

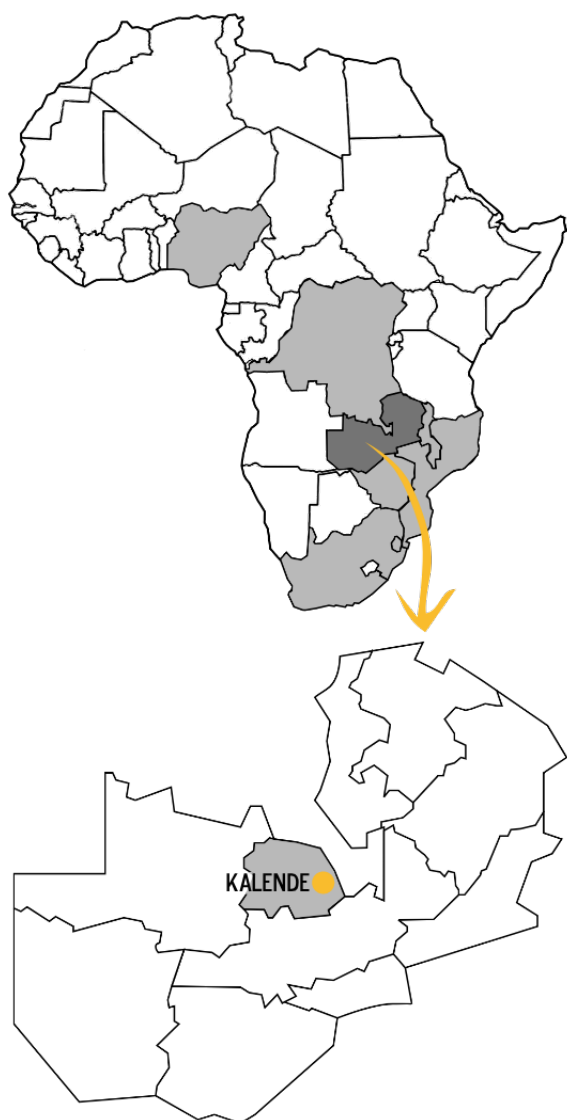
UPDATE FROM KALENDE COMMUNITY | ZAMBIA

Hands at Work in Africa (Canada) Society in partnership with
Commons Church



MAY 2022

There are 15 dedicated local volunteer Care Workers, coordinated by Bernard, who support the most vulnerable children in the community of Kalende. The love and care they provide ensure that each child is physically, emotionally and spiritually cared for.



Ridiculed because of her father's mental instability, 10-year-old Florence* retreated, distrusting those around her and fearing to be part of the community. The eldest of four, Florence helps her mother care for her father; a role that has taken its toll amidst the hurt of name-calling. Added to this, Florence's mother finds it difficult to bring in enough income for food; struggling to fell trees alone and make charcoal to sell.

Hearing of the family's many challenges, the Care Workers' hearts were challenged to find out more. Arriving at the family's home, the Care Workers, who had been unaware of other family members, immediately recognised the vulnerability of the situation and invited the children to the Care Point, where they would feel safe, valued and have their physical needs met.

With regular nutritious food, Florence's health has improved and she is slowly gaining self-confidence and trust. The Care Workers are gently building a relationship with her, and Florence has made a few friends to play with. Care Worker Charity has formed a special bond with Florence, and Florence knows she can count on her love and support. Charity says: "Florence is shy and understandably so as her family is known because of her father's mental challenges. She is comfortable with a few friends but is often quiet in a group in fear of being made fun of. I love her more because of that and I will continue to bring her closer so that she knows that her family challenges don't mean that she is not loved."



Listen to an audio update from Michael part of the Hands at Work team supporting children like Florence