



Malawi Children's Village Sewing Project

Nettie's report: Update 2018

The year is coming to an end, time for an update on the sewing project in Malawi. The training program and the production are going very well. Because the handcrafts we make are beautiful and of the highest quality, we have built up a very successful wholesale business. Ayami the manager and James the teacher are a dedicated team (right), they keep the program running all year round. I am there from June to September every year and after 17 years I feel right at home as soon as I arrive. My reports from previous years are on the website malawichildrens-village.org/sewing where you can read all about what we do in our program.

Following are some highlights of this year.



James

Avami

Nettie



Ayami layout and cutting.



James at the overlocker.



Our handcrafts in production.

On a Sunday we go by motorcycle to see our kids in the villages, we arrive unannounced. We find them on the treadle machines doing freelance work.



James at his village shop employing two tailors.



Usuf on the porch.



Mdala (above) stuffing elephant dolls- Robert (left) in the shade of a big tree.



In the village, always an audience.

PROGRESS:



Ayami's house when he joined the program.



Ayami's house now, after a recent addition and with electricity and running water.



Abdul joined the program five years ago, now in South Africa for two years, taking care of the family needs and building them a permanent home.



HELPING OTHERS:



School fees for Issah, always number one.



Nettie Jr. in first grade.



Dolls for the orphanage.



A bike fixed like new for Davis.

New tubes and tires for the wheelchair of our friend James.





One Saturday we all go to the village to put the roof on Paul's house.



The girls cook a lunch.



A job well done!

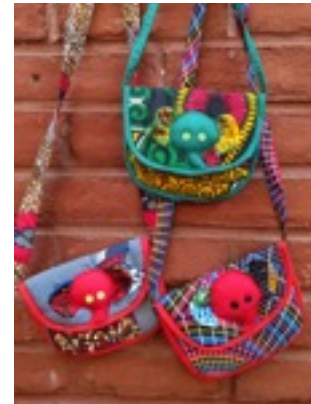


Paul "Mum, I am so happy, now I have a nice house."

BIG NEWS

Over the last years, the wholesale of our handcrafts has become our main steady stream of income. We have major accounts in Blantyre and Lilongwe, in the game park and at Blantyre airport. We always knew we had to get into the departure hall of the Lilongwe airport, now a major hub. This summer everything fell into place and Ayami made the contact with Airport Development Lilongwe ADL, the largest retailer with several stores. We now feel very secure. With all our accounts and our own retail shop at the program, we are busy with production all the time.

Our stores say : "Your articles sell themselves, they are colorful, of the highest quality and make great gifts."



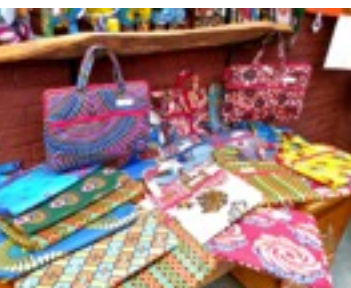
Our retail shop at the program.



Happy customers.



Work for everyone.



Judy, owner of airport shop Blantyre, spends the day with us buying. On my departure, a customer at her shop purchasing one of our dolls!



An order ready for delivery.



Ayami multi-tasking.



Fabric buying.



Lunchtime.



A new design: Baby Happy Pants, become a big seller.



No electricity, we move outside.



Food security, 123 bags of maize.



HAPPY FACES: "Zikomo. Thank you for your interest and support of our program!"



Ayami and family.

Nettie Graulich
5533 Sherier Pl. NW,
Washington DC. 20016
Tel: 561-777-2330

EMAIL: nettiegraulich@yahoo.com

Reports from pervious years can be found at malawichildrensvillage.org/sewing