Footprints Foundation for Children in Zambia

ANNUAL REPORT 2025/2026

1.Introduction

During the 2025/2026 period, Footprints continued to support children living and working on the streets, with a focus on helping them return to their families and access the care and support they need.

Our primary areas of work during the year included outreach, family tracing and reintegration, health care support, home assessments, Centre placement, and burial support. We also continued collaborating with different partners and organizations to respond to the needs of the children.





2.Reintegration Programme

Reintegration remained one of our primary areas of focus during the year. The programme aims to help children return to their families or relatives where it is safe and appropriate to do so. During the reporting period,54 children were successfully reintegrated with their families. Before reintegration, efforts were made to trace families and assess the home environment to ensure that the children could return to a suitable and supportive family setting.



3.Health Care Support

Health remains an important concern among children living and working on the streets. Some children are exposed to conditions that affect their health, while others may delay seeking medical attention because they have no one to assist them.

Footprints continued to assist children who needed medical attention. Some of the children require support to access health facilities because of illness, injuries, or other health related concerns.

During the year,29 children were assisted to seek medical facilities and, where necessary, providing assistance towards their immediate medical needs.

The support provided depended on the circumstances of each child. In some situations, the immediate need was to help the child reach a health facility, while in other cases additional support was required.

Our role was also important in encouraging children to seek medical attention when they were unwell rather than continuing to stay on the streets without treatment.





4.Burial Support Programme

Footprints continued to provide support in cases where children passed away while under our care or were known to the programme.

During the reporting period,5 children died and received support through the burial support programme.

The programme is important because it helps ensure that the children are given a dignified burial, even when their families are unable to meet all the related costs.





5.Centre Placement

While family reintegration remains our preferred option where it is safe and appropriate, there are situations where a child cannot immediately return home.

Not all children were immediately able to return to their families. In some cases, children require temporary or longer-term care and protection while family tracing and assessments were being conducted. During the year,5 children were placed in appropriate care facilities. The placements were made based on the individual needs and circumstances of the children.

6.Home Assessments

Home assessments formed an important part of the reintegration process. The assessments helped us understand the child's family situation and determine whether the home environment was suitable for the child's return. During the reporting 52 homes were assessed.

The assessments also helped identify challenges that families were facing and areas where further support might be needed.



7.Partnerships and Collaboration

Partnership and collaboration remained an important part of our work during the reporting period. We recognize that the needs of children and young people living on the streets cannot be addressed by one Organization alone.

Footprints continued to collaborate with different partners and stakeholders during the 2025/2026 period. The partnerships helped strengthen the support provided to children, particularly in areas such as street outreach, healthcare, family tracing, reintegration, child protection, education, and placement.

Facilities and organizations we work with

As part of our ongoing work with children and young people, we continue to engage with a number of facilities that provide care, education, and support to children.

These facilities are also among the places we normally visit during the September volunteer programme with Mission Direct. Our Visits provide an opportunity for volunteers to learn more about the work being done, interact with the children and understand the diverse needs within the facilities.

Where appropriate, we also place children in these facilities based on their individual circumstances and needs. Photos from some of these visits are included below to give a visual reflection of the partnerships and activities that took place during the year.

Mission direct

Holycross Sisters

Fmdm Sisters

African Freedom Mission

St. Lawrence

Nsansa Boys Orphanage

Vision of Hope

Kasisi Orphanage



Saint Lawrence Boys Home




TEXAS



Ene
less Patmos Community School Visit-September Volunteer Programme



Nsansa Boy’s Orphanage



Nsansa Boys Orphanage



Nsansa Boys Orphanage

As part pf the activities during the September volunteer programme with Mission Direct, the team also holds an annual football match between Footprints (Volunteers)and the children from Nsansa.

This has become a special activity that takes place every year when the Mission Direct volunteers are in Zambia. The match gives the children an opportunity to participate in sport, have fun and interact with the Footprints team and volunteers in a relaxed environment.

The football match is more than just a game.it provides an opportunity to build relationships with the children, encourage teamwork and create positive memories together.it is always a much-anticipated activity during the volunteers visit and has become part of our annual programme.














FIT for LIFE











Meeting with African Freedom Mission

The team held a meeting with African Freedom Mission (AFM) to discuss issues affecting children and young people living on the streets. The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss interventions and ways of strengthening outreach activities.

The discussion was important in helping the team and AFM look at the challenges affecting children and consider how organizations can work together more effectively.

Ministry Partners Meeting at AFM

Vasco attended a ministry partner meeting at AFM, which was held at the Baptist meeting venue. The meeting focused on strengthening ministry partnerships, understanding the evolving operations within AFM, and discussing Memoranda of understanding (MOUs)that could help enhance collaboration and create opportunities for future partnerships.

The meeting provided an opportunity for ministry partners to share information, understand each other's work, and consider ways of strengthening collaboration going forward.

Visit by FMDM Visitors from Southern Ireland

Visitors from FMDM from Southern Ireland joined the outreach team to gain a better understanding of the work being done with children and young people living on the streets. During outreach, the children had an opportunity to share some of their experiences of street life, the challenges they face on a daily basis and their hopes for the future.

The visit gave the visitors a more direct understanding of the realities faced by children living on the streets and the importance of continued outreach and support.

Holy Cross Sisters Street Party

The Holy Cross Sisters organized a street party at Fountain of Hope. Children from Fountain of Hope together with children living on the streets, attended the event.

The event provided the children with an opportunity to come together, enjoy themselves and spend time in a positive environment.

The Sisters also donated hoodies to the children, which were gratefully received.

Activities such as these are important because work with children is not only about addressing immediate problems. Children also need opportunities to feel valued, included and cared for.

8.A Special Thank You to Our Volunteers and Friends of Footprints

We would like to extend our sincere and heartfelt appreciation to all the Volunteers and Friends of Footprints for the support they have continued to give throughout the year.

Your contribution has been much more than financial or material support. Your time, encouragement, prayers, presence, and willingness to stand with the children have made a real difference.

Our work with children and young people living on the streets can be challenging, and there are times when the needs are greater than the resources available. During such times, the support of our volunteers and friends reminds us that we are not working alone.

To every volunteer who has given their time, every friend who has supported the work, and everyone who has remembered the children in their prayers, thank you. Some contributions may seem small at the time, but together they have helped us continue reaching children, and responding when help was needed.

We are especially grateful for those who continue to believe in the work even when they may not see the results immediately. Your commitment has helped create opportunities for children who might otherwise have been overlooked.

Footprints are grateful to have you walking this Journey with us. Your support has given hope, strengthened work and, most importantly, reminded children that they are seen, valued, and not forgotten. We look forward to continuing this Journey together in the coming year.

8.Conclusion

The 2025/2026 period was another year of continued work with children living and working on the streets, Footprints remained focused on street outreach, family reintegration, access to health care, family reintegration, access to health care, appropriate placement, home assessments, and providing support when children passed away.

Although there were challenges in responding to the diverse needs of the children, Footprints continued working with families, partners, and other stakeholders to provide the necessary support. We remain committed to ensuring that children are given an opportunity to return to safe family environments and receive the care and protection they need.

Financial accounts April 1st 2025 to March 31st 2026

Opening Balance April 1st 2025 £9,364.05

Closing Balance March 31st 2026 £9,442.96

Income Received

Charitable Donations £26,899.70

Gift Aid £2,378.07

Total Income £29,277.77

Expenditure

Charitable Costs £27,804.25

Website/Digital £487.77

Trustee Liability Insurance £696.00

Bank Transfer Fees £210.84

Total Expenditure £29,198.86

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