# SIMBA REDZIDZO

Quarterly Newsletter by Scholarship Beneficiaries



### AS 2021 ENDETH

By Forgive Mutende

2021 was a particularly great year, with countless miracles appearing in many of our beneficiaries' lives. Similar to the experience of witnessing a withering plant rise from the ground, this was a year in which many of us reached places and achieved goals we never thought possible. This was all through the care and "watering" of affection by Simba reDzidzo. In celebration of such a wonderful year, Simba reDzidzo organised a surprise treat for us - an end of year lunch, held at the Tayana Conference Center in Mt Pleasant. But before that, we had to do some serious work!

When one looks at the world we are living in, it is easy to see that everything is becoming modernized and innovation is rapidly progressing. Simba reDzidzo got that, and it is consistently their desire to see us understand and move with the new changes as much as we can. For that reason they put together a computer skills training workshop for us.

We spent all morning learning about computers, the basics – hardware, software, programs, including the good and bad aspects of information technology. After the course, everybody had developed an internal interest on the computer, such an astounding machine. Lwiindi Machingura, one of the beneficiaries, shared her thoughts after the session saying, "It was helpful because I now have the basic tools that I can use when planning some stuff."

To wrap up the day and the year 2021, we were treated to a scrumptious lunch during which we reminisced on our journeys so far. This was followed by a virtual presentation from Dr Gerald Chitsunge and Dr Pethidia Mango, recapping events and achievements of 2021, as well as setting forth the plans for 2022.

### **Introducing SrD Beneficiaries**



Muriel Chitehwe
3rd year
Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery
University of Zimbabwe

Muriel Chitehwe is currently enrolled at the University of Zimbabwe studying towards the Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery degrees. She is the second child in a family of five. She lives with her parents who make a living from gardening and selling the produce. She found life before the scholarship very difficult for both, her parents and herself. "I faced problems of living off-campus and was constantly late in paying my tuition fees. This impacted my performance at school. To me Simba reDzidzo is like a family, I can't explain it all but it has helped me to believe in myself that it's possible to break cycles of poverty in my life and community at large' she reflected.



### Liosa Hodzi

1st year
Bachelor of Chemical, Process
and Systems Engineering
Harare Institute of Technology

My name is Liosa Hodzi and I was born into a family of four, and I being the eldest. I come from an economically disadvantaged background. My father provides for our family, by selling a variety of vegetables. I was able to attend school through the generosity of my uncle but he, unfortunately, passed away before I started university. As such, I was unable to attend university and I spent a whole year at home.

It was during this time that I found out about Simba reDzidzo. I went through their rigorous screening and interview process and I was fortunate to secure the scholarship. Since then, all my dreams of becoming a chemical engineer are now coming true. I have a strong desire to provide for my loved ones. I don't want my siblings to experience the same problems that I faced. This motivates me to make full use of my scholarship and achieve all my goals so that I can cater for the needs of my family, and also be able to help other people in similar situations. I truly appreciate you Simba reDzidzo, you are my family!

# SrD My Rescue

### Stellah Dzikiti

4th year Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery University of Zimbabwe

The pen is mightier than the sword they say, But to the users there's always a price to pay. The struggle of carrying a sword to war, Using it to change the future for all.

The struggle of reading, each day learning more, My battles.

My war,

Fought with a pen,

Not to improve my future only but, for every patient I'll meet on call.

The power to carry that pen was almost gone in me,

The vision this war has, became hazy to see.

I needed strength to row through this uncharted sea.

Simba reDzidzo truly cleared the fog in my midst.

I can see the sun rising from the east, Using its light to read as its heat clears the mist.

Each day carrying this pen to this war, On my problem list becomes the least.

I have regained power in my educational quest, Thanks to the pen which fought this war for me. Provided me this opportunity through Simba reDzidzo,

Whose assistance I appreciate wholeheartedly and have learnt to trust.

As a true friend, in my need Simba reDzidzo did not come last

## "WHERE WE ALL COME FROM" BY BLESSING NHENGU

Communities are part of everyday life and have positive effects on their members. They can be found everywhere and can be created anywhere. In our communities, we see many ills, including disregard of the environment, with litter everywhere. We also see the pain experienced by the communities, with people dying of diseases every day.

To encourage and promote social responsibility, Simba reDzidzo requires that scholarship beneficiaries undertake projects to support the community. This helps us to become aware of social issues in the society,



Munashe and team

and drives us to engage with our communities. In the process we learn invaluable life skills whilst also giving back to our communities. Munashe Mukombe, one of the scholarship beneficiaries, is leading a the clean-up campaign in Stone Ridge and Marondera. Asked why he selected the project, he answered, "I chose it because I discovered that, in my community, the residents have limited awareness of the importance of hygiene. So everywhere there is litter and many dumping sites." Munashe carries out this project with help of his peers. "I have some volunteers of my age, so as we walk around inspecting streets for litter and dumping sites, we pick up papers and also identify areas with tall grass which needs to be cut short". He collaborates with the local authorities, who are grateful for his work in the community.

"Community provides a psychological world and a place of identification for its members."

JOHN P. HEWITT

~ SELF AND SOCIETY

#### WHY OPT FOR EDUCATION

By Leon Chacha

Education is important because it develops critical thinking and creates a positive impact to the economic growth at large. This was well captured by Nelson Mandela who said, "education is the key to success and pays the best interest". Simba reDzidzo is driven and committed to support excellence in education and expanding learning opportunities. By increasing access to tertiary education and supporting young people from socio- economically disadvantaged backgrounds, Simba reDzidzo is empowering the leaders of tomorrow. Their all-encompassing scholarship program is truly living up to their motto, "Educate. Empower. Elevate".

Upon the subject of education. I can only say that I view it as the most important subject which we as people may be engaged in-

#### A SKILL GAINED IS CELEBRATED

#### BY FORGIVE MUTENDE



Liosa and Munashe receiving Certificates of Recognition

To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to the society. Simba reDzidzo is NOT just teaching us to have knowledge of the mind, it is also instilling great ethics and leadership within us. It is through this self-improvement fostered by Simba reDzidzo, that many of us are learning the importance of working on ourselves and for our community. This has been evidenced in the group mentorship programs; the "How to speak effectively" course aimed at building our communication skills and confidence; and, the computer skills training in order to increase our knowledge of computers in this modern world.

Every beneficiary is also involved in community projects, touching lives and transforming their communities, at the same time learning collaborative skills. Each one of us is assigned an individual mentor whom we meet with regularly to discuss our goals - academic, personal development, financial, and health and well-being. Muriel was over the moon with her mentor. " She's the best thing that has happened to me. She is like my big sister, I can tell her anything and she really listens." said Muriel.

Personal growth and achievement are celebrated at Simba reDzidzo.

- Liosa Hodzi was recognised for her effective verbal and written communication skills.
- Munashe Mukombe was awarded a certificate in recognition of his efforts towards a spotless community.
- Simon Marumbe was recognised for his exceptional leadership abilities and proactiveness.

Success for Simba reDzidzo is scholarship beneficiaries achieving personal growth, academic success, and beneficiaries making positive contributions to their communities. To this end, Simba reDzidzo is truly succeeding.



SrD Beneficiary Simon Marumbe

### Computer Skills Training



### The Newsletter Committee



CHIEF CONTENT
OFFICER
Blessing Nhengu
1ST YEAR, CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY
MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY



CONTENT MANAGER
Stellah Dzikiti
4th Year Medical Student
UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE



CONTENT PROMOTER
Leon Chacha
1ST YEAR. INSURANCE & RISK
MANAGEMENT
MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY



Content writer, editor and designer
Forgive Mutende
1ST YEAR, BIOMEDICAL ANALYTICS
AND INFORMATICS
University of Zimbabwe