



A ROUND TABLE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Libraries Seeking Sisters

Zambia, Chab's Community Library and Information Services

Address: Chifundo Street, Chawama Compound, Lusaka, Lusaka Province 10101, Zambia

Phone: 260 968 886 787

Population Served: 5,000-24,999

Type of Library: Public Library

Preferred Language of Communication: English

Other Languages: Local languages such as Bemba, Nyanja, Chitonga

Contact (first name/last name): Johnstone Chabamba

Title: Executive Director

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Region Preferred: Any English-speaking countries as the center collections and the programs we run for our clientele are in English, thus we can collaborate well once we have English speaking partners.

Reason for wanting a Sister Library Relationship: Gain access to new professional skills, Learn about a particular geographic area, Collaborate on a new program or service, Share my library's professional experience and expertise with another library institution

Preferred Projects: Library staff training, Technical services, Reference services, Collection development, Cultural programs or services, Youth programs or services, Health information programs or services, Employment programs or services, Technology access programs or services

Notes: Chab's Community Library and Information Service is a non-profit, non-governmental organization formed to provide information to the poor communities who have difficulties in accessing developmental information. The organization has a center where various reading materials are stocked and where various people come to search for the needed information. It is situated in the shanty compound of

Lusaka with a view to expand to other places where the vulnerable are. Our organization is purely established to help the poor people in the communities of Zambia. It was formed after seeing the downfall of the reading culture and the increase of poverty levels in our communities due to illiteracy. Our vision is to ensure that Zambian poor communities are provided relevant reading materials and good reading programs so as to improve their living standards through reading and writing. The generation to come must sustain itself through education, not illiteracy. Therefore, collection of timely, relevant and accurate reading materials are encouraged at our organization center. We run children's reading and writing programs and competitions. We do this through partitioning the communities in Zones and selecting schools to compete. We do guide the children who are slow in catching up with reading and writing at the center. In future we intend to expand the center to have more children and enable watching various television programs and selected audio and visual programs. In addition we are for the debate competition in the identified communities and Schools. We also intend to introduce internet at the center so that children can be able to search from various Children Websites. We have also a community Library program where we inform the community what is happening in their residential area. We do this by having a blackboard outside the center and document any important latest event in the area. The essential commodity prices have their own board. As a community Library, we also provide information on rentals in the suburbs. We have also reading collections for old people. We intend to offer literacy programs for the older people so that they can be reading and writing and also make informed decisions on whatever they do. If funds are available we intend to sponsor some of the vulnerable but viable children to schools so that they can have a better future and at last we have a generation of good citizens of Zambia. Sister Libraries program is a good program as it ensures that the Libraries are linked together and the world becomes small in our profession. We hope from time to time there will be an evaluation to see how this program has performed over time.

Last Updated: April 2013

