



CHW PROGRESS REPORT

Issue # 13 Fall 2017

— All Are Invited! —
Saturday November 4, 2017
3th Annual
Chocolate Extravaganza
Stratford, Ontario
(Details on Page 4)

CHW GIRLS CLUBS TO BEGIN SOON!

As girls approach adolescence in the developing world, often their world becomes smaller, their lives become more vulnerable and involve more risk. These girls often face poorer health outcomes, become more socially isolated and are more apt to be infected by HIV/AIDS and acquire sexually transmitted diseases. Many will drop out or not transition to secondary school or further education. Although there may be youth programs in some areas, the make-up of many of these groups tends to be composed predominantly of male participants. What is needed for “at risk” girls, many of whom are without parents or caring guardians, is a program designed specifically for them.

Towards that end, the Canadian Board and the Project Team in Chilumba has initiated the preliminary steps for developing such a program which would happen outside school hours. Although the logistics of CHW Girls Clubs are still being determined by consultation in Chilumba with all the volunteers and stakeholders, the primary goals of the program are as follows:



1. To teach and promote good communication skills, decision-making skills, encourage goal setting and build self-esteem.
2. To provide factual information related to the legal rights of girls & women, community resources and safe places to go if in danger as well as address issues around gender based and sexual violence in all areas of their lives.
3. To promote positive change and teach factual information in areas of reproductive health along with general health and wellness.
4. To foster within the group an environment of respect and openness where issues and concerns can be discussed, girls can be supported and valued and where advocacy and solidarity are demonstrated

Key project personnel will oversee the operation of the CHW Girls Clubs along with community leaders who will be asked to participate by sharing their particular perspectives and experience on their career choice or ways they contribute to their community. For example, a nurse/midwife might share what care may be available at hospitals/health centers and give factual information on various health related concerns as well as talk about nursing/midwifery as a career choice. Some leaders in the community, who act as mentors in the absence of family, will serve as valuable resources and advocates for the girls.

It is our hope that for girls in need of support in any aspect of their lives, these clubs will be a safe place, an educational space and an environment where adolescent girls can be celebrated, grow in confidence and learn to make good choices and decisions. This will ensure a happier, easier and more positive life for themselves, their future families and the communities at large. Stay Tuned !

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Other CHW Project News!

Building Girl's Hostels at Thimalala and Thunduti



Thimalala and Thunduti are not words that roll easily off the tongue. These are names of the schools where Change Her World is assisting in building girls' hostels where none presently exist. Thimalala is in our Mzuzu/Ekwendeni project while Thunduti is within the Chilumba catchment area.

We are pleased to partner with the school and community leaders to address this urgent need for girls requiring safe accommodation while receiving their secondary school education.

As both building projects move to the next stage approximately \$5,000.00 is still needed for each hostel. As our funds allow we will continue with the construction. We sincerely appreciate your support in these two much needed endeavours.



Brickwork is laid, cement was purchased and used to build foundation for a hostel for girls in Thunduti



Goat Project Update!

Our goats purchased in the Fall of 2016, are now having babies which is enabling the next round of beneficiaries to receive their first goat to start to build their herd. Alick, our vice-coordinator reports that all is going well.

We are thankful to be able to assist this group, of what will be about **60 women in total**, to achieve a higher standard of living and thus a better quality of life for their families.

New Wheelchair for Young Learner in Malawi

During the visit to Malawi in 2016, Carol (CHW co-founder/director) had the opportunity to meet a young girl during a school visit who was born with a significant deformity to both legs. Often her parents would carry her to school but mobility whether at school or at home was a great challenge for this young girl.

Enough funds were received to allow CHW to purchase a wheelchair for this young girl. She was overwhelmed when our committee members arrived to present her with her own wheelchair—something neither her family or school committee could afford for her. This is another example of meaningful ways the donations from Canadian donors are making a difference in the lives of girls in Malawi!



Shipment to Malawi - Thanks To Many Dedicated Donors! - August 28, 2017

In the Spring 2017 CHW Progress Report, the purpose in assembling teaching and learning resources was explained and a big thank you given to Shirley Weitzel and her team who helped immensely in gathering these things.

The Board of directors wants also to acknowledge the contribution of RTO (Retired Teachers of Ontario) District # 9 under the direction of Pat Evers from Wingham. She made several trips to Stratford to drop off excellent materials to aid students and teachers alike in the teaching and acquisition of language as well as math skills. The personal needs of teachers are not forgotten either as there were personal hygiene kits for them as well as for the girls who are returning to their post-secondary programs at college and university. Pat is passionate about this work and seeks out just exactly the most needed things based on her own experience in the classroom as well as through discussions with Linda and her personal knowledge of need in third world countries. Thanks so much Pat! We appreciate your tireless efforts and your passion.

Thanks also to Jean Aitcheson (and Mabel) for the donation of crayons, markers, pencil crayons and other supplies. Steffanie Shore contributed many boxes of soft covered school books which will bring delight to students in Grades 1 to 3. Erin Elliot and her friend Louise came by with 6 back packs full of school supplies! What a gift this will be for many! The Canadian Board extends a heartfelt expression of gratitude and appreciation to all who have donated to our

charity. At the risk of sounding repetitive...we could not do it without you!

“Twonge Chomene” (Timbuka for thank you very much)

Linda Willis (co-founder and Canadian Board Chair) made a presentation at Central Secondary School, Stratford at the request of Alice Wilson. Alice is a Grade Ten student who first interviewed Linda about the work of the charity in relation to a school project in the spring 2017. She invited Linda to come and speak to several classes on June 8. Some school supplies were also gathered as a result of that experience.

On August 28, a shipment of 79 totes was loaded into a truck headed for Pearson Airport, Toronto to transport these valuable resources to the Mzuzu/Ekwendeni and Chilumba Projects.

Below is a brief summary of the critical contents in this shipment:

- 995 birthing kits - 522 assorted bras - 223 pairs of flip flops
- 173 sanitary protection kits + 62 extra shields
- 156 pneumonia vests - 25 totes filled with school supplies/ teaching/ learning aids/storybooks and novels.



A special thanks for these firefighters who arrived after their shift at 8 AM August 28 to helped us load 79 totes for shipment to Malawi. From R to L—Brett Fairweather, Rob Steele, Jake Jenkins, Linda, Scott Petrie and Jeff Allen.



Pat Evers arrived at Linda's home with many valuable teaching resources!

An Afternoon in Tobermory:

On July 19, Linda (and her sister Susan), arrived at the Maple Golf B&B in Tobermory operated by Jill Stewart and her husband Lawrence. This occurred as a result of Jill having made past attempts to have Linda come and update the ladies about Change Her World. Several had been present in Walkerton at the Saugeen Deanery in 2013, when Carol and Linda had made an initial presentation on the work of the charity. Finally all fell into place!

Gathered in Jill's home were about 12 women who greeted Linda warmly and with good humour. They were a wonderful group who listened attentively, asked insightful questions and provided tasty refreshments at the conclusion of the inspiring stories shared by Linda. Their support and commitment to the cause of the girl child in Malawi, Africa was clearly evident!

All left feeling motivated to do more. This group was encouraged to collect soccer balls and skipping ropes for the next shipment to Malawi.



“Thank you Jill and the ladies of the St. Edmunds ACW in Tobermory. It was indeed a pleasure to see you again!”

3rd Annual CHW Chocolate Extravaganza!

Saturday November 4, 2017

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

93 Morgan Street, Stratford (Knights of Columbus Hall)

Baked Goods/ Product Drop Off: Friday November 3 at Knights of Columbus Hall from 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Please contact Linda Willis no later than Wednesday November 1 to let her know what you can donate!

Call (519) 271-5598 or email: lwillis@changeherworld.ca

Pay attention folks! The Chocolate Extravaganza this year will be an event not to be missed. Local chefs and home bakers will be vying to see to who will win the first ever CHW Chocolate Layer Cake Challenge. Prizes will be awarded! In addition we will have decorating demos to entertain and inform you as well as the heavenly scent of the chocolate fountain!

If that was not enough, everyone who donates baking is being challenged to bake & decorate something new and different. You cannot believe how many brownies we had last year...all appreciated and all delicious. :-)) but even the most avid brownie connoisseur appreciates a change for the palate. So...



Note to all baking donors:

Want to receive a prize for the best decorated cupcake?

Win the prize for the most unusual chocolate treat donated?

Be innovative and take a risk and do something new for the Chocolate Extravaganza. You are only limited by your imagination and the bounty of the baking websites!!! Do not let a piping bag intimidate you!

How about - cream cheese chocolate chip cookies?

- pistachio, apricot & dark chocolate energy bars?

- chocolate dipped pretzels with sea salt?

Or maybe – molten lava cakes?

- raspberry butter torte with chocolate icing?

- strawberry white chocolate tarts?

We will look forward to seeing what shows up on our tables.

Thanks to each of you for your support and your willingness to help us grow this wonderful event.

P.S. Be sure to check our salute to **Canada 150** table with chocolate from various provinces!

We have over 200 girls attending school in our projects including 16 girls in college and university!

In order to allow these girls to continue their education, we need your committed support.

Can you provide a monthly donation? This helps determine how many girls can be supported.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-mail: _____

I wish to support the education of CHW girls with \$ _____ ☐ Cheque (payable to CHANGE HER WORLD)

I wish to support CHW with a monthly donation of \$ _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MC

CARD NO. _____ EXPIRY DATE ____ / ____

Cardholder Name (Print) _____

Signature _____ Phone _____

Charitable Registration No. 81600 9252 RR0001

Mail to: **CHANGE HER WORLD**
P.O. Box 1057
Stratford, Ontario
N5A 6W4

Receipts are issued for gifts of \$20.00
or more.

Donations may be made online at
www.changeherworld.ca

1-888-909-2491

Change Her World First Co-op Placement Student — Victoria Broadfoot

Change Her World had its first co-op student placement at the request of St. Michaels Secondary School in Stratford in the spring of 2017. In February, Victoria Broadfoot spent an average of two and a half hours, two days a week at Linda's home where she was a great help, particularly in readying the totes for shipment in August. Victoria is passionate about girls' rights, has a keen eye for injustice and was eager to learn about life for girls in the developing world as she talked with Linda while sorting, rolling, taping and packing underwear. She learned that we do not send castoffs to these girls and that some items may be culturally inappropriate. She became adept at identifying these items.

Victoria also helped set up and take down displays at the Annual Dinner, manned the product and literature table during the event and performed various other tasks during her time as a co-op student. In the future, she hopes to offer her time and energy as a volunteer for the charity anytime she is needed.



A display of Victoria's placement for other students and staff at her local high school.



Victoria volunteering at the 7th Annual Change Her World Dinner in April 2017

In June 2017, Victoria was recognized by her school as having earned a Specialist High Skills Major in the area of Non-Profit, among other notable awards. Change Her World is grateful for her effort and enthusiasm and the Canadian Board wish her every success as she moves forward in attaining her future aspirations.

Collection Campaign Fall 2017

WE NEED...

Soccer Balls

Skipping Ropes

Flashcards

**Picture Dictionaries
(Soft Cover)**

Math Sets

Rulers/Pens

Crayons/Markers

Glue/ Calculators

Girls Skirts/Dresses

Girls Underwear/ Bras

Girls Tops/ Blouses

**Contact: Linda Willis
(519) 271-5598
llwillis@changeherworld.ca**

**Mid-West Canada:
Contact: Donna Milbrandt
(306) 621-6816
dmilbrandt@changeherworld.ca**

Canadian Midwest Report from Donna Milbrandt.

Telephone: 306.782.7182 **Cell/Text:** 306.621.6816

Email: dmilbrandt@changeherworld.ca

Throughout mid-western Canada the word is spreading about what Change Her World is doing in Malawi. Donna had a very successful experience with her volunteers at the Yorkton Spring Expo and will be back with a display table at the Fall Harvest Showdown. She reported:

"Change Her World is gaining more recognition all the time. Andrea Penner, whom I had made contact with at two previous shows, brought a "bundle" of pillowcase dresses all nicely packaged along with well sewn reusable sanitary protection. The Norquay Sewing Circle will be continuing to sew sanitary protection this winter. I will be speaking at several churches and social clubs this Fall!"

Yorkton Harvest Showdown—November 1—4, 2017

Change Her World will be at this event!

If you would like to assist as a volunteer, please contact Donna.



Iris, a 98 year old volunteer in Mid-West Canada sewing dresses and reusable sanitary protection for Change Her World!

CHANGE HER WORLD

Founded in 2010, this organization is dedicated to removing the barriers that prevent girls and women from being educated in the developing world.

Currently, girls and women in our project in Northern Malawi are receiving support but the need is great.

Our Corporate Objects include:

- ◇ Education of girls
- ◇ Relief of poverty
- ◇ Clean water and sanitation
- ◇ Promotion of Health
- ◇ Provision of micro financing

If you want to change the world...start with her

An Update on our Financial Status:

Presently, we are running a deficit as we continue to expand our project work. Higher costs have occurred due to the low Canadian dollar. However, we have seen a significant increase in the number of girls attending colleges and universities. It cost approximately \$600 to \$800 US per term to support a girl in post-secondary education vs. \$150 to \$200 US per term for secondary education. As of the Fall 2017, we are supporting 16 girls in full-time post-secondary studies. This is exciting for so many! In addition, some students require room and board or laptop computers. As the Canadian directors, we continue to work extremely hard to minimize expenses in Canada. **Listed below are some ways you can help us:**

- ◆ **Donate on a monthly basis (credit card or post-dated cheques) as this allows us to have more consistent financial support.**
- ◆ **Invite the co-founders—Linda and Carol to speak at your church, social club or social gathering so that more will hear about this inspiring work.**
- ◆ **Provide us with your current email address so that we can send the CHW Progress Report by email. This will save on postage. You are now able to update your email address on our website at www.changeherworld.ca.**
- ◆ **Organize a fundraiser.**
- ◆ **Contact us for Donation Cards which can be given to family members/friends at Christmas to indicate that a donation has been made to this charity in place of a gift.**
- ◆ **Order Gift Cards (ie Canadian Tire) through Fundscrip - www.fundscrip.com. Use the invitation code **QKCYMN** to purchase online or call /email Carol at (519) 271-8701 / chamilton@changeherworld.ca to pick up orders in Stratford.**

Plan to attend the
8th Annual Change Her World Dinner—Saturday April 14, 2018

We wish to thank Kevin Hill, Commercial Printers Stratford, for the charity discount provided for the quality printing of this report.

Change Her World

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www.changeherworld.ca



Important Notice!

**Due to the high cost of postage, as of 2018, CHW Progress Reports will only be mailed to those without an email address.
Please update your email address information on our website!**

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Mail Label