



**PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO:**

**ROTARY CLUB OF HIGHLANDS**

**OUT OF SCHOOL YOUTH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

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**Contacts:**

**Marko Ndlovu –Director**

**Email: [info@chiedza.org.zw](mailto:info@chiedza.org.zw) or [marko@chiedza.org](mailto:marko@chiedza.org)**

**Website: [www.chiedza.org.zw](http://www.chiedza.org.zw)**

**Face book: [type-chiedza child care centre](#)**

**Telephone: 263-4-2922120 or 091 437 698**

**37 Strachan Street, Ardbennie,**

**Box W142, Waterfalls, Harare, Zimbabwe**

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## Background to Chiedza

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Chiedza Child Care Centre was established in 2001 and is registered with the Zimbabwean Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, registration number PVO 16/2003. It was founded by a group of concerned Zimbabwean professionals, academics and business people in response to the escalating need to provide practical help for disadvantaged children based in Zimbabwe's high-density townships. A board of trustees and a management committee oversee the running of the centre and ensure accountability. When it was founded, Chiedza's activities were focused on palliative care with the plan to open a hospice centre for children infected with HIV and AIDS. However, after scanning the needs of the community Chiedza broadened its mission to focus on projects benefiting disadvantaged children who had been both affected and infected by AIDS, many of them orphans.

We are currently supporting 1500. Among these children a total of 60 children are on the weaning phase. These are between 17-20 years age group and they are out of school. This is the major target group of this project. These can be used as change agents for socio-economic transformation through active participation in leadership, entrepreneurship and decision making process in the communities they live. Geographically Chiedza operate programmes in Mbare, Sunningdale and Waterfalls suburbs of capital city Harare

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## Proposed Project Area

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**Out of School Youth Skills Development.** The initiative is aimed at strengthening the economic capacities of families with Orphans and Vulnerable children above seventeen years and empowers them with income generating skills so that when they are weaned off the programme, they will be economically active. This cushions them from remaining in the vulnerability blanket even when they get to the young adults stage. The youth will be provided with material support to start income generating projects of their choice such as plumbing and welding. The youth in the Community will be put into groups of 3-5 members so that they help each other.

The Youth are expected to mentor and nurture other youth who are interested in the same line of trade. This is done to break the poverty cycle in the local community especially in families of Orphaned children we are supporting.

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## Project Rationale

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It has been noted with serious attention that orphan support programs in most cases do not have a clear strategy on how to wean off the children when they reach the legal age majority of 18 years in Zimbabwe. This often results in vicious poverty cycle whereby poor orphans remain in absolute poverty despite getting support for years from charitable organization. The poverty in turn affects the children of these orphans, thus perpetuating underdevelopment in the communities.

To break such community ills in the children it is supporting, Chiedza through this proposed project seeks to develop skills for the out of school children so that they will be able to sustain and generate income to look after themselves and their families. The

projects will target youth with some skills already. These include those with practical skills such as welding and plumbing. These skills will be promoted so that the youth can earn a living from them.

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### Objectives

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1. To support at least 20 youth with tools and technical guidance to start up their income generating projects (plumbing and welding).
2. To establish a mentorship programme with Silveira House for the youths to interface with practical production of products for sell.

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### Activities

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1. Identify and screen youths who are already engaged in some form of income generating activities but constrained by lack of equipment.
2. Procure basic tools for the specific project which will allow the youth to start up an income generating activity.
3. Train youths on basic business management skills.
4. Draw memorandum of understanding with Silveira House on youth skills mentorship.
5. Facilitate the acquisition of informal stands at places like “Mbare Informal Sector Market”.

<b>Budget for Skills Development</b>				
<b>Budget Line Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Unit Cost</b>	<b>Total Units</b>	<b>Total Price</b>
<b>Welding project</b>				
Purchase of welding machine	set	700	2	1400
Soldering iron	set	350	2	700
Welding metal sheets	set	200	2	400
Grinder	set	450	2	900
Training in basic business management	sessions	200	3	600
Asistance with start up premises rental	month	100	3	300
<b>Sub total</b>				<b>4300</b>
<b>Plumbing project</b>				
Purchase of basic plumbing tools	set	350	10	3500
Plumbing accessories	set	170	7	1190
<b>Sub total</b>				<b>4690</b>
<b>Grant total</b>				<b>8990</b>