

Jonathan's Impact Orphan Ministries

February 2019 Newsletter

Political and Economic Crisis in Zimbabwe

After the hope for a new era of change and prosperity with the election of a new Zimbabwean president in 2018, Zimbabwe is again beset by skyrocketing inflation, record high fuel costs (equivalent to \$13.50 a gallon), food shortages, and desperate Zimbabweans protesting in the streets, only to find themselves persecuted by police. For more information about these heartbreaking developments in a country beset by poverty and turmoil, check out these and other articles:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/video/2019/jan/16/what-is-happening-in-zimbabwe-video-report>

<https://abcnews.go.com/beta-story-container/International/wireStory/zimbabwe-forces-total-internet-shutdown-amid-unrest-60462190>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-46917259>

And for a humorous article written by a Zimbabwean about the situation:

<https://www.zimbabwesituation.com/news/only-misled-terrorists-demonise-peoples-govt/>

Christian Alliance for Orphans Conference 2019 – Can you help us?

Rather than travel to Africa for their annual mission trip this year, the DiLeo's will be bringing the leaders of the Chileleko Children's Home, Pastors Peter and Beauty Mabasa, and Home Directors Conald and Lucia Dandahuni, to the United States for the Christian Alliance for Orphans International Conference in Louisville, Kentucky in May of 2019. The conference will provide teaching on researched based best practices for orphan care, including starting church based foster care ministries for orphans and vulnerable children. An individual donor has generously provided for the cost of their airline tickets. Jonathan's Impact will cover the costs of the conference fees only; other costs, including hotel, food, and touring will be covered privately by the DiLeo's. After the conference on May 8 – 10, the African team will come to Covington, LA for a week to tour the area and meet local donors. If you would like to join us for the conference, we would love to have you come along! If you are coming, let us know within a week so that we can include you at our Air B&B location in Louisville. **We are looking for families to house one or both couples for all or part of their stay for the nights of May 4 – 6 and May 11 – 18. Volunteers are also needed to take our visitors touring on the Northshore and in New Orleans; four days of availability for volunteers to help with touring remain open. (The costs of touring for the guests will be covered.) If you would like to host our African guests for a meal, that also would be very welcome.** Let's show our African missionaries some southern Louisiana hospitality! If you can help, please contact us as soon as possible (Cassy DiLeo 985-273-9822 or Steve DiLeo 985-249-1612).

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Our Newest Resident!

This young lady named Vimbainashe, which means Trust in the Lord, arrived at The Chileleko Home in December of 2018. She came from a home in which there was "all kinds of abuse." She had never been to school, but started for the first time this semester. We pray that she experience full healing and new hope at the Chileleko Home.

CROP REPORTS

Tonderai Gatora, a Zimbabwean Christian and supporter of the Chileleko Home, has dedicated a percentage of his farmlands, Harvest Fields, solely for the support of the Chileleko Home, with the goal of moving the home towards self-sufficiency. However, his efforts were undermined in November and December of 2018 when the Zimbabwean government chose to expand a nearby highway and seized part of the farmland for this expansion. Compensation for the lost crops and revenue on this portion of land have been promised by the government, but has yet to be paid. More crops have since been planted on other portions of the land and harvest is anticipated in the next few months.

