



MERCY HOUSE

Dear Northrise Supporters,

Moffat and I trust you have had a good start to the new year and we are praying 2021 brings us all the hope of getting the coronavirus under control, and returning to some level of normalcy. God has blessed Northrise University during the pandemic as only He can, and we have been able to carry on with His work here at Northrise. There is much to offer thanks and praise as NU continued to operate and move forward, and our students and staff made it well through these challenging times. Moffat and I are very grateful to all Northrise University supporters for your gifts and prayers, and your continued support of this Kingdom work at Northrise.

Last year I emailed you to share the news of Mercy House, a Northrise University affiliate, and its planned opening in 2021.

By God's guidance and provision we plan to open Mercy House in the second half of 2021!

God has put on my heart the needs of the women of Zambia for several years, especially younger women, with the need to have a **Christ-centered ministry that addresses the challenges of Zambian women** who only completed the 9th grade or maybe the 12th grade, and struggle to support themselves and their children, for those who have kids. Mercy House will be coming alongside these women and their struggles to uplift and support them through the love of Jesus Christ. The core commitments of MH will focus on **spiritual wellness, economic empowerment, and personal wholeness**. These women will participate in a year-long program and will be mentored and encouraged for an extended period of time after the program is completed as they **establish their businesses, so their life and the lives of their children can be changed dramatically**. Many of our NU students, especially juniors and seniors, will have the opportunity to work and minister at Mercy House through NU's Service Learning program.

God has truly blessed the development of Mercy House! A building lot was purchased early in 2020 in center city Ndola, and facility construction began a few months ago. The building is nearing completion and it is a beautiful place for our women to learn and be encouraged. I can't wait for you to see it in person! God has been so gracious to us through long-time supporters of Northrise to underwrite the purchase of the land, and construction costs of the building. With final plans underway for our inaugural class in August or September later this year, we have turned our attention to obtaining all necessary registrations and government approvals, developing a website and staffing Mercy House to become fully operational for our first class, and to our furnishings and 2021 operating budget needs. It's an exciting time!

Fully operational means we are welcoming 48 students per year into the Woman of Mercy program and in future years continuing to mentor and encourage all women who have completed the program, and are out on their own with **new opportunities for the Lord to lift them and their children out of poverty**.

What are the funding needs for Mercy House to open?

MH furnishings are estimated at \$65K and we have received half of this need through long-time supporters of Northrise University in the form of a matching gift grant. Please consider contributing to the matching gift program so we can complete the purchase of the necessary furnishings. And our operating expenses in 2021 with an August/September opening are \$55K US. So, the **total need presently at Mercy House is \$87.5K** including the matching gift from our long-time friends, which has already been received. Please consider how you may participate in supporting Mercy House to open its doors.

Please pray for us as we work toward the opening of Mercy House.

Pray specifically for the women who will be our teachers, our administrative staff, mentors, and encouragers. Pray for the young women who will be participating in the Woman of Mercy program that their hearts will be open to the love of Jesus Christ, and that the program will be life-changing for them. And please pray for me as I transition from Northrise University to the leadership of Mercy House. It is truly a step in faith, and an exciting time as I have felt for many years God's call to this ministry to young women in Zambia.

You can make a gift to Mercy House

As you pray for Mercy House and if you feel led to contribute to the furnishings budget and 2021 operating budget of Mercy House, we will be very grateful. You can make a gift to Mercy House by clicking on the button below or mail a check made payable to Mercy House Initiative (our 501c3) at PO Box 5111, Scottsdale, AZ, 85261. If you would like instructions to make a stock or donor-advised fund contribution please contact Kelly Shaw at kelly.shaw@northrise.org or 602-330-6274.

May God bless you in 2021. Moffat and I are so grateful for your support of Northrise University over the years. I am personally grateful for the opportunity God has provided for me to serve the women of Zambia through Mercy House and I look forward to sharing Mercy House with you and having you visit with us.

Blessings,

Doreen Zimba
Executive Director
Mercy House