



## CENTRAL AFRICA MEDICAL MISSION

JUNE 2021



In every society, especially if one is relocating to a new location or job for the first time, the environment at that place will speak to the individual and will dictate how to behave. This is not new to many people who have gone to live and work in a new place. The Lutheran Rural Health Center has been receiving new staff that have come from different parts of Zambia to work at the clinic. These are both Lutheran members and Government paid staff.

The clinic received a young man by the name of Mr. Mwanda Chipulu. He is a male nurse who was posted to the health centre in 2019 by the government. Seeing the example of other clinic staff, the gentleman got down to work, he committed himself to work hard - especially as he was the only male nurse. Many have commended his work ethic and attitude. This was proven one day when instead of going home after a long day at clinic, Mr Chipulu chose to accompany an expectant mother who, due to complications, needed to be referred to another clinic that was better able to care for her. Mr. Chipulu went with the expecting mother and her other family members. This action was applauded by many staff and volunteers at the clinic as well as community members and leaders.

It is easy to see the passion Mr. Chipulu has for his call as a nurse. His fellow staff have appreciated his attitude toward work. The clinic is a faith-based facility with a mission to demonstrate the good news of Jesus Christ through physical help to others. Mr Chipulu is a good example of how children of God demonstrate the love and passion toward the call to service.

Sadly, two months ago, the center received another female nurse from the Government, and at the same time, the Government required that Mr. Chipulu be moved to another clinic. The transfer raised serious concerns with the staff, patients, and the gate keepers (Community leaders). Some 22 Village Headmen called for a meeting to petition the Health District Director not to withdraw Mr. Chipulu from the Lutheran Rural Health Centre. As Clinic Administrator I brought these concerns to the Churches Health Association of Zambia (CHAZ) to mediate on our behalf with The Ministry of Health regarding the transfer of Mr. Chipulu. To date a final decision has not been made.

What lessons do we learn from this situation? We are being reminded of Colossians 3:23-24. *“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”*

Friends, there are many times in this life when we are given tasks and responsibilities that need us to use the gifts that the Lord has given us as His children. We should use those talents to the glory of God, and by so doing people show that they love God and worship Him.

Many situations in this life are different. People go for work under different circumstances. Some are happy days and some are dark, but at all times let us do whatever is required without doubt or hesitation. Let us use the power of prayer and remember that we should choose to work hard and keep our heads up, so that others will follow our example. While hard work and Christian living is not a reward itself, it can always serve as an example to others. In everything you do, do not give up. Perseverance is key and remain focused on the cross in all things present before you.

Respectively submitted,

Alisad Banda – Zambia Clinic Administrator

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