

CSB Ministries

Zambia CSB - “Brother-to-Brother” Information Sheet

What is “Brother-to-Brother”?

It is a partnership between a CSB unit in North America and a CSB unit in Africa (Zambia – at least to start!). This partnership begins with a sense of “call” and desire to minister to and serve a new unit in Zambia. The partnership involves a financial commitment on the part of a North American unit. Through this support the new unit in Zambia is able to be started and maintained. Your partnership will also bring about cross-cultural awareness and significant relationships.

What are the requirements for getting involved?

Units in North America must complete an application form. This must be signed by a unit leader and by a member of church leadership. Both signatures indicate reading the form and agreeing to the terms of the partnership.

After the application is received in the home office, a unit in Zambia will be selected for partnership. The North American unit will be informed of the African unit with whom it will partner. The first year’s support will be needed at that time. Once the first year support is received, all information regarding the new partnership will be provided to both units. Funds necessary for the start-up will be dispersed to the African unit, and both units will be given unit addresses so the pen pal relationship can begin.

What are the requirements for getting involved?

1. Three year commitment

The goal is to have units in North America and units in Zambia make a three year commitment so that relationships can develop. In addition, it is felt that three years is required in order to allow the units in Zambia the opportunity to become self-sufficient due to the economic hardships in that country.

2. Financial Support

Units in North America should be willing to make at least a three commitment to provide funding to their partner unit. This commitment includes;

\$1,200 in year one	\$450 in year two	\$450 in year three
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Note: units in North America can join together to support one unit in Zambia

The financial support is used for;

- “Start-up boxes” – These boxes include; Bibles for each boy and the leader, handbooks for leaders, t-shirts for each boy and leader, and other supplies as needed (paper, pens, markers, etc.)
- Ongoing supplies – Money to purchase additional supplies as new boys join and as items need to be replaced.
- Weekly snacks – Providing weekly snacks is very important. It will be the case that the snacks provided during the CSB time will be the primary food they get for that day. Hunger is a very real life experience in Zambia.

3. Raising the Financial Support

It is our hope that CSB units in North America will use this opportunity to focus efforts on service. The goal would be for the units to use various service projects and fundraisers to provide the support needed. Examples might include;

- Bike-a-thon
- “Slave” days
- Wood projects to be sold
- A portion of weekly “Shares”

The hope is that little, if any, of the support would come from church funds.

4. Unit Pen Pal

We hope that each unit will be excited about building relationships through writing and sharing pictures and updates regarding the activities of each unit.

The pen pal relationship is between units and **NOT** between boys. This will be **VERY** important for several reasons;

- Units will not necessarily be of the same size. Not wanting to leave anyone out, letters will need to be addressed to: Dear Unit Friends.
- Unit leaders will need to be careful “guides” in the writing process. It will be important to **NOT** talk about “things” they have, elaborate on places they go, or costly things they get to do. We want to be very intentional about not highlighting the affluence of our society. Rather, the letters should be about things their unit is doing, things being learned about God, about being good friends, hopes for the future and asking about their unit and activities.

- It would be appropriate to send a group photo, along with names of all boys and leaders. Don't expect that a group photo right away in return. It is not necessarily easy to get access to a camera in Africa.

What are the “Do’s” and “Don’ts” of being involved in Brother-to-Brother?

The “Do’s” are centered around being faithful – faithful to pray, faithful to write and faithful in financial commitments.

The “Don’ts” may be more difficult to understand. A challenge will be to refrain from sending lots of “stuff” to your new friends. Crafts made in North America would most often have no place in Africa...most boys will never have their own rooms or any place to display crafts.

If there is ever a desire to send gifts, and we are not suggesting you should or need to, they should be very practical, useful things...blankets, pillows or clothing. And remember to communicate that you hope they accept the gifts and they are offered – as gifts without ANY expectation or need to reciprocate.

How will other CSB units in North America learn about the benefits of being involved in “Brother-to-Brother”?

Other units will learn about the excitement and joy of participating only if you share your experience with the CSB home office and with other units. It will be important to send copies of letters and photos received to the CSB home office. Also send us photos and stories of what you are doing to participate in “Brother-to-Brother”. Please keep us informed of everything that is going on. We want to share with others and celebrate and thank God for all He is doing!

Please be in prayer concerning your CSB unit being involved in this exciting effort and ministry opportunity.

Please let us know if your unit is willing to partner in starting CSB units in Zambia. There are at least 28 churches in Zambia that want to start CSB units. We will need to make a final decision by February 1st as to how many churches we are willing to train. That will be based on the response from units in North America.