



# CHW PROGRESS REPORT

Issue # 12 Spring 2017

— All Are Invited! —  
**Saturday April 15, 2017**  
**7th Annual**  
**Fundraising Dinner**  
 Stratford, Ontario  
 (Details on Page 4)

## The Goat Project in Progress!

During the Christmas holidays, the final step in the goat project was completed...getting the goats! The fall was spent choosing people to serve on the committee to oversee the project, choosing the beneficiaries who would benefit the most and ensuring all participants were clear on their roles and responsibilities. The women chosen to receive goats were given instruction on caring for the goats, what to watch for in terms of illness as well as a construction lesson on building a sturdy kraal to safeguard the goats. Now we wait to see how it all comes to fruition with newborn goats



*Meeting with beneficiaries to educate them about raising goats.*



*Beneficiaries learning how to build a goat kraal*

absence of a motorbike (due to a complete irreparable breakdown) at this crucial time was a quite a hindrance but they persevered. Job well done!

being passed on to the next set of beneficiaries.

The Board is tremendously excited to see how this initiative will change the lives of the women and their dependents and also how many “revolutions” can actually take place. Thanks to all in the Chilumba Project Committee who spent many hours and walked vast distances in very hot temperatures (30 + degrees Celsius) to make this endeavour a reality. The



*Above: Alick and Christina receiving her goats from Change Her World.*

*Far left: Alick (CHW Vice Chair) with Annie and her goats*

*Left: Grace and her household members and goat.*

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# Graduation is Coming Soon!

The CHW Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Change Her World currently has 15 girls being supported in post-secondary institutions. We are so very proud of these young women, of our project committees in Chilumba and Mzuzu/Ekwendeni who work tirelessly for the beneficiaries and also for the parents and guardians of these students who have supported them in attending classes and so much more. We will soon hear of the graduation of the **first six CHW beneficiaries** who have been attending college and university.

## Soon to be Graduates—Chilumba Project!

Sellah Ngwira - BScN in Nursing /Midwifery Program – University of Malawi—Blantyre- graduating in June 2017  
Margret Munthali – Human Resources –Exploit University - Lilongwe – graduating June 2017  
Ivy Thima – Financial Accounting –Miracle Institute – Karonga – graduating June 2017  
Ester Chawinga – Alma Teacher's College – Mzimba District – graduating June 2017  
Fayness Chisiza - Alma Teacher's College – Mzimba district – graduating June 2017  
Ivy Changoma – Alma Teacher's College – Mzimba District - graduating June 2017



## New Admissions for 2016/2017

- ⇒ Tafwa Phiri –Diploma in Hotel and Catering Management – Miracle Institute - Karonga
- ⇒ Elasi Munthali – Diploma in Accounting – Miracle Institute – Karonga
- ⇒ Ivy Ngwira – Diploma in Hotel and Catering Management – Miracle Institute - Karonga
- ⇒ Wakisa Mkandawire – Certificate in Law – Blantyre Institute of Management

## Mzuzu/Ekwendeni Project – Admissions in September 2016

Patience Chisiza- Bachelor of Social Science (Development Studies) – University of Livingstonia (Ekwendeni Campus)  
Meister Juba– Bachelor of Social Science (Human Rights) University of Livingstonia - Mzuzu  
Alinafe Kumwenda– Bachelor of Science in Nursing/Midwifery- Mzuzu University

## New Admissions in January 2017

- ⇒ Constance Balekwa Mkandawire – Accounting- Malawi College of Accounting –Blantyre
- ⇒ Chikondi Chigalu – Agriculture & Natural Resources – Lilongwe

## Other CHW Project News!



*In the Fall 2016 Progress Report, Lizzie was praised for her volunteer work in beautifying the outdoor play area of our nursery school. The sad news was received that she died just a few months after the Board of Directors met with her in June 2016. Lizzie blessed our girls in a very special way!*

This article (left) was published in the Stratford Beacon Herald in December 2016. The Chilumba committee informed the Board at the end of November 2016 that the motorbike used to visit the remote areas of our project was beyond repair. A new bike needed to be purchased. Having just sent all available funds to pay for the second term school fees for the 200 plus girls being supported by CHW, an appeal for help was made to the local Stratford Community. A miracle happened! A generous group of donors (from Stratford and Brampton) made this purchase possible and our new Yamaha DT 125 motorbike was delivered to the project in February 2017!



# Lidia—The Story of a Young Hopeless Girl

Written to the Board of Directors on December 25, 2016 by Alick Mwalwanda (CHW Vice-Chair)

Lidia Gondwe is living a hopeless life. She is a 14 year old orphan and a school drop out having lost both of her parents. Her days consist of sitting on a mat with her grandmother who takes care of her but she too is vulnerable and weak with old age.

When you meet her, you might be tempted to think she is junior primary girl considering her babyish voice and tender face but in reality, she has already completed primary school education and furthermore was chosen to attend secondary school. She has not been attending secondary school because there is no money for school fees. Lidia's grandmother is her sole source of support and she loves her dearly.

When I visited her I felt very sympathetic because of the poor clothing, home and food Lidia and her grandmother had.



*Lidia and her grandmother on the first visit by the CHW committee.*



*Lidia was on of the girls writing the CHW exam as part of the needs assessment for admission to the CHW program as a beneficiary.*

On November 5, 2016 the CHW Project Committee held interviews for new beneficiaries. Lidia attended and amazed the committee members with how well she responded to both the oral and written questions. She scored 70% and placed 6<sup>th</sup> out of the 47 girls who were present for the exercise.

Now with the coming of Change Her World in her life, things have changed. She is now a happy girl. She has found a parent who will clothe her, feed her and for sure, change her destiny. Joy filled her

face when I visited her again in her home and told her the good news that she will be back in school. She could not believe it and constantly said thank you for the support.



*Lidia (with backpack) preparing to go to secondary school with the help of a friend. Her grandmother watches!*

## CHW Girls Empowerment Meetings

In December 2016, meetings with the CHW girls who are in secondary school were held to address a number of issues which challenge them and may impede their futures. Recent additions to the Chilumba Project Committee are Atupele Ngonga and Telina Kitalu. These young women are university students with an interest and enthusiasm to work with Change Her World in order to empower young girls to be successful both in their studies but also in their consideration of what career choices they might make.

The meetings were led by Atupele and Telina where a broad range of topics were discussed including the importance of education, possible obstacles hindering academic success and the hazards of early marriage. Through example, Atupele and Telina also served as positive role models. This experience revealed that is easier for the beneficiaries to discuss problems with someone of the same gender. We are grateful to have these young women assist the project in these ways!



*Lwezga Zone CHW girls attending session with Atupele and Telina*



## 7th Annual CHW Fundraising Dinner

**Saturday April 15, 2017**



**Best Western Plus  
Arden Park Hotel**  
552 Ontario Street, Stratford

**Social Hour: 5:30 PM**  
**Dinner: 6:30 PM**  
**Cost: \$40.00**

Tickets available after March 18 at:  
Blowes Stationery, Stratford (on Wellington Street) or  
Linda at (519) 271-5598 or [lwillis@changeherworld.ca](mailto:lwillis@changeherworld.ca)



**Come and enjoy a stimulating evening of food, conversation and fascinating stories about the travels of the directors to Malawi in 2016. Take this opportunity to entertain family and friends during the Easter Weekend and bring hope and new life to the girls and women in Malawi!**

Collection at this event: Math resources for Grades 1, 2 & 3 including addition, subtraction, multiplication and division flash cards, number charts, geometric shapes, math games, teacher math charts, beads for counting etc.



### Need to purchase a gift card for your friend's birthday or a family anniversary?

FundScrip is an established, Canada-wide fundraising program in which you buy gift cards for special occasions or to pay for your shopping (groceries, gas, home & garden, entertainment, restaurants, and much more) thereby automatically generating contributions for Change Her World.

You can access FundScrip directly from the Home Page of Change Her World at [www.changeherworld.ca](http://www.changeherworld.ca) or you can go to [www.fundscrip.com](http://www.fundscrip.com) and sign in.

**The Invitation Code for Change Her World is QKCYMN**

For information contact, Carol Hamilton, CHW Fundscrip Coordinator at  
[chamilton@changeherworld.ca](mailto:chamilton@changeherworld.ca) or (519) 271-8701.

**Do you believe in the vision of Change Her World...**  
**...of empowering girls and women in the developing world through education?**

**Consider a monthly donation towards this important mandate!**

#### 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](http://www.changeherworld.ca)**

**1-888-909-2491**

# Preparing New Teacher Resource Kits For Chilumba

***“Once a teacher...always a teacher.”***

This saying came to mind as Linda Willis ( CHW Chair in Canada) viewed the literary resources being amassed by Canadian teachers for use by teachers in Mazungamika Zone in Northern Malawi.

Under the passionate eye of Shirley Weitzel (a retired teacher living in Stratford), six enthusiastic retired teachers have been recruited to gather or create the large amount of teaching resources and aids required to support the acquisition of language and of reading skills for the teachers in Malawi. Phonics drills, vocabulary cards, sets of the alphabet letters, semi-concrete material to practice and reinforce early learning skills, have slowly been gathered since September 2016. The variety and sheer amount of supplies is impressive.

Many softcover storybooks have also been acquired suitable for reading or with pictures useful for language development or for story writing.

The Grade 6 class at Little Falls School in St.Marys collected numerous storybooks thanks to Jane Baynes and Mrs. Cairncross. Their willingness assist in this endeavour will have a huge impact in Malawi!

This is a project that could never have be done by the Board of Directors alone and they are indebted to all who have contributed to the materials which have been gathered. A special thank-you should be expressed to Cathy Edgar in Wroxeter who made fifteen kits consisting of all the elements of early reading skills and Leigh Ognibene who has sewn small canvas bags which a Malawian child will use to carry home a book for their family to share. For children and their families in Malawi, this may be the first time to have printed material in their home. One cannot imagine the impact or repercussions of such an event! Thanks also to Barb Smithers, Heather Browning, and Kathy Currie. We are all lifelong learners!

Change Her World is now looking at providing math materials to aid in the teaching of math skills taught at the Grade 1, 2 and 3 levels in Malawi.



*Students in Mrs. Cairncross's Grade 6 class pose for a photo with CHW volunteer Jane Baynes (far left) showing the books they collected for the teacher resource kits to be sent to teachers in Northern Malawi.*

## **Canadian Midwest Report from Donna Milbrandt.**

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

**Email:** [dmilbrandt@changeherworld.ca](mailto:dmilbrandt@changeherworld.ca)

In November 2016, a CHW display table was once again present at the Yorkton Fall Fair. Many people walked by the display and some meaningful conversations took place about sewing reusable sanitary protection for the girls in Malawi as well as collecting school supplies. In all, \$1233.00 was raised for Change Her World through sale of CHW pens, notepads etc. and donations. A special thank you for all who donated! Throughout mid-western Canada the word is spreading about what Change Her World is doing in Malawi.

## **Yorkton Spring Expo—April 7—9, 2017**

Change Her World will be at this event!  
If you would like to assist as a volunteer, please contact Donna.

Donna is also available to speak about the work of Change Her World at schools, social clubs, churches and community organizations.



Donna (far left) speaking to a group of women in Springside, Sask. about 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**

### CHW Shipment Arrives

In late December 2016, we received the news that our November shipment had arrived in Chilumba! Contained in the 59 cartons were toothbrushes and paste, flip flops, nursery school supplies including dried soup for the feeding program, reusable sanitary protection kits, clothing for the girls and women along with jackets for our volunteers embossed with the CHW logo (donated by Superior Medical).



### New Premises Required for Collection Campaign



Basement of Linda Willis (Chair of CHW Board) where collected items are sorted and packed for shipment to Malawi

Since the charity began in 2010, one of the significant contributions to the work of the charity has been the items donated by Canadians for the girls and women in Northern Malawi. Tons of contributions have been sent all collected and packed in Linda's basement. However, climbing up and down stairs and working in a confined area is no longer feasible. We could rent space for thousands of dollars a month but as a Board, we have worked hard to keep our overhead expenses to a minimum. We are looking for a **ground level heated donated space** where supplies could be collected, sorted and

packed in the Stratford area. If you can help us, please contact Linda at (519)271-5598 or email: [lwillis@changeherworld.ca](mailto:lwillis@changeherworld.ca).

**This is a significant need for the ongoing work of Change Her World!**

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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