



## **Message from the President**

At the opening ceremony for the Lubuto Mthunzi American Youth Library, I quoted a Zambian proverb that is at the core of what Lubuto is about: "Imiti iikula, e mpanga...growing trees make a forest!" These libraries exist to help children—especially the most vulnerable—grow into thriving adults. Even more than that, however, they exist so that these young people can truly be a part of the forest, rooted deeply in their cultures and communities.

Trees certainly kept growing in 2017! Between the Lubuto Model Library at Ngwerere, the Mumuni Library in Nabukuyu, and the brand new Mthunzi Library, more than 16,000 children visited the libraries over 150,000 times during the year! Some of those visits were to explore the libraries' collections and technology. Others were to enjoy storytime, to participate in art, drama and other enriching programs or to develop leadership and life skills through innovative mentoring sessions. The important thing is that no matter what brings youth to the libraries, they always find a safe, welcoming and engaging environment where they can grow and learn.

2017 was also a year with some exciting firsts for Lubuto. The Mthunzi Library was our first whose construction and stocking was supported by USAID's American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA)—and in this case, generously cofinanced by Judie Feedham. ASHA is also funding the Choma Library currently under construction in Southern Province, and we hope to continue this relationship through more grants in the future! We also celebrated the kick-off of Lubuto's DREAMS program this year, and activities are underway to help girls become Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored and Safe.

These were certainly not the only celebrations at Lubuto this year. In March, we held our 1st Annual Librarian Training Workshop in partnership with the Library and Information Association of Zambia (LIAZ), an important step forward in equipping Zambian librarians to effectively serve children and youth. In May, we inaugurated a kiosk at the Lubuto Model Library to encourage the sale of Zambian literature from the Zambian Educational Publishing House. In September, Eleni Coromvli's design for the Mumuni Library received a Special Mention in the New Buildings category of the International Union of Architects' Friendly and Inclusive Spaces Awards.

As Lubuto continues to move forward, we will hold steadfastly to the conviction that inspired us from the start—that open-access public libraries offer a unique and effective means to promote the education and well-being of all Zambian youth. Within that vision, however, we continue to innovate, learn and adapt so that with each year that passes, our partnerships become stronger and the Lubuto model becomes more transformative.

Jane Kinney Meyers
President & Board Chairman



LUBUTO LIBRARY PARTNERS 2017 annual report

"We wanted to challenge the kids by disorganizing the puzzle. Now it's difficult for us! We need a child to help us!"



IN 2017,

16,055

**CHILDREN VISITED THE LIBRARIES** 

153,574

**TIMES** 

THROUGH DREAMS MENTORING,

100%

OF THOSE REFERRED COMPLETED HIV TESTING

SINCE THE **LAUNCH OF** DREAMS,

389

**GIRLS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN** HORIZON-**BROADENING FIELDTRIPS** 

## 2 TEENS

FROM LUBUTO DRAMA WERE CAST IN THE INTERNATIONALLY
AWARD-WINNING FILM
I AM NOT A WITCH

A GROUP OF TEENAGERS

**WALKS 6 HRS** 

ROUNDTRIP TO VISIT THE MTHUNZI LIBRARY ON FRIDAYS 2 DEAF VOLUNTEERS
FACILITATE ZAMBIAN
SIGN
LANGUAGE
STORYTIME
3X PER WEEK
AT THE LUBUTO
MODEL LIBRARY



"This fish and I have a thing in common. We both have a bright smile!"

# The Lubuto Mthunzi American Youth Library (LMAYL)

On June 8th, 2017, U.S. Ambassador Eric Schultz, LMAYL cofunder Judie Feedham and her family, government officials, representatives from African and Zambian libraries and library associations, members of the diplomatic corps, local clergy and over 200 community members and school children gathered in Lusaka West to officially open the new Lubuto Mthunzi American Youth Library (LMAYL). This new library is hosted by the Mthunzi Centre, a community-based organization that provides shelter, food, education, vocational training, sports and recreation, health services and counseling, outreach and an empowerment program for mothers. The festivities began with a performance of Zambia's national anthem by Mthunzi children, followed by speeches highlighting the importance of public libraries in supporting the rights of all youth as well as in fostering the growth of dignity, imagination and resilience in their lives.

Ministry of General Education representative Mr. Jeremiah Mwamba proclaimed the Mthunzi Library "...a major step towards attaining education for all," and the celebration continued with a lively dance performanc by the Mthunzi





Cultural Group, an inspiring poetry performance by Girls Filled with Determination and tours of the library for dignitaries and the most honored guests—the children themselves.

As the only public library in Lusaka West—a diverse peri-urban part of Lusaka—users from rural areas and farms as well as from densely-populated compounds are drawn to the LMAYL. Through its inclusive resources and programming, the library supports the Mthunzi Centre in reaching its goal of "giving power to children so that they can have a better future." LMAYL has become a central force in building bonds of tolerance and mutual understanding between the varied groups of vulnerable, stigmatized children and youth the Centre serves—including young mothers, children with disabilities and former street children.

"This library is...a visible symbol of the partnership that exists between the American people and the Zambian people."

U.S. Ambassador to Zambia Eric Schultz



"She's a female computer engineer, and I want to be like her when I grow up!"



"I think if a girl is good in mathematics, she changes the whole society because a girl/woman is good in teaching and sharing information to others, so I want to be a lecturer in science."



"I like the library. I like reading and learning how to read. When I grow up, I want to be a doctor. This is a picture of me as a doctor in the future!"

# DREAMS Unlocking girls' DREAMS WORKING TOGETHER FOR AN ALIES FREE FUTURE FOR GIRGS AN WOMEN

The HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa has disproportionately affected girls and young women—who account for an alarming 74% of new infections among adolescents, with more than 1,000 new infections every day. In 2016, Lubuto was awarded a DREAMS Innovation Challenge Grant—funded by PEPFAR and managed by JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc.—to develop library programming aimed at keeping girls in school and AIDS-free.

One of the programs begun under DREAMS was a scholarship fund to help girls go back to or stay in secondary school. A study in Botswana showed that one additional year in secondary school cuts girls' risk of HIV nearly in half, and thanks to crowd-sourced fundraising over the summer of 2017, we were able to award 53 complete scholarship packages—including tuition, school uniforms, shoes, sanitary napkins and supplies—to girls in Zambia for the following school year. While our DREAMS grant ends in September 2018, the Lubuto scholarship program will continue as an annual campaign that continues to empower girls to stay in school until graduation.



Determined

Resilient

**Empowered** 

**AIDS-Free** 

Mentored

Safa







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"We are able to handle our everyday challenges with what we learned in mentoring!"



"I'll be coming to this library about every day!"



"Today, I woke up very early in the morning, and I was the first one to arrive at the library. I even took a bath before coming so that I look clean when coming to the library. I am happy to be here, and I will be coming every day!"





"I want to become a commando. I'm helping to keep order at the library!"

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"My parents moved here from the village to get a better life. I like this place because it teaches me a lot about computers. I still have not yet had the opportunity to go to school. I can't wait to go to school and learn more about computers!"



"I'm so happy! I passed my Grade 7 exams last year. Now I am in Grade 8 at **Burma School.**"



"Kids made a crown out of new toys and gave it to me to be a prince. I love working with kids. You can call me Prince True Zee."

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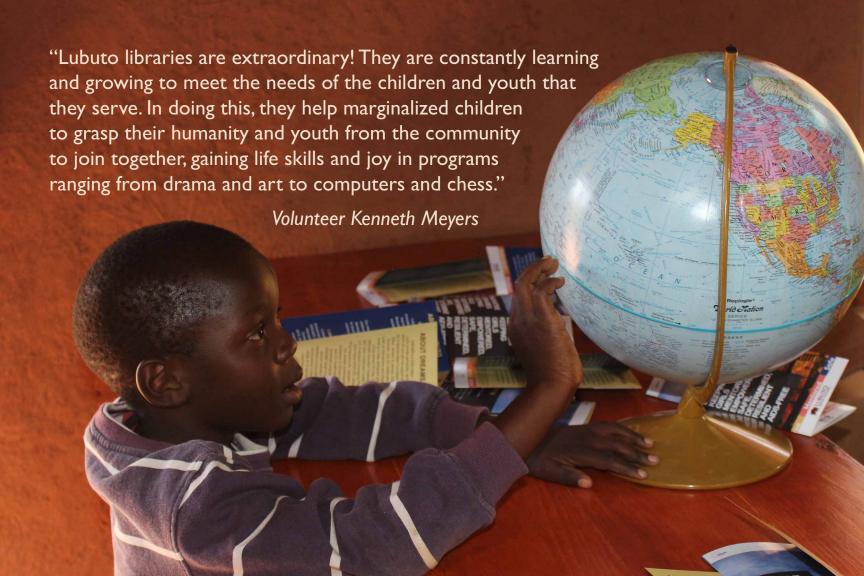
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"In the Connie Winterstein time ahead, you will be able to find out for yourselves why this library is your special place. It is a safe' place that is open to all of the children and youth in this community. A place where you all belong."

President Jane Kinney Meyers



#### **About Lubuto**

Lubuto Library Partners is an innovative development organization that builds the capacity of African libraries to create opportunities for equitable education and poverty reduction. Our mission is to enlighten and enrich the lives of children and youth in sub-Saharan Africa, especially those not in school and highly vulnerable.

We construct enduring openaccess libraries whose design is inspired by traditional and contemporary social, economic and cultural patterns and which freely offer comprehensive collections of well-chosen books and technology resources. These libraries serve as safe havens and are the center for dynamic library programming offering education, psychosocial support and self-expression through reading, music, art, drama, computers, mentoring and other activities.

We maintain a continuous learning relationship for children and youth public library services with a growing network of Lubuto libraries owned and operated by Zambian organizations, developing a model poised to scale regionally.

#### **LUBUTO'S OBJECTIVES**

- Create open access to childfriendly, culture-specific and well-equipped learning environments
- Support holistic development and advocate for the rights of all children and youth, especially the marginalized
- · Build capacity of communities and educators to provide high-quality educational, information and social services to children and youth.

#### **LUBUTO'S APPROACH**

- Identify target community and hosts
- Build library facilities reflecting indigenous culture
- · Provide great collections and resources
- Carry out effective outreach

- Provide youth library services training
- Monitor and evaluate libraries' impact for advocacy

#### **LUBUTO'S CORE VALUES**

Lubuto's core values reflect our understanding of education and participation in society as human rights. We believe in:

#### integrity

We strive to identify and meet the true needs of children, youth and communities.

#### inclusion

Lubuto Libraries are open to all children while focusing on the most disadvantaged.

#### self-determination

We believe that children and communities are capable and resourceful and we empower them to create positive change in their own lives.

#### innovation

We promote a new paradigm for children's library services and public libraries.

#### partnership

We understand that we cannot achieve our vision alone.

#### local ownership

Local ownership and stewardship is fundamental to sustainability and relevance to society.

#### gender equality

We reach out to and integrate girls without excluding boys.

#### participation

We believe that children and youth have the right to have their voices heard and participate in decision-making that affects their lives.

#### balance

We value and respect local tradition while incorporating best technological advances.

#### transparency

We scrupulously monitor our internal management and financial systems and communicate openly and honestly about our work.

#### respect

We respect the priorities of the host country, the local communities and cultures and the individuals we are serving.

2017 annual report

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## Financials (January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017)

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash	\$392,812
Prepaid expenses	\$10,644
Property and equipment (net)	\$117,516
Total Assets	\$520,972
Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$82,638
Deferred revenue	\$116,177
Total liabilities	\$198,815
Net assets	
Unrestricted	\$271,103
Temporarily restricted	\$51,054
Total net assets	\$322,157
Total liabilities and net assets	\$520 972

Financial statements audited by John Wall, CPA

#### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

#### **Support and revenues**

Corporate contributions	\$4,757
Donated goods and services	\$62,539
Individual contributions	\$103,969
Foundation grants	\$19,573
Federal government grants	\$230,326
Institution grants	\$337,911
Other income	\$14,214
Net gain on currency translation	\$4,131
Total support and revenues	\$777,420

#### **Expenses**

\$797,918
\$33,432
\$4,401
\$835,751



**FUNDRAISING** 





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