

SIMBA REDZIDZO

Quarterly Newsletter by SrD Scholarship Students



N. MANDELA

"Education is the powerful weapon you can use to change the world"

WHO IS SIMBA REDZIDZO (SRD)?

BY SIMON MARUMBE

Simba reDzidzo(The Power of Education) Incorporated is a registered charity founded by a group of Zimbabweans living in Australia. Their mission is to empower socio-economically disadvantaged young people through mentorship and financing their tertiary education.

Becoming effective drivers of social empowerment, by increasing the number of youths and young adults who have relevant skills for employment, is their vision. This will allow the youths to break the cycle of poverty in their families and communities.

Simba reDzidzo provides scholarships to financially-disadvantaged young people, to study at local Universities in Zimbabwe. The scholarships cover full tuition and accommodation fees. Currently they are proudly funding for future psychologists, engineers, social workers, accountants, pharmacists, informatics and data analysts, and doctors.



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THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

BY LOVEJOY AKINA

Simba reDzidzo Scholarship offers a holistic package to support the education of their beneficiaries. The scholarship covers the cost of tuition and accommodation for undergraduate study at public universities in Zimbabwe. Beneficiaries also receive a monthly stipend to cover personal costs including phone and internet data bundles. In addition, Simba reDzidzo arranges group mentorship programs where they partner with organisations such as The Mayittah Group, to provide life skills training.

GROUP MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

BY LOVEJOY AKINA

The first group mentorship session came as a surprise to the beneficiaries as they had not anticipated such an experience. This was held at Mayittah and delivered over 6 half-day sessions. Topics covered included physical grooming, health and wellbeing, sexual and reproductive health and drugs and alcohol abuse at universities.

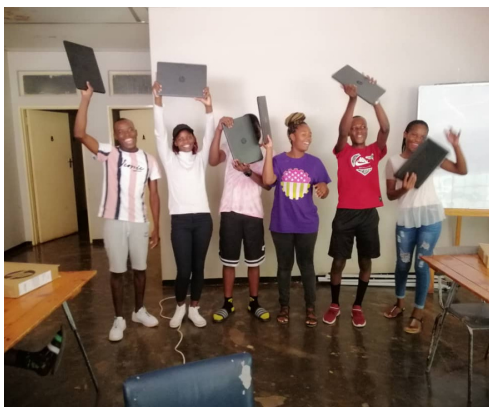
Evidence Matutu who is studying Social Work at the University of Zimbabwe, found the sessions effective and beneficial. "My life has changed in terms of personal hygiene, the way I interact with others, and even my mindset has been renewed to think better of myself" he said.



Team-building activities during group mentorship retreat at Rest Haven

The second Group Mentorship Session was held from 22nd to 24th October 2021 at Rest Haven in Domboshawa. All 13 SrD scholarship beneficiaries attended. Topics covered during the weekend retreat included Knowing your Life Purpose, Career Life Choices, Financial Management, Time Management, and Young Entrepreneurship. The students were inspired by renowned speaker, Dr Charles Mugaviri, who spoke about the importance of knowing what one is wired for in guiding career choices. Team building activities proved to be popular with the students.

SUPPORTING DIGITAL LEARNING



In recognition of the technological advances in the field of education, Simba reDzidzo supports its beneficiaries with laptop devices. These are used for digital learning, research, assignments, as well as virtual meetings with mentors. Simba reDzidzo has arranged for the students to undertake a Computer Skills Training workshop to familiarise them with the function of laptops.

Six students were presented with laptops during the group mentorship session held at Rest Haven. Blessing Nhengu, a beneficiary, wrote, "It was a deep emotional moment when we were handed our laptops. As for me I'm challenged to work even harder at school. Thank you Simba reDzidzo"

REST HAVEN RETREAT



LEON CHACHA

**1ST YEAR - RISK MANAGEMENT AND
INSURANCE
MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY**

Apart from teamwork and social networking at the Retreat, Leon also learnt resilience. He said, "despite being in a tough situation, you have to endure and keep going, there is always light at the end of the tunnel." He went on to say how he enjoyed talking to everyone, particularly Simon, a medical student who inspired him with stories about his field. When asked about how he felt about receiving a new laptop from Simba reDzidzo, with joy, Leon said, "I feel happy, humbled and so grateful". He went to add that the laptop was going to make his studies and assignments easier.

The FOOD!", Stella emphasized after being asked what she enjoyed the most about the Retreat. The interview continued,

Q. Out of everything you have learnt, what has had the biggest impact on your life?

A. The "knowing your purpose session" by Dr Mugaviri. It is going to help me see myself and think differently. I have to be able to see the difference between enjoying and enduring my career as a Doctor.

Q. What new skills did you learn?

A. Team playing skills, ability to acknowledge each person's role in a team. There is no I in team. I also learnt that you can do anything from nothing, to make a dollar out of fifteen cents.

Q. Can you rate this retreat out of 10?

A. I mark it a 10/10. The facilitators were very friendly, and the food was very nice. Thank you Mayittah.

STELLA DZIKITI

**3RD YEAR MEDICAL STUDENT
UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE**



FORGIVE MUTENDE

**1ST YEAR MEDICAL ANALYTICS AND INFORMATICS
UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE**

Forgive was inspired by sessions with Dr Mugaviri and Mr Tonderai Mandaza. He learnt that everything begins in the mind. "I must envision what I want and work towards it. I also learnt that I was born for a purpose, to be a solution to my generation's problems.", he explained. "I am going to kill procrastination, to show love back. I am not going to let people supporting me down.", he reflected. Forgive was also inspired by the love that everyone showed in the group. "People care for each other", he said. Forgive came to the retreat expecting to meet and make new friends, family, and he was not disappointed, the expectations were met.

Forgive came out of the retreat with increased confidence in himself as well as in public speaking. "To mark the Retreat a 10/10 is an understatement. I give it 1000/10!" he exclaimed. "Being a Simba reDzidzo scholarship beneficiary is mind-blowing, challenging, I feel overwhelmed with blessings. My life has changed in a short space of time. I got a working hard mentality. Thank you Simba reDzidzo"

BY SIMON MARUMBE

After all is said and done, Simba reDzidzo has, inarguably, offered the best gift any aspiring high-achieving student would need. With the rapid rise of illicit drug abuse and immoral practices in low socio-economic groups, it is inevitable that most youths, if not afforded this chance would indulge in these ordeals. Simba reDzidzo, thus, has acted as a bridge for the beneficiaries to escape this trap and try to break the cycles of poverty in their families and communities at large. Beneficiaries have gained the ability to give not because they have much, but because they know how it is to have nothing.



Current Scholarship Beneficiaries

Blessing Nhengu

1st Year, Chemical Technology, Midlands State University

Catherine Chitsunge

3rd Year, Medicine, University of Zimbabwe

Evidence Matutu

2nd Year, Social Work, University of Zimbabwe

Fadziso Mango

4th Year, Production Engineering, Chinhoyi University of Technology

Forgive Mutende,

1st Year, Medical Analytics and Informatics, University of Zimbabwe

Leon Chacha,

1st Year, Insurance and Risk Management, Midlands State University

Liosa Hodzi,

1st Year, Chemical Engineering, Harare Institute of Technology

Lovejoy Akina,

2nd Year, Psychology, Great Zimbabwe University

Lwiindi Machingura,

1st Year, Social Work, University of Zimbabwe

Munashe Mukombe,

1st Year, Pharmacy, University of Zimbabwe

Muriel Chitehwe,

3rd Year, Medicine, University of Zimbabwe

Simon Marumbe,

3rd Year, Medicine, University of Zimbabwe

Stella Dzikiti,

3rd Year, Medicine, University of Zimbabwe

This is a true reflection of the name of the organization, Simba reDzidzo, a.k.a The Power of Education. To quote the wise, " If your plan is for 1 year, plant tomatoes, If your plan is for 10 years, plant trees, If your plan is for 100 years, educate children.", Undoubtedly the greater lifelong plan in breaking the cycles of poverty, is to educate children.
Thank you Simba reDzidzo! Tinotenda! Siyabonga!

DZIDZO

POEM BY SIMON MARUMBE

Mwanangu,
Kashoko kandiinako nhasi, usazoKAPAZIRA
pasi.

Tora CHITEHWE chemombe yaVaAKINA iya,
ugare pasi.

MUKOMBE iwoyu wachemerwa nevazhinji
kwazvo.

VIMBAI nezwi revakuru vana vamazuwano,
hamuna chamaona.

Kunyarara nenhapitapi iyi, KWARAMBA.

Muchinge marairwa, MUTENDE shoko
ravakuru.

Simba redzidzo, harisi dambe.
Chipo chedzidzo, huchi nemukaka
muhupenyu hwako.

Chibatisise, uCHITSUNGE mukati mehana
yako.

Kutapira kwacho kudarika dzechirimo
MANGO.

Chero zvikarwadza zvichiburitsisa misodzi
neMATUTU, shinga nhaiwe dangwe
raVaMAVINYU.

Uchinge wapedza, wakora semahu
akodzekwa muHODZI yambuya vako.

Kumira kuti DZIKITI pamberi
pevanoremekedzwa hakumbonetse.

Vechidiki vako vanaLEON naLWIINDI,
wajekesawo ramangwana ravo.

Isu vedzinza rako, tinengewo TANAKA.
Ndiyoyi badzi nyaya NHENGU Yandanga
ndiinayo
Iyo nyaya yeSimba reDzidzo...

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