the USAP Community School, and at a Fun Day organized by Zimbabwe’s First Lady. Ngoma YeKwedu has become a permanent feature at the CBZ Holdings annual marathon, and our performance is one way of thanking CBZ holdings for the support they have given us over the years.

Through a fundraising campaign initiated by Tariro’s Executive Director, Ngoma YeKwedu was able to acquire a new set of marimbas made by Jacob Mafuleni of Tsoro Arts. The old marimba set was donated to Chembira Primary School in Glen Norah. We have a good working relationship with Chembira Primary School as they allow us to use their premises for our monthly meetings as well as our traditional music and dance group rehearsals.

Ngoma YeKwedu also received a set of ten nyunga-nyunga mbira instruments donated by Tariro supporter Nora Balaban, and made by Wiriranai Chigon’a.

In 2022, Tariro was privileged to host several international visitors at Ngoma YeKwedu’s weekly music and dance rehearsals. This includes Zimbabwean-born dancer, pedagogue, and performer Rujeko Dumbutshena, a faculty member at the University of Florida who specializes in neo-traditional and contemporary African dance. Gary Spalter, and Nora Balaban.

Another visitor was Gary Spalter, Director of Kutsinhira Cultural Arts Center. Located in Eugene, Oregon (USA), Kutsinhira Cultural Arts Center is a non-profit organization that offers classes in Zimbabwean marimba and mbira, and organizes lessons and workshops with visiting Zimbabwean master musicians. Kutsinhira regularly supports Tariro with grants for various activities.



Traditional Music and Dance Group rehearsals and performances in pictures Top Row L to R -Rehearsal at Chembira Primary School and a performance at an event at Impact Hub . Bottom Row -the group performing at the CBZ Marathon



Gary Spalter from Kutsinhira dancing with the girls during his visit

Mentorship

In 2022 Tariro received funding from Kutsinhira Arts Cultural Centre to implement a mentorship and sexual and reproductive health project. Tariro board member Fatima Madondo mobilized many of her contacts who volunteered by leading mentorship sessions. The purpose of this project was to create a space where girls felt empowered through participation, dialogue, and interaction with mentors on issues pertaining to their lives, goals, and overall well-being. A key message was delaying sexual activity to prevent HIV/AIDS and teenage pregnancies.



Mentorship sessions

Fundraising Initiatives in Zimbabwe

Corporate philanthropy in Zimbabwe continues to be a vital source of support for Tariro. In 2022, Tariro received financial support from two corporate partners. The first, CBZ Holdings, is a Zimbabwean financial services conglomerate that owns subsidiaries in banking, insurance, investments, wealth management, mortgages, and retail finance. True to its motto, "Partners for Success," CBZ Holdings has offered Tariro funding for several years running. In 2022, CBZ Holdings donated ZWL 431,426, which Tariro used to pay university fees for tertiary students.

Our second corporate partner, Charlie Stevens International, is an international freight forwarding company providing freight forwarding, customs clearing, logistics support, warehousing, and distribution at a global scale. In late 2022, Charlie Stevens International volunteered to sponsor school fees and related costs for one of our primary students, Tanyaradzwa T.



Cheque presentation to Tariro students by CBZ Holdings at CBZ Holdings headquarters, Harare

LOOKING AHEAD

In 2023, Tariro will celebrate its twentieth anniversary working to educate and empower young women and girls as a response to Zimbabwe's HIV/AIDS epidemic. As we approach our third decade as a grassroots non-profit, we continue to focus on our primary goal of enabling orphaned and vulnerable girls to complete their secondary school education. We are also organizing a number of special activities to celebrate our twentieth anniversary, including a contact tracing study and reunion for our former students, and a project to introduce students in our traditional music and dance group to a new instrument, Zimbabwe's iconic mbira dzavadzimu.

Please support Tariro...

...by sending a cheque to:

TARIRO: HOPE AND HEALTH FOR ZIMBABWE'S ORPHANS
PO BOX 50273,
EUGENE, OR 97405,
USA

...or by making a secure donation via [PayPal](#)

Tatenda! Siyabonga! Thank you!

Your gift means everything and truly makes a huge difference!

Your support for Tariro improves educational opportunities for girls, lowers adolescents' risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, and enables young women to avoid early marriage and childbirth. Together, we can ensure that the next generation of Zimbabwean girls looks forward to a future of hope and health.



The girls at one of the mentorship sessions (L to R:-Lonelisher C., Makanaka K., Trish M., Natasha R.)

We hope you will stay engaged and updated on our endeavors throughout the year via our [website](#), [Facebook page](#), and [YouTube channel](#).

THE TARIRO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are a diverse, international group with a love for Zimbabwe. We are sincerely grateful for your support!

Barb Roberts, President, Canada
Lauri Benblatt, Secretary, USA (outgoing)
Tendai Ngirandi*, Treasurer, France

Stephanie Bengtsson*, Austria
Fatima Vimbai Madondo*, USA
Tony Perman, USA (incoming)
Karen Nyawera*, USA (outgoing)
Miranda Waltz-Peters, USA
Tessa Woods, USA (outgoing)

**Denotes members who are from Zimbabwe*

We owe a debt of gratitude to the hardworking Tariro team in Zimbabwe, Simbarashe Crispen Kanyimo, Daniel Inasiyo, and Vera Goteka, and our trusted volunteer, Marilyn Mohr for her wonderful support.

After five years as Tariro's social worker, Vera is leaving us for her next adventure! We would like to take the opportunity to thank her for the incredible support she has provided to our girls, particularly during the pandemic and to wish her every success in the future!

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.