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LOHA LETTER MAY 2024 EDITION



WHATS INSIDE

Mother's Day Tribute Meet the LOHA Mums Our Prayer

MEET THE MUMS

The Land of Hope isn't just a place of hope for the children. It also serves as a beacon of light for the widowed house mums who call LOHA home. These women have faced unimaginable trials, coming from backgrounds marked by pain, abuse, and betrayal.

Today, they wake up with joy and compassion every morning while caring for the children. They provide nourishing meals, assist with homework, teach hygiene practices, and impart valuable life lessons - much like the nurturing roles of mothers everywhere. The mums also receive necessities such as clothing, shelter, nutritious meals, and a monthly stipend.

MEET PRISCA, 59

Written by Meg Gold, LOHA Board of Directors

Prisca, 59, courageously raised her three sons as a single mother. She ran a restaurant in Central Zambia to make ends meet while obtaining a certificate In preschool education. Despite facing severe hardships, Prisca remembers times when she and her children did not eat more than the times they did. Times with no clothes to wear but enough to hide their bodies. Recalling many moments of despair, she also remembers the kindness of individuals who supported her during challenging times. Along the way, Prisca's faith in God blossomed, prompting her to walk away from the restaurant, which had been a negative environment with experiences of abuse. As her children entered their teenage years, the family faced difficult circumstances, leading to separation.

Prisca's life took a turn when she met Davis Daka at church, who introduced her to LOHA. Despite initially feeling unsure about this unfamiliar territory, Prisca felt compelled to get involved, driven by her faith and desire to help needy children. Her heart is tender and multiplies.

She shared what she loves most about LOHA, which is that she has provisions to give to children for the first time in her life. She couldn't provide anything for her kids, but she can here. Here, she can cook the food and put the kids in a warm bed. That motherly instinct lives in everyone, whether you have provisions or not. She is wise, grounded, and mature — the grandma of the group. Every Sunday night, all the kids gather in her home, and they learn a memory verse for the week, and she conducts a Bible study. She runs the kitchen, she runs the feeding program, and she is the guiding light.

LOOK AFTER THE ORPHANS & WIDOWS



MEET NZALI, 36

Nzali, 36 years old, was married with three children and was pregnant with her fourth child when her husband was tragically killed in an accident. She became a widow while expecting her youngest child. After accepting Christ, she connected with a church where Pastor Davis Daka offered support. At that time, Nzali found herself a new widow with four children, three elder kids who were being cared for by her sister, and her unborn who entered the LOHA grounds with her.

She found peace at LOHA with her newborn and resides there with other mums who are provided with clothing and a monthly income. This financial support enables Nzali to care for her older children, who are now in boarding school. Nzali is a vibrant soul known for singing and dancing and encouraging the children to join in. She shares her African cultural traditions by sharing her tips on African hair care with young girls, potentially paving the way for them to learn a trade in the future.

MEET FESTA, 59

Festa, a 51-year-old widow with adult children, has persevered through challenging circumstances and a difficult past. Facing hardships and abuse on the streets, she was taken advantage of and forced into unwanted circumstances. Judy Daka, observing Festa's deteriorating state with each encounter, extended a compassionate hand to her. Judy listened to Festa's story, recognized her resilience, and welcomed her into the haven of LOHA.

Upon visiting LOHA and feeling the warmth of its community, Festa made the courageous decision to stay. With Judy's support and the embrace of LOHA's environment, Festa found solace and a sense of belonging. Through friendship, understanding, and a renewed sense of safety, Festa was able to start a new chapter caring for the children of LOHA.

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MY PRAYER

I hope that we all take to heart the message from James 1:27, encouraging us to care for orphans and widows, and take time to reflect on how we can each contribute to this important calling.

MUM DIRECTORS

Judy, 65, a devoted mother of six, faced the heartbreaking loss of her son last year, leaving her to care for his two daughters in addition to the children of LOHA. Despite her challenges, Judy remains strong and committed to her family, many of whom are involved in running an orphanage or leading a church in Lusaka. Her unwavering faith and active participation in women's ministries and church leadership demonstrate her dedication to serving her

Medi, 30, another remarkable woman at Land of Hope, arrived as a new bride and has since welcomed two children. As a key figure in managing the house mums, she spearheads initiatives to promote hygiene and introduce new household practices such as running water, soap, and toothbrushes. Medi ensures that the house mums can access essential home supplies, including homework materials and other necessities.