

mary's
meals

a simple solution
to world hunger

NAME OF SCHOOL, MPAPA PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHIPANGALI DISTRICT, ZAMBIA
SPONSORED BY FAMILY ACE

♂ NUMBER OF BOYS: 264

♀ NUMBER OF GIRLS: 274

TOTAL ENROLMENT: 538

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A SCHOOL**

SPONSOR A SCHOOL

A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER

Ever since we started working with two small communities in Malawi to serve the first Mary's Meals more than two decades ago, we have known that daily meals served in a place of education can make a profound difference to children living in poverty and the opportunities they have available to them. Today, children are experiencing food insecurity and extreme hunger at even higher levels than before, and our daily meals are a lifeline to millions of children and their families.

Thank you for making such a meaningful commitment to this vital work by sponsoring a school – your support is truly changing lives.

Whether this is a personal gift or a group fundraising project for you, I understand that it is no small decision to dedicate yourself to the task of funding meals for every child in a school, and I want to assure you – on behalf of every child who receives these daily school meals and every person in their wider community who benefits from this work – we appreciate all that you do.

I want you to know that you are not only helping to address classroom hunger and giving children the gift of consistent, nutritious school meals, you are contributing to an improvement in their happiness and wellbeing, as well as their readiness to learn and chances of progressing through education.

Recent research collected as we introduced our programme to new schools in Zimbabwe found that: before we began serving meals, 44% of children felt worried about hunger in school, but this dropped to just 3% after the meals began. Isn't it wonderful that this work we all play a part in is not just giving children vital sustenance and the chance to learn, but it's also relieving anxieties and

giving children the chance to be children!

Please never underestimate the incredible impact your dedication and generosity are having. These meals you have pledged to help us provide are supporting children to attend school and helping to transform the whole community. Thank you for all that you do.

MAGNUS MACFARLANE-BARROW

Founder and CEO

Mary's Meals International



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ABOUT THE SCHOOL

At Mary's Meals, we believe in the power of a meal. Our 20 years of experience has shown us that a daily school meal has hugely positive immediate and long-term improvements to a child's life. We are helping break the cycle of poverty by ensuring the children gain an education, setting them up for a brighter future with better employment prospects.

- ▶ We serve those suffering most acutely the effects of hunger, those who are most likely to miss school because of hunger, and those who are marginalised and neglected
- ▶ Our programmes are owned and run by local communities and thousands of volunteers who share our vision
- ▶ Mary's Meals is conscious of the need to minimise the environmental impact of our activities. We strive to prevent, reduce and control the risk of environmental harm in all of our programmes
- ▶ We keep our running costs low to allow us to reach as many children as possible. We are committed to minimizing our environmental impact and promoting sustainability in our programmes
- ▶ We make a long-term commitment to the communities we support because we recognise that the benefits of education can take a long time to materialise



MPAPA PRIMARY SCHOOL

FACT FILE

ZAMBIA

We are currently feeding more than 400,000 children in Zambia.
A typical school meal consists of a corn and soya porridge that is fortified with essential vitamins and minerals.

This year, we are celebrating 10 years of Mary's Meals feeding children in Zambia!

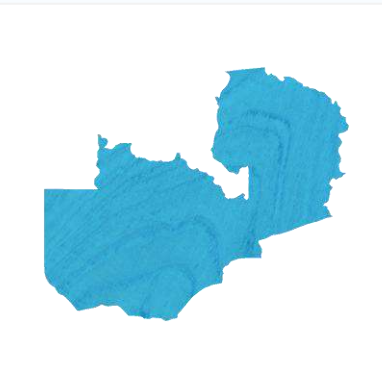
Our school feeding programme operates in 11 districts in the Eastern Province, and we are the main provider of school meals in all areas where we work.

Food insecurity is very high across the country because of the vulnerability of smallholder farmers to unpredictable weather and natural disasters over the past decade.

For families who don't have enough food to eat at home, attending school often cannot be

a priority. Although school enrolment levels are high because of the country's free education policy, almost half a million primary school-age children remain out of school.

In recent years, we have more than doubled the size of our programme in Zambia. We deliver a consistent and efficient programme and work closely with communities, supporters, the Zambian Ministry of Education and other key stakeholders to keep our promise to the children who receive Mary's Meals.



- ▶ In Zambia, 34.6% of children under five have stunted growth.
- ▶ Around 61.35 % of the population lives below the international poverty line of \$2.15 USD a day.

Left
A volunteer prepare the corn and soya porridge.

A map of Zambia, where we serve meals in 11 districts across the Eastern Province.



MPAPA PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN

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TESTIMONIAL

“I am Veronica and a Grade 7 pupil from Mutolo Village. Every morning, I wake up early and leave home at 05:00 to reach school by 06:20. I live with my grandmother and hope to join Gonda Secondary School next year. One day, I dream of becoming a nurse. At school, I enjoy playing netball, and at home I help my grandmother with chores such as washing dishes, sweeping, and cleaning. My friends describe me as joyful and friendly, and I enjoy spending time with others. I do not bring food from home, so the porridge served at school is very important to me. It gives me energy, helps me concentrate in class, and allows me to participate fully, even on mornings when there is nothing to eat at home. The school feeding programme makes it possible for me to learn, stay motivated, and look forward to each school day.”

VERONICA

Student



VERONICA

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TESTIMONIAL

“My name is Eneya, I am a Grade 7 pupil from Mutolo Village. Each day, I leave home at 05:00 and arrive at school by 05:15. I live with my mother, who grows maize, groundnuts, and soya beans. I dream of attending Gonda Day Secondary School for Grade 8 and one day becoming a teacher. At school, I enjoy playing football, and at home I help my mother with gardening and other farming activities. I do not bring food from home, so the porridge served at school is important for me. It gives me the energy to concentrate in class and participate fully in my lessons.”

ENEYA

Student



ENEYA

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TESTIMONIAL

“My name is Sue, I am 23 years old and from Chindola Village. I started volunteering as a school cook in 2022, preparing meals for pupils every Thursday on a rotational schedule organised by our village headman. Reflecting on my own school days, I remember there was no school feeding programme, so I understand how important it is for today's learners. Seeing the children enjoy their meals and smile fills me with pride. The porridge gives them the energy and motivation to attend school, even on days when their families cannot provide breakfast. It is truly rewarding to play a part in supporting their education and wellbeing.”

SUE

Volunteer cook at Mpapa Primary School, Zambia



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TESTIMONIAL

“My name is Juliet Banda, and I have been teaching at Mpapa Primary School for the past four years. I currently teach Grade 1. The school attendance has steadily improved, particularly before the harvest season. Last year, 36 pupils passed while only three failed. I have witnessed first hand the positive impact of the school feeding programme on our learners. Children are more motivated to attend school because they know they will receive a nutritious meal, which has improved their concentration and participation in class. The programme has also strengthened cooperation between parents and school staff, fostering a greater sense of community. It not only supports children's education but also brings the community together, and I believe it should continue for the benefit of every learner.”

BANDA JULIET

Senior Teacher



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

With special thanks to

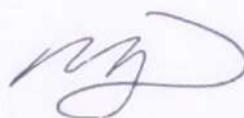
Family Ace, Czech Republic

For sponsoring feeding at

Mpapa Primary School

Mary's Meals is a global movement of people from all walks of life, united by the belief that no child should endure a day without a meal. We work alongside some of the world's poorest communities to set up school feeding programmes in places where poverty and hunger often prevent children from gaining an education.

THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!



Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow
Founder and CEO
Mary's Meals International

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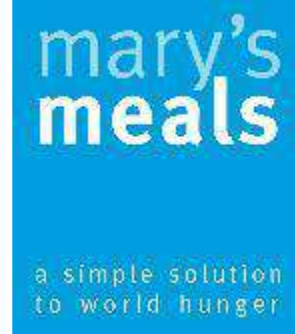
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THANK YOU!

marysmeals.org



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