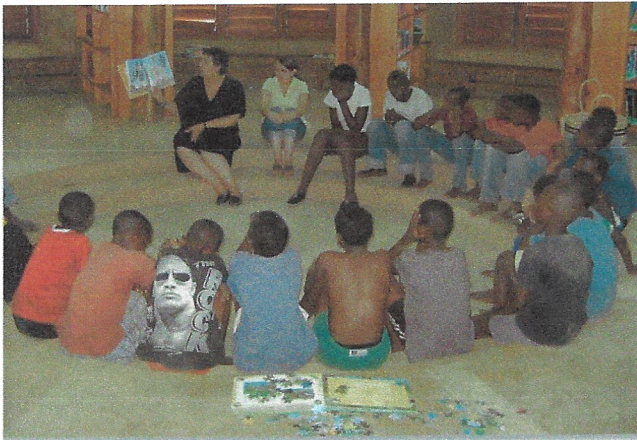




### Lubuto Library Receives DREAMS Grant

If you talk about libraries in Africa, you might know that while throughout Africa there is a long and rich tradition of storytelling, it wasn't until the colonial era that written literacy became widespread—and it was mostly for the consumption of text from the Bible and the Koran. International aid efforts brought secular reading to the Continent, but it was usually to promote literature from a European and American perspective. After WWII, [UNESCO](#) initiated public libraries as a way to promote international understanding and peace. In 1949, the [UNESCO Public Library Manifesto](#) was published, with core guidelines stipulating the aims, services and beneficiaries of the public library.

In 2005 the first [Lubuto Library](#) opened in Lusaka, Zambia. It targeted marginalized children and was a safe place where they could read, listen to stories, and be creative through performing arts. Other libraries followed. From 2010 to 2018, Lubuto Library Partners has opened four other libraries in Zambia—the latest through a second grant from USAID/ASHA in Choma, Zambia's Southern province. ASHA also funded Lubuto's library in Lusaka.



Lubuto recently received another grant—the [DREAMS Innovation Challenge grant](#), will support keeping adolescent girls in school. Females account for 71% of new HIV infections in Sub-Saharan Africa—there is an estimated 1,000 new cases a day. DREAMS is a \$385 million public-private partnership, led by [PEPFAR](#) and with the support of the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#), Girl Effect, Johnson & Johnson, Gilead Sciences, and ViiV Healthcare, to scale up interventions and infuse new thinking

to keep adolescent girls and young women HIV-free. The DREAMS Innovation Challenge—an \$85 million investment aims to accelerate progress toward the DREAMS target of achieving a 40 percent reduction in new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women in the highest-burden areas of 10 sub-Saharan African countries by the end of 2017. The DREAMS Innovation Challenge includes a nearly \$40 million investment in innovative solutions to keep girls in secondary school, which dramatically reduces their vulnerability to HIV infection. Congratulations to Lubuto Library Partners.