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# CWR UPDATE



The Covenant World Relief Quarterly Newsletter

WINTER 2013/14

## Zimele: Gracious Zulu Hospitality

Visiting Covenant World Relief partners is always inspiring for me because I get to see first-hand God's transforming work in the lives of individuals and communities. Recently CWR advisory team members Debbie Blue, Robert Owens, and John Tanagho joined me on a trip to South Africa to visit Zimele, a Christian organization that seeks to empower Zulu women. These women form Self Help Groups (SHGs) in which they meet regularly to build up their

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savings, take out loans for small businesses, study the Bible, pray, and encourage one another.

As we visited several SHGs we heard how the women and their families were being changed. Not only that, we also heard how the women in these groups are seeking to change their communities. Many of the SHGs have started

kindergartens and programs for youth. Most of the groups we visited were actively engaged in caring for orphans whose parents had died of HIV/AIDS. Their goal is to make it possible for these children to be raised in families in the community, rather than be placed in an institution.

Near the end of our trip we visited a remote village where the women of one SHG had pooled their savings and started a bed and breakfast. The four of us had the privilege of being their first customers. The women worked together to cook us a delicious meal of local delicacies. After the meal our hosts performed traditional Zulu singing and dancing. Near



Recent visit to South Africa by Covenant World Relief staff and advocates.

the end of the performance the women asked each one of us to dance for them. This was my least favorite part of our stay, but I think we provided our hosts with some good laughs as they watched our awkward attempts at Zulu dancing. That night we slept in traditional Zulu beehive huts that the women

had helped to construct. After a hearty breakfast we said our goodbyes and left praising God for his work through Zimele, inspired by women whose lives have been transformed, and thankful for ECC churches and individuals who generously give to make this partnership possible. —Dave Husby

## End of Year Gift

As we celebrate the coming of Jesus the Messiah, God's greatest gift to us, please consider giving a year-end gift to CWR that will make a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable around the world.

**For more information on CWR, or to make a donation, please visit [CovChurch.org/cwr](http://CovChurch.org/cwr) today.**



**“Truly I tell you, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not lose their reward.”** — MARK 9:41

## Zimele: Women's Empowerment in South Africa

3,800



The number of women who participate in the more than 300 Self Help Groups sponsored by Zimele.



\$73,700

The total amount of dollars saved.



4,500

The number of small-business loans provided since 2007.



260

The number of women who completed basic business training last year.

For more information and to give to CWR projects, visit our website today at [CovChurch.org/cwr](http://CovChurch.org/cwr).

## Kids Helping Kids to Focus on Haiti

The annual children's service project is now known as "Kids Helping Kids," and this year our focus is on Haiti. This project is an opportunity for children in our churches to partner with children in Haiti. This free resource includes a poster and booklet and can be found at [CovBooks.com](http://CovBooks.com). Included in the booklet are 24 stories about life in Haiti from children. In a short time (approximately five minutes), you can read a story, pray for the children in Haiti, and take an offering. The curriculum is flexible and can be used weekly for 24 weeks, monthly over the course of a year, or adapted to fit your needs. Through Kids Helping Kids, children will connect with the bigger picture of God's kingdom and provide a tangible reflection of Christ's light in the world.



New children's curriculum focuses on kids in Haiti.

## Relief and Recovery in the Philippines



Covenant World Relief is providing immediate disaster relief after Super Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. You can learn more about our recovery efforts and give at [CovChurch.org/cwr](http://CovChurch.org/cwr).

## Order Your 2014 CWR Calendar Today

The 2014 Covenant World Relief calendar is here! Featuring pictures of the people and ministries that Covenant World Relief is supporting around the world because of your generosity.

Proceeds from your purchase of the Covenant World Relief calendar support the ministry of CWR around the world.

