

UBUMI PRISONS INITIATIVE – SHORT PROFILE

UBUMI PRISONS INITIATIVE



Ubumi Prisons Initiative works to improve the prison conditions, future prospects of prisoners and health of vulnerable groups in Zambian correctional facilities. We work in the intersection between emergency relief and long-term development work.

Our fundamental values are rooted in universal human rights, where the individual's right to life, health and dignity is at the center of our efforts. Ubumi Prisons Initiative works to support children (circumstantial children and juveniles), pregnant and breastfeeding women and critically ill patients in the Zambian correctional facilities, with an emphasis on health, nutrition, capacity building, education and skills-building.

We work in 12 correctional facilities: Kabwe (3 correctional facilities), Kitwe (two facilities), Chipata (two facilities), Lusaka (two facilities), Kamwala Remand (one facility), Chainama East Correctional Hospital (one facility) and Katombora Reformatory

School for juveniles (one facility).

HEALTH, NUTRITION, PATIENT CARE AND SUPPORT

- ✓ Inmate volunteer caregiver teams and health staff trained on health, basic care and support and nutrition/malnutrition
- ✓ The volunteers are self-organized teams but work in close collaboration with health staff and management and are supervised by Ubumi. The teams provide care and support to patients, including cooking of food supplements, washing and feeding patients and ensuring adherence to medication
- ✓ We treat malnutrition with vitamins and other means
- ✓ We provide various nursing and health care equipment, soap and detergents
- ✓ We support vegetable gardens to provide healthy foods designed to support patient recovery
- ✓ We support pig, poultry projects and fish projects to support the patients and for income generation to support the sustainability of the projects
- ✓ We provide hospital mattresses, crutches, wheel chairs and much more



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CIRCUMSTANTIAL CHILDREN AND JUVENILES

- ✓ We provide monthly food packages, soap and detergent for children aged 0-4 years of age, pregnant and breastfeeding women and juveniles
- ✓ We train mothers in cooking and nutrition skills
- ✓ We support healthy child development through play houses and play areas
- ✓ We organize recreational activities and sports, math, civic education and English classes for juveniles



HYGIENE AND SANITATION

- ✓ We provide disinfectant and cleaning materials to all cells to ensure a minimum hygiene level
- ✓ We provide chlorine to ensure safe drinking water



EMPOWERMENT, SKILLS BUILDING AND EDUCATION

As the caregiver teams are self-organizing and carries with it a large responsibility for others, it prepares them for a life outside – as well as provides them with a sense of meaning in their lives. The trainings on basic care and support, mental health and psycho-social support, health and nutrition equip them with valuable skills.

We also support education through for instance IT labs, agriculture trainings and donation of books and materials to libraries.

MENTAL HEALTH

We support efforts to improve mental health in the correctional facilities through trainings and improving conditions.

SUPPORT TO COORDINATION ON HEALTH IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

We are active members of the Prisons Health Advisory Committee and work to support national and bilateral coordination and collaboration between partners.



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