



Above: Maize being loaded in Karonga for distribution.

CHW PROGRESS REPORT

“LIFE IS VERY TOUGH FOR POOR MALAWI”

This was the conclusion of an email from our Vice-Chair, Douglas Ndindi, in Chilumba on January 19, 2013. He went on to say *“If funds could allow, it can be very important if we could support our beneficiaries with a bag of maize.”* This set in motion the first Change Her World appeal for funds for a specific and urgent need.

Thanks to the many people who responded very quickly, we were able to send funds for 138 bags of maize which was purchased by our committee at \$25 per bag and delivered to the 6 zones on February 2. Each 50k bag would last up to two months. The people were overjoyed and grateful beyond what they were able to express.

This is what Douglas had to say when he reported back to us after the distribution:

“I am so grateful to inform you that the maize distribution has been very successful. At each and every zone visited people were so delighted and excited for the gifts of maize. Women and girls sang songs of appreciation. It was unbelievable to all that the charity has considered them once again with maize when hunger was at its climax.”

The weather in Malawi is predictable with only 3 seasons and the weather does not vary much between the seasons. The rainy season lasts from about December to March- it's the time when the ground is broken, crops are planted and grow.

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Below: Grateful smiles on the faces of Change Her World girls.

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Another First!

In addition to responding to the appeal for food in January, Change Her World shipped 14 Rubbermaid cartons of underwear and clothing last November. This was an exercise fraught with concern and anxiety initially but all went well and the shipment arrived intact and safely into the hands of our committee.

Having packed, wrapped and labelled the cartons, Linda and Carol rented a U-Haul cube van, Carol at the wheel, and drove the containers to a warehouse in Kitchener. From there they were taken to Pearson Airport where they were put on an Air France flight into Amsterdam; on then into Nairobi, and finally into Lilongwe, the capital of Malawi. We were able to track the whereabouts of the shipment on the Air France website. It took a total of 10 days from start to finish which we were pleased with and anticipate another shipment at the end of March 2013.

Thank you to all who contributed funds, sewed clothing and donated underwear.

“Life Is Very Tough For Poor Malawi”

(Continue from Page 1)

Towards the end of the season, “a hungry season” sometimes occurs when the old crop is exhausted and the new crop isn’t ready yet to eat. We had already been notified that many of the school feeding programs had to shut down because of lack of maize. Factoring into this equation was also the fact that the government subsidized food had run out and the regular places of purchase were charging \$25 a bag which the people could not afford.

The Board is grateful to those of you who supported this appeal and honour you for your care and compassion.



Because of specialized needs, we currently supplement the diet of three girls. In addition, two girls are being supported by having us pay their monthly rent and water usage. The roof blew off the house where they were “self-boarding” and different accommodations had to be arranged. Another girl has her upkeep entirely paid by CHW.

Your donation today will help to acquire these much needed supplies for girls, women and their families in Malawi Africa!

Directors Prepare to Travel to Malawi

On Tuesday April 23, 2013, Linda Willis and Carol Hamilton will be departing from Stratford to travel to their project in Northern Malawi, Africa. This is not a journey for the fainthearted! In addition to their one suitcase with their personal articles of clothing etc., Carol and Linda will each take an additional 50 lb Physician Travel Pack (consisting of 2 cartons). These have been purchased from Health Partners International. Each carton contains medicine doses and treatment for 600 people for conditions most commonly found in the developing world. The clinics and hospitals in Northern Malawi are currently bereft of even the most common necessities to treat ill patients and these supplies will be gratefully received by the health care personnel at the local clinics in the Chilumba area.

So with 100 lbs. of provisions each, they will travel from Stratford to Pearson International Airport in Toronto where they will board a flight to Atlanta, Georgia. Arriving in the mid-afternoon, they have a four and a half hour layover before boarding a Delta flight which departs at 7:40 PM arriving in Johannesburg, South Africa at 5:00 PM the next day – Wednesday April 24. This flight is non-stop and sitting in economy class for 14.5 hours will not be easy. They will be overnight in Johannesburg and up early on Thursday April 25 to catch the 10:00 AM flight into the capital city of Malawi which is called Lilongwe.

The afternoon will be spent buying much needed supplies – ie bottled water, toilet paper, food for noon meals and assessing the cost of sewing machines and teaching resources. The following day, they begin the 492 KM trip north, stopping overnight in Mzuzu before completing the final leg of their journey. On Saturday April 27, they will arrive in Chilumba to be warmly welcomed by members of the Change Her World Chilumba Project Committee.

It is a requirement of the Canadian Charities Directorate that all charities with projects outside of Canada visit their project(s). These visits allow charity directors to obtain hard copies of receipts for project expenses and see, firsthand, the accomplishments of the resources sent from Canada. One of the greatest challenges in visiting this project is finding suitable accommodations. This year, Linda and Carol will be accommodated in the newly constructed **Happy Guest House**. Provisions are very basic – a bed, mosquito net, toilet, sink and shower (pictured here).



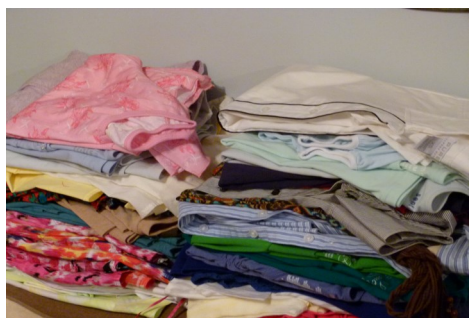
Their days will be full as they visit the six zones to observe schools in session (primary and secondary) and see how the resources sent have been utilized (including roofs on school blocks, cement floor for a female teachers house and school block, 2 girls hostels repaired, and assessment of microloan investments). As they are welcomed into each community, they will be met with singing, plays will be performed, speeches will be made and gifts of thanks and appreciation offered. One of the greatest joys for the directors will be meeting many of the girls being supported by Change Her World allowing them the opportunity to speak to them personally. The zone visits will also provide Linda and Carol a chance to thank the 60 zone volunteers who work so hard to implement this project in the villages. Before they depart to make the return trip to Canada, they will also spend time speaking with the 15 volunteer Project Committee as they celebrate the success of their work and vision, prioritize and set goals for continuing to meet future needs in this region.

..... Continue on Page 3

Directors Prepare to Travel to Malawi (Continue from Page 2)

As both Linda and Carol have expressed regarding their previous visit in August 2011, *"when we see the joy in the face of a girl and hear her express gratitude for all that Change Her World has meant for her – well – there is no greater gift than that!"*

In advance of their April trip, it is their intent to send another cargo shipment by air at the end of March. This shipment will include the underwear, bras, clothing, toothbrushes and toothpaste that have been collected along with a container filled with donated Beanie Babies for use as toys in future nursery schools. Also included will be an assortment of medicines and supplies donated locally along with 80 bags of dried soup mix, 10 bags of dried pears and 10 bags of dried apples. Each bag of soup mix makes 100 bowls/cups of soup when 25 litres of water are added. The soup can be flavoured with salt and meat if available. The fruit makes a healthy snack for the children.



"We trust that the soup and fruit will be used for emergency feeding purposes particularly for school noon feeding programs and as well perhaps in nursery schools that we hope to establish," shares Linda Willis.

Book now to have Linda and Carol share with your community group, church or school class about their visit to Malawi and the tremendous work being done to empower girls and women through education in the 13th poorest region of the world.

www.changeherworld.ca and go to the *Book A Speaker* link.

UPCOMING

EVENTS

Spring 2013

Third Annual Stratford Fundraising Dinner Saturday April 13, 2013

5:30 PM Social Hour

6:00 PM Dinner

**Stratford Golf and
Country Club**
53 Romeo St. North, Stratford

Cost: \$35.00/ticket

Door Prizes, Gift Basket
Auction, and Entertainment

Tickets available at Blowes
Stationery (on Wellington) and
York Street Kitchen (on Erie St.)
or by calling (519) 271-5598

Rock'n Roll Dance

(plus Classic Country)

Saturday June 8, 2013

7:30 PM Doors Open

8:00 PM Dance

**Army, Navy and
Air Force Club**

151 Lorne Ave. E., Stratford

Cost: \$20.00/ticket

Silent Auction & Door Prizes

Tickets available at Blowes Stationery (on
Wellington) and York Street Kitchen (on
Erie St.) or calling (519) 271-5598



Dance and
Costume Prizes!

Music: Vanrock
Sound (DJ)

info@changeherworld.ca

1-519 - 949-8701

www.changeherworld.ca

Learning is not just about literacy, numeracy or even life skills. What girls learn about themselves – as girls and as members of the community and societies in which they live - is also critical. The values that the school passes on are just as important as the curriculum.

Plan Canada Learning for Life 2012

DID YOU KNOW



- ✓ In Malawi there are 2 doctors for every 100,000 people
- ✓ Malawi has a 60% nursing shortage
- ✓ Malaria continues to be the number one illness in Malawi especially for children, accounting for 40% of the deaths under two years of age.



Because of your generous donations, Change Her World was able to pay for transport to hospital and treatment for this CHW girl suffering from complications of malaria.

.....
☒ Yes, I would like to transform the lives of girls and women in the developing world through education.

Single Gift Option

☐ Cash

☐ Cheque

☐ Credit Card

☐ Please accept my special gift of \$ _____

My cheque to **Change Her World** is enclosed.

Mail to: P.O. Box 1057, Stratford, Ontario N5A 6W4

☐ Please charge my ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMEX

CARD NO. _____ EXPIRY DATE ____/____/____

Cardholder Name (Print) _____

Signature _____ Phone _____

Monthly Gift Option

☐ VISA

☐ MASTERCARD

☐ AMEX

☐ I authorize Change Her World to make a monthly withdrawal on my credit card (as indicated above) in the amount of \$ _____. I understand that this amount will be charged to my credit card on or near the 15th of each month.

CARD NO. _____ EXPIRY DATE ____/____/____

Cardholder Name (Print) _____

Signature _____ Phone _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-mail: _____

Thank you very much! Change her World respects your privacy. We do not sell or exchange personal information with any other organization. For further information, please call 1-888-909-2491. Mail your donation to: **Change Her World P.O. Box 1057, Stratford, Ontario N5A 6W4**

Charitable Registration No. 81600 9252 RR0001

KHWAWA HOSTEL RENOVATIONS UNDERWAY

While doing some costing in Lwezga Zone for a library block roof for the Secondary School, our project committee was made aware of a dire situation involving the state of a nearby girls' hostel where 50 girls were "self-boarding". A leaking roof, cracked concrete floors, no window panes and no security gave our project committee a great deal of concern which was conveyed to the Board. In addition, the toilets and bath houses lacked roofs and doors.

Currently, the renovations continue to address the structural and physical defects in the main living structure. Installation of roofs and doors for the toilets and bath houses are also a part of this renovation.

The girls were sleeping on the concrete floor on blankets and old rugs surrounded by their belongings. They were sitting on the ground to eat as they had no tables or chairs -a unfortunate scenario to say the least.



As soon as the building is sound, Change Her World will provide bunk beds, have storage cubicles installed and purchase tables, chairs and solar lamps for their use.

As we have said before, educating a girl is about so much more than paying school fees and buying a uniform. We anticipate seeing all these advancements on our upcoming visit in April and sharing in the joy and excitement of this school community!



Urgently Needed
Now!

Toothbrushes

Call Linda Willis if you can help!

(519)271-5598



Total estimated completion cost for hostel renovation is between \$6,000.00 and \$7,000.00.

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

WE HONOUR MALALA YOUSAFZAI!

Change Her World honours 15 year old school pupil and activist Malala Yousafzai - from the village of Mingora in the Swat District of Pakistan's Kyber Pakhtunkhawa Province for her courage and fight for equality.

Malala was recently shot in the head while riding home from school on the bus because she is an outspoken advocate for the right of girls to be educated. She continues to recover in the United Kingdom where she is safe as the threat on her life persists.



All that is needed for evil to prevail is for good people to do nothing.

**Edmund Burke 1729-1797
Irish statesman, author, philosopher**

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Change Her World

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