

We actually rode past Lusaka last week, near the end of the week. We stayed on the highway because it would not have been an easy city to cycle through. The capital and largest city of Zambia, the population of “greater Lusaka” is about 2.5 million.

A FEW WORDS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION by Gail Greenberg, Regina G4G, in 2016:  
(<http://grandmothers4grandmothersregina.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/G4GReginaNewsletterAugust2016.pdf>)

“Poignant would accurately describe many of my moments in Africa, however, there is one reflection I would like to share, something that resonated with me and will drive my volunteerism going forward. When I asked one of the founders of the **Twawwane (School) Home-Based Care Initiative** in **Lusaka, Zambia** for a ballpark figure of the funds the organization, devoted to home-care and attentiveness to OVC (orphaned and vulnerable children), receives from the SLF I thought to myself, ‘well, that’s what *Art from the Attic* [a Regina G4G annual fundraiser] raised this past year’. As I visited a 5-person child-led household, all orphaned due to the deaths of their parents from AIDS seven years ago, and the one-room concrete-walled and floored home of a 60+ year-old Gogo parenting three grandchildren under the ages of seven, I had a mental lightning moment. G4G Regina holds a fundraiser, and the money raised could, hypothetically, fund some of the operating costs of the work done by the Gogo home-care workers of THBCI. I was experiencing, up front and personal, how the work WE do as Grandmothers and Others, facilitates the work the GOGOS do and I tell you, it was a humbling and proud moment. I share this with you because not all of us will visit a project that receives funding from the SLF, witness such transparency, see how our labours of dedication and solidarity play out in the real world. A simple tale, yes, however one that I hope encourages and empowers you to continue to invest your energy in the Grandmothers Campaign, raising awareness of and funds for the SLF.”

Twawwane School was established in 2003 by a group of social workers in a slum area of Lusaka where there is no state primary school. Average class sizes are 70 pupils and many malnourished HIV+ children attend as its volunteers are trained health carers and the school supplies free meals to its 530 pupils. The need for the home care workers became obvious early on, as many of the children’s issues were rooted in their families, and there were older siblings who also needed help.

From a SLF Facebook post (<https://www.facebook.com/stephenlewisfdn/photos/pcb.10154402527758818/10154402521608818/?type=3>):



Twawwane's home-based care workers provide community awareness education and girl child protection services in the communities where orphans and vulnerable children attending the school live.

*Comment from Carol T: She is a wonderful young woman, who will go places. She is the new face of African women, taking over from their gogos. I have met her.*

*Comment from Gail W: This young woman started a peer group to engage her fellow students to openly speak about sexuality and HIV&AIDS. She will be one of the young women that can reduce the infection rate of adolescents in Africa. I know because I met her!*

