

HIGH FIVE CLUB

changing lives, £5 at a time

Clean Water Provision, Zambia

Clean water is essential for life, but one in eight people in the world do not have access to safe water. Many women and children living in rural areas in developing countries spend hours each day walking many kilometres to collect water from unprotected sources such as muddy dugouts or streams.

Carrying the heavy water containers back home is an exhausting task, which takes up valuable time and energy. It often prevents women from doing vital domestic or income generating work and stops children from going to school.



Diarrhoeal diseases caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation, such as cholera, typhoid and dysentery, are common across the developing world, killing one child every 20 seconds – that's 4,000 children every single day.

As one of the poorest countries in Africa, Zambians suffer more than most in not having access to safe drinking water. When recently discussing development priorities with local leaders in their home chiefdom of

Mnkhanya in Zambia's Luangwa Valley, High Five Club's Manny and Cheryl Mvula were not surprised to hear that these elders put clean water provision as their community's number one development need.

High Five Club Support:

In response to a request from community leaders, the High Five Club aims to invest in improving clean water provision for thousands of rural people in Zambia's Luangwa Valley over the next few years. The High Five Club has over time cemented a close relationship with the community in Mnkhanya Chiefdom, so much so that everyone living there is aware of the High Five Club's support of development in their community. Our reach is significant in changing lives for the better of thousands of people in this community – from educational and food security (poultry) projects through to women's alternative livelihood initiatives and health care provision.

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This month we are working hand in hand with the Mnkhanya Community Resource Board to kick start our support of safe water provision in the Luangwa Valley, by bringing clean and accessible water to over 1,000 people in the Malimba area, through the construction of two hand-dug wells in the heart of this community – the first water project ever to be undertaken by the High Five Club.

Our collective support of £1,230 is funding the labour costs of digging and constructing the 2 wells, along with the cement, brickforce wire and winding systems. The community has contributed the bricks, all of which have been hand-made by themselves in their villages, along with collecting the sand from a neighbouring dry river bed.

The wells are currently nearing completion (see photos below) and will be ready for drawing water within the next week, much to the great joy of the people there. A water committee has been set up for each to ensure that the community takes ownership for keeping the wells uncontaminated and in a good state of repair into the future.

We will keep you updated as your contributions to the High Five Club enable more wells to be built in this community. **For more information contact Cheryl@highfiveclub.co.uk**



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