



July - December 2023

NEWSLETTER ZAMBIA FLYING DOCTOR

Issue #2



ZFDS EMBARKS ON BULDING MEDICAL EXECELLENCE AS IT INTEGRATES CARE FOR URBAN COMMUNITIES



Health Minister hails ZFDS



4 kg Uterine fibroid removed



ZCAA certifies 9J-AGC ready to fly.



Mrs. Luyando M. Shimalukwe Director Legal Services & Corporate Affairs

Dear Readers,

I would like to extend my warm welcome to you to the second edition of the Zambia Flying Doctor Service Newsletter.

It is an absolute pleasure to have you join us for the second edition of our newsletter which aims at sharing our ideas, insights, and experiences with tremendous excitement and enthusiasm bearing in mind our core values which are integrity, Care, Respect, Confidentiality, Cleanliness, impartiality and Excellence.

There are several reasons to be optimistic about ZFDS growth as can be seen in the various achievements during the last half of the year 2023.We have been able to meet the greater need of the people in the remote rural and hard to reach areas of the Country thereby actualizing our vision which is to be "A reliable and preferred aero-medical service provider contributing to sustainable quality health for all".

We are happy to carry you along in this exciting edition.

Do enjoy the read!!!!

Meet the editorial Team



Violet Tembo Public Relations Manager Editor



Tabitha Banda Sub-Editor



Sainet Mambo Sub-Editor



Maureen B Mulenga Sub-Editor

Foreword

Dr. George Ng'uni Chief Executive Officer

Through implementation of an aggressive improvement plan for rural health Service provision, the Zambia Flying Doctor Service (ZFDS) undertook "То cost-effective, and provide quality, efficient aero-medical services in remote, rural and hard-to-reach areas and other parts of the country in order to combat human diseases and save lives".

During the year under review, ZFDS carried out a total of Sixty-Three (63) outreaches as compared to twenty three (23) in 2022, of which Twenty-six (26) were specialized outreaches and serving a total Number of One Hundred five thousand, four hundred and forty-three which (105,433) patients was а significant improvement from the Eleven thousand, eight hundred and seventyfive (11875) patients serviced in the year 2022.

These outreaches were undertaken in all Provinces of the Country in Forty- Six (46) rural districts and Two Hundred, sixtytwo (262) health facilities benefiting

from these supplementary services. A total number of Eighty-eight (88) medical evacuations after referrals from various parts of the country to tertiary medical institutions were undertaken thereby greatly enhancing the referral system through air evacuation.

In order to enhance our internal income generation which supplements the Government grants, we have had to invest in upgrading our two Medical facilities situated in Northrise and Itawa within Ndola district. The two health facilities are NHIMA accredited and open to the general public offering 24 hours services in clinical, surgical and diagnostic services

The increased internal income generation through the said medical facilities has greatly helped in carrying more routine and specialised out medical outreaches in the rural hard to reach parts of our Great Country thereby improving the quality of lives for our rural citizens





Inside this issue

Institutional Development	Page 1-7
Stakeholders Engagements	Page 8
Engagement with traditional leaders	Page 9
Medical Evacuation Services	Page 10-11
Outreach Surgical Corner	Page 12-13
Corporate Social Responsibility	Page 14
Wellness Corner OCTOR SERVICE	Page 15
Governance Structure	Page 16
Executive Management Team	Page 17



Visit our newly revamped James Lawless AeroMED Centre situated in NorthRise -Ndola CopperBelt Province. The AeroMed Centre is NHIMA Accredited.





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Health Minister Hails ZFDS

Minister of Health Hon.Sylvia T. Masebo has expressed happiness with the transformation at the Zambia Flying Doctor Service (ZFDS) into a more responsive medical service.

Ms. Masebo commended the management for its effort to ensure the Service was responsive in providing routine medical services to hard-to-reach areas and timely response to aeromedical emergencies.

She said this when she made a stopover at ZFDS Head office in the month of August 2023.



And speaking when the Minister was taken on a familiarization tour of the facility, ZFDS Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr. George Ng'uni informed the Minister and her entourage that the Service has invested in smart care and effective communication tools to prompt response.

The Minister was in the company of Director Clinical Care and Diagnostic Services Dr.Kennedy Lishimpi,Director Human Resources and Administration Mr.Dennis Siampwizi and Act. Director National Aids Council Prof.Lloyd Mulenga.

And speaking when she addressed the international community that was in attendance at the United Nation (UN) High Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage 2023 held in September 2023 in New York, the Health Minister Made mention that the Zambian Government has revamped ZFDS to promote access to primary health care services among the population living in the remote, rural and hard to reach areas in the country.

She said the Service is being used to provide routine medical outreach services aimed at reducing maternal and neo natal deaths recorded in the country.



She emphasized that the government under President Hakainde Hichilema has shown political will towards improving the health sector in the country which can be attested by the budgetary allocation and commitment to strengthen the mandatory National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIMA) which is pivotal in creating more predictable and sustainable schemes for the public.



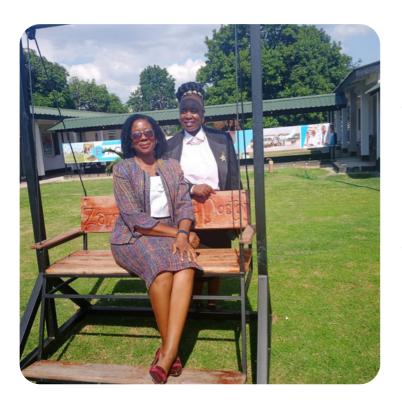
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Zambia Flying Doctor Service





ZFDS BOARD DELIGHTS IN UPGRADE OF JAMES LAWLESS AEROMEDICAL CENTRE



Zambia Flying Doctor Service (ZFDS) Board has expressed with the happiness service transformation at James Lawless Aeromedical centre Ndola's in Northrise area. Chairperson ZFDS Board Dr.

Rosemary Kumwenda stressed that the Service has responded to requirements and needs of patients by introducing a maternity wing, automation of services, staff attitude transformation for excellent customer service.

Dr.Kumwenda has applauded management for delivering excellence in medical services.

She said this when she toured the facility after close of the last board sitting for 2023.





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Zambia Flying Doctor Service

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ZFDS embarks on building medical excellence



James lawless Aero MED centre



Dr James Lawless on one of his outreach programmes

History of Zambia Flying Doctor Service

Zambia Flying Doctor Service (ZFDS) was established by a married couple Dr.James and Meg Lawless in the first year after Zambia attained its independence.

They both practiced medicine in established hospitals and were motivated to find solutions for patients they attended to who covered long distances to seek medical services.

They wrote a plan to construct a children's hospital and Flying Doctor Service (FDS).

Over a period of time, FDS built 31 rural health centres throughout the country, servicing a population of over 2million.

In 1965, the Service was established under an Act of Parliament and since then it has undergone transitions. Building on what has been achieved in the 58 years of unbroken service to the Zambian people, the new ZFDS Board and Management embarked on a renewed journey of positioning the Service into the leading and top preferred aero-medical service provider a year ago.

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A number of initiatives adopted have since been actualized in order to provide cost-effective, quality, and efficient aero-medical services to remote hard-to-reach areas and other places countrywide.

These include:Transformation of the AeroMED static Centre

People's expectations of the health system and their health care providers continue to evolve.

It is against this background that the Newly appointed Board and Management have carefully considered the changing needs of our communities, our city and our Province.

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Transformation of the AeroMED static Centre



The Zambia Flying Doctor Service embarked on projects to upgrade infrastructure of its two static centers in Ndola District on the Copperbelt Province namely AeroMED Kenneth Kaunda in Itawa and AeroMED James Lawless in Northrise.

At James Lawless the transformation has been through its 24 hours operations on a daily basis, introduction of services such as Mother and child health services, opening of specialist clinic, Family ART clinic, Dental and Optic services and emergency services.



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INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT Adoption of smart care

Medical Customer Care



ZFDS is well positioned through investment in our Information, Communication and Technology - ICT infrastructure to help our care providers and administrators improve the quality of care we provide through improved hospital record management practices

The Service has enhanced strategies for optimizing patient communications and proper record keeping by using an upgraded integrated Electronic Health Record System also known as Smart Care.

The Service has since equipped its staff with the knowledge and skills to enhance patient's experiences whenever they visit our facilities.

The members of staff have been implored by management to keep a positive mindset and attitude by embracing new innovations to enable the Service deliver to peoples expectation and quality service. The Service has introduced medical customer care to provide unmatched customer service experience for patients owing to the nature of interaction between patients and health care providers.

Medical department last month unveiled the manual containing rules and guidelines for the health care providers.

Reacting to the development, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr.George Ng'uni emphasized the need for all the employees from directors to supporting staff to collaborate and build a system that is aligned with customer expectations.

Dr.Ng'uni stressed the need for the Service to continue exploring innovations to improve health service delivery and make ZFDS AeroMED centers a client's first choice.

Smart Care Training





TELE-DOCTOR

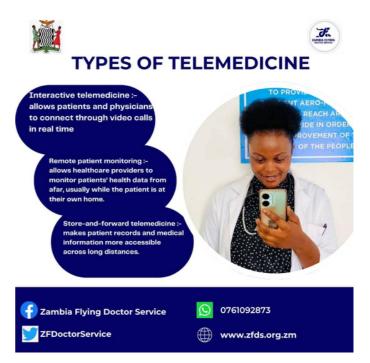


In ensuring client satisfaction and effective service provisions, ZFDS as health care providers are changing as well by introducing Technology and other consumer-focused platforms.

The service has adopted ZOOM platform whose programme is being implemented under Telemedicine's where a Doctor presents a topic and public is engaged on a weekly basis. Today, patients have access to more information and more options than ever before.

Patients are informed health consumers who want a system that is customized for them, more timely access and convenience.

They want to be able to email their doctor or speak to them on the phone from the comfort and familiarity of their home and to be connected virtually.



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Copperbelt Provincial Minister dates ZFDS





ZFDS was delighted to receive the Copperbelt Province Minister, Hon. Elisha Matambo at the James Lawless AeroMED facility in Northrise.

The visit was primarily focused on viewing the transformation agenda pushed by the ZFDS for increased internal income generation activities for enhanced rural service delivery throughout Zambia.

The Hon. minister toured the different departments of the facility including the Maternity wing, the Laboratory wing, the Pharmacy, the Various observation rooms, the eye department and lastly the dental department where dental services were offered to the Minister.

The Hon. Minister was pleased to see an excellent clean environment, quick medical care and high standards at the medical facility indicating that he was glad that the Agenda pushed by the Republican Present H.E President Hakainde Hichilema of health care access to all is being practised and achieved at ZFDS because cleanliness is next to godliness.

Hon. Matambo applauded the Minister of Health, Hon. Sylvia Masebo for the true leadership show in ensuring that the ZFDS is brought back to life and further thanked ZFDS management led by the Chief Executive Officer, Dr.George Ng'uni for the exemplary transformation that has happened in the short space of time, an institution that was considered to have seized to be in existence but now is back and giving quality and effective health care.

Speaking during the visit, The Chief Executive Officer, Dr George Ng'uni thanked the Honorable Minister and his entourage which included the Ndola DC, Mr. Joseph Phiri and Ndola Teaching Hospital Senior Medical Superintendent Dr.Justor Banda for taking time to visit the facility assuring that the ZFDS is committed to ensuring quality and effective service delivery is achieved in Ndola and all rural part of the Country.

Dr Ng'uni thanked the Government of the Republic of Zambia, the Ministry of Health and the ZFDS board for their continued support in ensuring that the ZFDS achieves its objectives and its mandate in the rural and hard-to-reach areas of the Country.

The ZFDS James Lawless AeroMED facility is NHIMA accredited and such internal income generation has increased thereby enabling the Service to utilize the funds for more medical outreaches to different parts of the country. The Service currently conducts eight (8) specialized medical outreach monthly to all parts of Zambia.



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

ZFDS ATTENDS SAFETY MANAGEMENT TRAINING



Civil The Zambia Aviation Authority (7CAA)recently concluded a workshop hosted for Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) in the aviation sector on Safety Management Systems. The programme which held with was assistance from the Aviation European Safety Agency (EASA) was aimed at raising awareness of the obligations and

responsibilities that the rest on players in the sector play in implementing and maintenance of safety management The objective of the training was to ensure safe and secure air traffic in the country. ZFDS was represented by the Director of Services Legal and Corporate Affairs Mrs Luyando Mbilika Shimalukwe.

ZNBTS AND ZFDS PARTNER IN DELIVERY OF BLOOD & BLOOD RELATED PRODUCTS



The Zambia Flying Doctor Service (ZFDS) and the Zambia National Blood Transfusion Service (ZNBTS) held an inception meeting in November,2023 at ZFDS Head offices in Ndola.

The meeting was in a bid to ensure a successful conclusion of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions for the delivery of blood and blood-related products to cover all parts of the Country by further enhancing the Ministry of Health's mission to provide equitable access to cost-effective, quality healthcare services as close to the family as possible.

The ZFDS team was led by the Chief Executive Officer, Dr George Ng'uni whilst ZNBTS was led by Dr Masiku Phiri, Regional Director Northern Region.

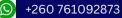
ZAMMSA AND ZFDS PARTNER IN DELIVERY OF MEDICINES



In an effort to ensure availability of medicines and medical supplies as well as easy access to quality healthcare services for all - regardless of geographical location, the Zambia Medicines and Medical Supplies Agency (ZAMMSA) and the Zambia Flying Doctor Services (ZFDS) are conducting a 'Test Delivery' of essential health commodities to areas that are are hard to reach by land transport.

The collaboration allows for the utilization of ZFDS aircrafts to deliver health commodities to remote areas in a timely manner. This will enhance Government last mile delivery efforts and ensure equitable and easy access to quality healthcare services for all.

The two institution have since signed an MOU for the delivery of medical supplies and equipment.



ENGAGEMENT WITH TRADITIONAL LEADERS

ZFDS DATES ZAMBIAN TRADITIONAL CEREMONIES

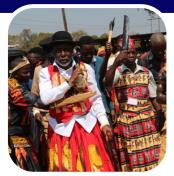
Traditional ceremonies are one way of preserving the culture of the country and a platform where people share and trace their historical roots. ZFDS has used these platforms to engage traditional leades and supplement Government's efforts in ensuring universal health coverage even during such prestigious events.

In the just ended quarter, the Service did send out four medical teams to Luapula Province -Mwansabombwe during the Umutomboko ceremony, Northern Province – Mungwi during ukusefya pa ng'wena, North – West province – Solwezi during Lubinda tongo and Zambezi during Likumbi lya mize.

The Service provided medical services such General screening, dental, eye and pharmacy to the spectators that converged.

Below is the photo focus showing the highlights of the traditional ceremonies.

Lubinda Ntongo Ceremony -North Western Province







Ukusefya pa ng'wena Ceremony- Northern Province





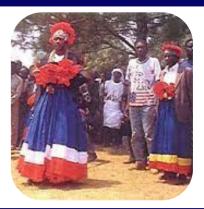


Umutomboko Ceremony- Luapula Province



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MEDICAL EVACUATION SERVICE

NAKONDE INFANT WITH BILATERAL CORNEAL OPACITIES CONDITION EVACUATED



Zambia Flying Doctor Service (ZFDS) did evacuate a six (6) month old baby of Nakonde, Muchinga province who presented a condition known as bilateral congenital corneal opacities to Kitwe Eye Hospital for further medical attention.

The case was discovered during the implementation of the medical outreach programme i in September this year at Shem Rural Health Facility, located on a road enroute to Malawi where the ZFDS team of medical specialists had set up camp.

ZFDS Opthamologist Ambali Phillip who screened the patient recommended that the infant undergo surgery to restore the eyesight.

Mr. Ambali observed that the baby's visual acuity is able to follow objects and perceive light stressing that it is a positive sign that the sight of the patient can be restored.

Meanwhile, the mother of the infant has thanked ZFDS for sending specialist Doctors to the district.

The client narrated that she had lost hope that she could access medical services for her child within the district.

The infant has since been referred to a private eye hospital in Lusaka where he has since been admitted and receiving medical attention

ZFDS EVACAUTES 7 SURVIVORS OF THE HORRIFIC LUANO ACCIDENT

GOVERNMENT through ZFDS evacuated seven (7) survivors of the tragic Road Traffic Accident (RTA) which occurred on 3rd September, 2023 in Luano District, Central Province which claimed 32 lives.

Out of the total number, the 7 were in a critical condition and required urgent evacuation to the University Teaching Hospital (UTH) for CT brain and specialized care.

The exercise was undertaken in collaboration with the Zambia Air Force (ZAF). A total number of 19 victims did sustain injuries and were admitted to Mansansa Mini Hospital and Mkushi General Hospital respectively.

The RTA recorded 59 victims out of which 32 were declared dead upon being delivered to the hospital.

The 10 survivors were admitted at Mansansa mini Hospital and 15 at Mkushi District Hospital.



Day old Siamese Twins



On 15th September,2023, twin girls were delivered to a 19year-old mother through caesarean section at Serenje District Hospital,Central Province by surgeons led by Dr Mulumba Lwabeya.

ZFDS carried out the aeromedical evacuation on the material day after the referral hospital requested to the Ministry of Health (MOH) to have the case be attended to at the University Teaching Hospital (UTH) Children's Hospital in Lusaka.

According to records from the referral hospital, the twins had congenital abnormalities as they were sharing one umbilical cord with have two distinct heartbeats attached from the sternum body.



MEDICAL EVACUATION SERVICE

Government Chief Whip & Permanent Secretary (PS) for special duties Naomi Tetamashimba Khumalo evacuated



On 9th September the Service evacuated Government Chief Whip Honorable Stafford Mulusa with Permanent Secretary (PS) for special duties Naomi Tetamashimba Khumalo from Kabwe Central Hospital to Lusaka's University Teaching Hospital (UTH). The patients were involved in a Road Traffic Accident which occurred on the Great North Road in Kabwe, Central Province.

ZFDS through the Ministry of Health (MOH) responded to an aeromedical emergency request from Kabwe Central Hospital where the patients were admitted .

According to the information received it was told that the diagnosis from the referral hospital Hon.Mulusa had suffered injury on the right arm, Ms. Tetamashimba suffered a head injury and fractured left ribs and Mr. Bibusa suffered a painful swollen face.

ZFDS evacuates co-joined twins

Zambia Flying Doctor Service has successfully evacuated omphalopagusconjoined twins collectively weighing 4.5 kg joined at the level of xiphoid process to umbilicus born to the 22-year-old mother of Chipulukusu in Ndola. The Aeromedical Evacuation was initiated upon approval from the Ministry of

Health for ZFDS to airlift the twins from Arthur Davison Children's Hospital (ADCH) in Ndola to the University Teaching Hospital (UTH) in Lusaka.

According to Dr Joseph Mulenga from the Arthur Davison Children's Hospital, a full blood count test, Hepatitis Profile, RPR and Total Serum Bilirunin including imaging was done.

According to a multi-disciplinary team from ADCH, the University Teaching Hospital (UTH) will endeavour to explore the possibility of surgery after the babies are stabilized and fully investigated.

The infants born on Thursday through Caesarean section were handed over to UTH medical personnel at 13:15 hours at ZAF city airport in Lusaka.

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Removal of uterus with multiple fibroids on Mwense woman



ZFDS obstetrician and a gynecologist surgeons in Mwense district in Luapula Province in July of 2023 successfully conducted a surgical operation on a woman aged 54 and removed the uterus which had multiple fibroids.

The operation which was conducted at Mwense District Hospital lasted for two (2) hours and fibroids weighing 4 kilograms (KG's) were removed.

The patient narrated that she had battled with the condition for five years and the condition caused her to experience severe anemia, chronic lower abdominal pain and abnormal bowel function.

This operation was conducted during one of the eight (8) routine medical outreaches .

Neck Abscess surgery on Mwandi man



In the Month of July this year in Mwandi District, Western province Zambia Flying Doctor Service (ZFDS) operated on a 54-year-old man who had suffered agonizing pain from a neck mass for two years.

The mass was measuring about 15 by 18 centimeters.

According to the patient's narration, the neck mass was a small growth, and it grew overtime restricting him from doing daily activities.

He added that this resulted in him failing to take care of his family.

The operation was conducted from Mwandi Mission Hospital.

Hysterectomy Operation on Nakonde Woman



In September, during implementation of the routine medical outreach in Nakonde District, Muchinga province, ZFDS specialist Doctors conducted a hysterectomy operation on a 26year old woman who had been bleeding after giving birth.

The case is of post-partum hemorrhage or PPH defined as the loss of more than 500 ml or continued bleeding after giving birth.

A specialist in obstetrics and gynecology has been in the district and set up camp at Nakonde District Hospital for six days.

A number of residents were able to have access to specialist treatment as close as to their homes, further enhancing the government efforts through Ministry of Health (MOH).



OUTREACH SUGICAL CORNER

Chief Mishoro hails ZFDS



Chief Mishoro of the Ngoni people has thanked the government and the Zambia Flying Doctor Service for bringing specialized medical services close to the people adding that most of them cannot afford to go to the city to acquire such services.

His Royal Highness has since urged the government to continue extending such health services to the people especially those in rural and hard-to-reach areas.

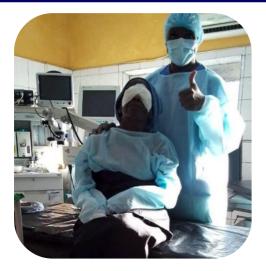
Chief Mishoro said this when the ZFDS medical team sent to Kasenengwa District in Eastern Province provided eye screening services to him and his wife at Chiparamba Zonal Rural Health Post yesterday.

The ZFDS medical team comprising a medical doctor, ophthalmologist, dental surgeon, general surgeon, anaesthetist, registered nurse, pharmacist and biomedical lab technician is in this District providing primary health and specialized services.

The specialist team has been sent to supplement government efforts in its quest to bring quality healthcare services to families as close as possible.

The team will be in the area for the next 4 days servicing one facility each day.

Sight Restoration in Nakonde District



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CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

ZFDS Donates assorted items across the country



In line with its Corporate Social Responsibility believes (CSR) policy, ZFDS that the implementation of Social, religious, and traditional programmes and projects in the country where it operates has a positive impact on peoples living environment and contribute to favorable changes to create a better future.

In the last three months the Service has render social support to charity from contributions from employees and well wishers.

Among those that have received support from the Service include an organization run by persons with disabilities in Ndola's Twapia Township ,the united Church of Zambia St. Andrews who are fundraising to build a mothers shelter and childrens classroom block at Arthur Division Children Hospital (ADH) and during outreach a donation of mobility tools to two persons with disabilities in Lundazi – Eastern province.

The Service in July this year, also launched a projected dubbed "extending help to the poor" in remote, rural and hard to reach areas.

The service procured secondhand bales of secondhand clothes for children and adults and blankets.

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individuals and members of staff also donated clothes and shoes which were distributed during the implementation of the medical outreach programme in various districts.

Also, last month the Service partnered with the United Church of Zambia (UCZ) St.Andrews church in Ndola which hosted a fundraising golf tournament to raise resource to build a classroom block for children with disabilities at the country's highest Childrens hospital in Ndola.



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WELLNESS CORNER

ZFDS TEAMS COMPETE IN FOOTBALL AND NETBALL Healthy competition creates a culture of excellence as everyone strives to be the best and build enduarance.

In the just ended quarter the ZFDS wellness committee has raised the bar by inviting teams from different institutions in Ndola to compete with in Soccer and Netball.

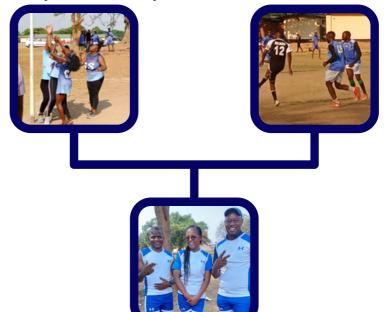
Notable institutions competed with include Arthur Davison Hospital, Ndola Teaching Hospital, Coaches Football Club, Bahamy Football Club, ICT college and Kalewa Netball teams.



Florence Mbewe- pilot & Netball player

ZFDS has reserved Friday afternoon for members of staff to enage in various sports displines as part of it's wellness programme.

Netball player Major. Forence Mbewe says that the initiative to introduce wellness programmes by management is for the benefit of the employees and it is only prudent that everyone participates for a healthy nation is a wealthy nation. For a healthy nation is a wealthy nation.





Mr.Mulenga Zulu

"My passion for the game is my biggest motivation. other than that, I hail from a family with a football background where my dad was a coach. I'm also motivated by the belief that my physical wellness and growth has a bearing on other aspects of my life and growth".



Lubinda Mpundu

self Other than mastery and growth,I'm motivated the by satisfactory feeling I get during and after playing volleyball which radiates positive energy and vibe.

Mr Mpundu is also referred to as the 'chupu" man for his skills in volleyball



Beene Mweene

Team work and growing my social confidence. Netball is all about teamwork, working together and supporting each other no matter what happens.I find Joy in playing netball because I get to learn new skills every day and enjoy interacting with the team



Governance structure

Our Board of Directors



Hon. Sylvia T. Masebo



Dr. Rosemary Kumwenda Board Chairperson



Hon. Suresh Desai Board Vice Chairperson



Dr. George Ng'uni Chief Executive officer





Mrs. Nsama Sue Mayowe Board Member

Brig Gen Lloyd Chonya Board Member



Dr. Charles Mwinuna Board Member Eng. Francis Pwapwa Board Member Ms. Clarissa Chikamba Board Member

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM



Dr. George Ng'uni Chief Executive officer



Dr. Mulenga Chilambwe Director Medical services



Lasford Machinsi Director Aviation services



Mrs. Luyando M. Shimalukwe Director Legal services/ Corporate Affairs



Mr. Mulenga Zulu Chief Accountant



Mr. Dick Chilatema Chama Head Security Services



Ms.Justina Kapandula Head Procurement



Mr. Nchima Mulota Head Internal Audit &Risk

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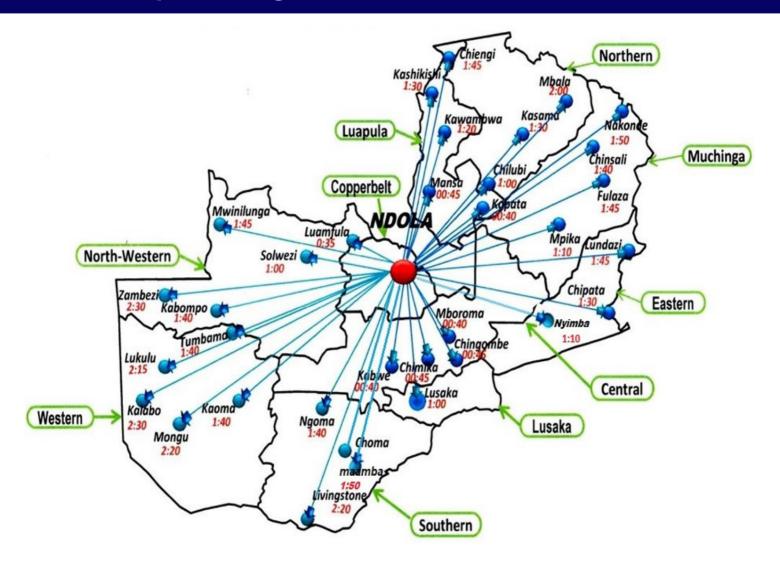
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Toll Free 2575



FLIGHT MAP-CESSNA 208B

Map showing routes and transit time



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