

2024 Mid-Year Update



**malawi
children's
village**

A Village-Based Orphan Care Project

The Girls Dormitory: Beacon of Empowerment

by Felix Chirombo, MCV Director

A new girls' dormitory for MCV has been a wish of MCV staff, teachers, and students for years. Construction started more than a year ago, and the grand opening will be in September 2024, coinciding with the beginning of the new academic year!

New facility will provide:

- 120 Beds for young women
- Proper study area without distractions
- Running water, flushing toilets
- Reliable electricity
- Basic closets/storage
- Matron facilities

We at MCV are ever so thankful to our generous donors. The dormitory stands as a symbol of hope and opportunity for female students who will soon call it home. It stands not just as a building, but as a beacon of empowerment and progress, ready to shape the future of education for generations to come. Zikomo! (thank you)



120 girls are getting very excited to move into a brand new dormitory!



A Young Student's Dream

by Vincent Sisya, MCV Deputy Director

Joyce Mtambo was born at Nkali village into a family of six children. Her father passed away when she was young. She has been living with a dream of becoming a police officer.

"In our community there is a lot of theft and crime. I wish I could help solve these problems by becoming a police officer to close this gap."

Joyce and her five siblings live with her mother, who has no other business or work. She relies on pieces of work to find the daily food for her children. During the rainy season, they have a piece of land to cultivate, but the most food they harvest is five bags, which only lasts them for a few months. Joyce has to use a torch for her evening studies, but sometimes she does not study due to a shortage of batteries.

Joyce has been working hard at school so that she can fulfill her dreams of law enforcement but her grades have been lower than what she expected. Joyce is hopeful that with the new dormitory, she will have more time to dedicate to her studies and improve her overall grades.

2024 Irrigation Project Update

by Felix Semu, MCV Irrigation Project Supervisor

The 2024 irrigation season began in March with the distribution of irrigation supplies (seeds, chemicals and fertilizers). The supplies are distributed to farmers so that they should be prepared for the new season. Farmers planted the seeds in nurseries while preparing the land for planting. All of our farmers prepare their land using hand hoes. Their designs are so beautiful that it is hard to believe they are made from hand hoes.



Land prepared for planting by hand tools



Healthy corn harvest

Despite many farmers losing their cultivating land due to flooding or storms, our farmers have prevailed with beautiful stands of different types of crops. It takes great effort and hard work from our farmers to maintain good-looking crop fields. Most of the farmers spend all day at the farm doing different types of work like irrigating crops, chasing away birds, and engaging in other activities crucial for the goodness of the crops. We expect to have good harvest and income for this first season of the year 2024.



Part of MCV's mission is to provide adequate food to orphans and the families that care for them.

Nsima:

The staple dish for Malawians is a thick porridge made from maize (corn) flour and water. It is often served with sauce and any available vegetables or meat products. This young boy is taking the corn off to get ready to grind.



Reflections From a Recent Visit to MCV

by Mary Pomeroy, MCV Board Member

Mary recently returned to Malawi to meet with staff and families and to follow up on the Special Needs program she started 16 years ago!

'One of my favorite parts is the thank you meeting I have with the MCV Village Volunteers. These are volunteers from each of the 39 villages in MCV's catchment area. At the end of the meeting, they perform an 'appreciation dance' which is a joyous experience. My days were filled with attending MCV Cerebral Palsy (CP) Clinics and visiting children/families in the villages. During CP clinics, each child is seen by a physician, social worker, nutritionist, and rehab tech or physical therapist. Connections are made, and support groups form with the families, who now have each other to share the challenges and joys of raising a child with special needs. Time was also spent going to small hardware stores or kiosks to buy supplies for MCV to repair wheelchairs, walkers and canes/crutches. One old wooden wheelchair was painted red as requested by the child. He is one happy boy, wheeling his fire-engine red wheelchair to school (see picture)!'



The program's stats from last year!

362: Number of clinic visits

196: Total number of clients

85: Standing frames built

54: Cerebral Palsy Chairs built

34: Wheelchairs rebuilt

To read more about the Special Needs program and Mary's reflections from her recent visit, please visit our website: malawichildrensvillage.org.

Your Gift Saves Lives!

Ways You Can Make a Difference:

Keep three children warm with blankets: \$20

Feed a family for a month: \$50

Save 100 orphans from Malaria: \$100

Send a student to Secondary School for a year: \$300

Build a home for orphans and their caregiver families for \$1,000

Learn more at malawichildrensvillage.org