

# 2020 Regional Report

ZIMBABWE



**impact one.** together we can impact many

## OVERVIEW

2020 has been a year like none other. As government restrictions were put in place to slow the spread of COVID-19, ministry has been impacted, and Young Life staff and leaders have had to adapt. New ways of reaching teens have been developed through online clubs, video call campaigner groups and old-fashioned phone calls.

While traditional Young Life camps could not take place once shutdowns occurred, Young Life leaders were still reaching teens in Zimbabwe, sharing the hope that Jesus offers.

THANK YOU for your partnership that spurs on this ministry. We are so grateful to have friends like you who are covering us in prayer and sacrificing time and treasure to impact teens in this part of the world! Read on to see how God worked in Zimbabwe during the past year.

**YL younglife**  
Africa/Middle East

## FROM THE STAFF

When we started the year everything seemed normal. Clubs, leader meetings, trainings, Bible studies, and many other ministry activities were going well. Teenagers received Christ during club talks and their faith in the Lord grew through Bible studies. Then, surprisingly the pandemic struck us unaware and unprepared. Every aspect of life changed dramatically, especially ministry. We could not meet with teens or gather in meetings physically.

Even though everyone was afraid, we were strengthened by the Word of God to remain focused and continue reaching kids for Christ. We are excited that many teenagers gave their lives to Christ through online communications and the Lord's work. Many lives were changed through acts of generosity and God's grace as we helped one another with food supplies during the lockdown.

**Lucia Mahachi**  
**AREA DIRECTOR, ZIMBABWE**



# THE IMPACT...

28,327 teens known by name



## UNIVERSITY LEADERS TRAINING

In the words of a Young Life leader, “fruitful is a very small word to describe the overnight area team leader (ATL) training”. During this ATL camp in February, before COVID-19 restrictions were put in place, 35 leaders came together to be strengthened and encouraged both in their faith and their leadership as Young Life leaders. Three senior leaders in Zimbabwe spoke to the upcoming leaders: Nkosi Sampindi, Limukani Sibanda, and Adam Nyoni. Senior regional director, Nkosi shared wisdom about a variety of things such as Young Life ministry in general, the importance of solitude in our daily lives, our need to express gratitude to God and our relationships with our families. It is important to set aside time in our lives in order to think, pray and reflect about our lives and turn to God and thank Him for all He has given us. Limukani, who serves as associate regional director, explained how young people in God’s Kingdom should live. He talked about the patience and faith that a Christian is required to have as we wait for the Lord, listen to what He tells us and obey. Limukani also taught the leaders what it means to be an area team leader and the importance of upholding Christian disciplines as we work as witnesses for His Kingdom. Area director, Adam taught the leaders how to share the Bible with kids in a way that respectfully and accurately portrays the Lord.



## THE NUMBERS

**25**  
STAFF

**1,124**  
VOLUNTEER LEADERS

**16,383**  
KIDS IN  
CLUBS/WEEK

**6,310**  
KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP  
GROUPS/WEEK



## ZIMBABWE LEADERS TRAINING

*"My name is Daya and I had an incredible time with over a hundred other Young Life leaders from all over Zimbabwe learning to lead kids and share the gospel with them. I personally thought the training would be so enjoyable, but I can confidently say I am leaving this training revived and sparked with a new fire to share my faith with others. I am so thankful for the teachers and how they equipped us through storytelling and sharing their knowledge with us. I learned that you can't lead someone you don't know. This is why Young Life puts such a high emphasis on contact work because trust and a willingness to listen is built upon strong and loving relationships. By learning together, I was able to see how important team building is to having an effective ministry. I am looking forward to using everything I learned at the training to improve Young Life in my area."*

**270**

TOTAL MINISTRIES

## IN HIS WORDS

*"Leadership camp allowed me the chance to take a break from the pressures of my day to day life and gain new perspective on how to share Christ with my friends in ways they can understand. Everyone should be able to meet Jesus, and I look forward to playing my part in making that happen."*

- ASHER, VOLUNTEER LEADER