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To introduce ourselves, we came to Africa from the Czech Republic. Our volunteering service here is almost like a honeymoon. We got married in June 2012 just after finishing our university studies. The decision of becoming volunteers came to our minds about three years ago when we thought about dedicating one year of our lives to a mission. After going through a preparation year conducted by SADBA, Czech Salesian organization that takes care about volunteers and missions, we have finally reached our dream of being part of a Salesian mission work. Since the beginning of December 2012 we've started working as volunteers at Don Bosco Technical College (DBTC) in Hwange. We cooperate and live with the local Salesian community and we hope to be a part of it at least until September.

The most of our time we dedicate to the Technical College itself. Although our qualification doesn't allow us to train future bricklayers, secretaries or clothes designers, they can benefit here from our knowledge of information technology and mathematics. However, in the beginning we had to adapt to a different approach to preparations of a school year. For us it was quite challenging to prepare for eight subjects with twelve different syllabuses in one week. And surprises, either bad or good, continue to meet us almost every week of this term. Yet we hope that our guidance of students will be successfully completed by their passed exams at the end of the year.

However, you don't find us only in the classrooms in front of the students but also on a volleyball or basketball court. We are taking care of sports Wednesdays and also of other students' activities, for example we organized a big team-building game for the Don Bosco day.

Our second great commitment is in the oratory. Since none of the Salesians is in charge of running it, our task was to bring the oratory back to life and start receiving children again after several years. We've repaired broken equipment, put oratory store room into order, set up the basic rules and started having fun with children. We are meeting every afternoon from Friday to Sunday; in the other days we would disturb the lessons of the school. In the oratory we try to encourage children to organize themselves and develop their team spirit through playing soccer, basketball or volleyball. We also want to support their creativity through guitar lessons and drawing, using watercolors, crayons or chalks. The children made a flag of the oratory with motto "Play and pray" and also took part in the oratory table football tournament. At the end of every day we finish assembled together with a song, a talk and a prayer. For us it is great experience to start running oratory all by ourselves. We hope that especially older children will start coming in greater numbers so we could train some leaders and then we could easily start receiving more children than those thirty that are usually coming.



The rest of our time is filled with smaller things. We are taking care of other three rooms of our volunteer house. We are preparing them for guests whose payments for accommodation help the community budget. We are also doing a technical IT support for parishioners and friends of the community, teaching the locals how to play guitar, cooperating with parish child coordinators and supporting the College by taking part in fund-raising activities held by Salesians in the Czech republic.