In 2016 a cluster of three new Edmund Rice Mission communities and a hub community were formed in the Western province of Zambia. Unlike other regions in Zambia that have seen a decrease in poverty, extreme economic and social challenges continue to remain high in the Western province. In these rural areas, many children do not have access to education and adults have limited opportunities for employment.

Journeying Together has brought 18 Brothers and 15 community volunteers to live among the local communities of Mongu, Luampa, Limulunga and Senanga. They are living and working with local people in order to develop their capacity to improve their own lives and transform their community. Together, our ultimate goal is the liberation of people from poverty and a better life for all.

The Journeying Together team have learned the local languages and implemented small pilot projects with the community. This has enabled local trust in Edmund Rice Mission to build.

The presence of Edmund Rice Mission in these areas serves as a catalyst among the people so that all recognise their own power, talent and resilience as they together engage with poverty and injustice.

“We have worked with the Edmund Rice people to identify priority community needs and have begun to take steps to address them. These include: high rate of teenage pregnancy and child marriages; poor community care for the elderly and other marginalised; food insecurity; poor access to safe water and sanitation. So far, we have had some good basic training for adolescent girls in reproductive health. We hope with the knowledge they have received, they will make better informed life choices.”

-Community Volunteer Mr Martin Chewe

The team sought to gain a deep understanding of the realities affecting people living in extreme poverty and with input from local leaders have identified initiatives to respond to those challenges:

- **Sustainable Agriculture Practices to Empower Youth**: this project will benefit 45 Luampa young people who will learn basic technical knowledge in vegetable crop production, fisheries and poultry.
- **Strengthening Community Support and Care Systems**: this project will benefit 150 Senanga adults and young people who will be trained as basic caregivers for the elderly and the sick.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Knowledge and Attitudes and Practices**: this project will benefit the vulnerable poor children and adults in three areas in Senanga to improve their knowledge on water, sanitation and hygiene.
- **Reproductive Health and Life Skills**: this project will benefit 300 youth from Limulunga to educate through youth activities, especially sports.
- **Improving Nutrition Education for Women of Reproductive Age**: this project will benefit adolescent girls in Limulunga, Luampa and Senanga and aims to improve knowledge, attitudes and practices on personal and family nutrition.
- **Second Chance’ GCE Level Schooling Opportunity**: this project will benefit 60 young adults aged 17-30 who are no longer in school but are motivated to attain their GCE certificate.

Please consider making a donation to help to bring the Journeying Together community projects to life over the coming year.
Support Us

Please consider making a donation to help us bring the Journeying Together community projects to life over the coming year. Your support will help to make a deep, long-term impact on the lives of the people living in Western Zambia.

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We would love to keep in touch to update you on how your support is making a difference and to let you know how you can stay involved in our fundraising and campaigns. Please let us know how we can keep in touch with you:

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“As a Community Champion and a resident of the rural District of Western Province of Zambia, the Journeying Together programme has already impacted my life. Since the project was introduced I have witnessed improvements in the lives of people in our community. The programme’s focus on nutrition will help children grow well and have good health.”

-Community Champion Mr. Raphael Kanduli (Limulunga)