

CHW PROGRESS REPORT

Issue #22 Spring 2022

Mark Your Calendars Wednesday June 8, 2022

CHW Annual Fundraising Dinner!

We have sorely missed **ALL OF YOU**- our supporters, donors, contributors and cheerleaders. We want to shake hands, hug, have animated conversations and feel the excitement and energy generated by PEOPLE! It has

been a long haul in every way but... we have survived. We have not just survived as individuals, but the charity also has survived, for which we are immensely grateful. Our friends and beneficiaries in Malawi have continued to stay the course, carrying out the organization's activities while most impressively, overseeing the construction of the library. The pandemic has required much of us and most assuredly, we have all done our best to keep ourselves afloat and those we hold near and dear to us as well.

The Annual Dinner on **June 8**, **2022** will be at the Best Western Arden Park Hotel beginning at 5:30 with a Social Hour and **Dinner served at 6:30 PM**. Holding the event on a Wednesday evening will be a departure from the usual Saturday evening but will be less costly for the charity.

We trust that health restrictions will remain such that the Board can heartily invite all our **vaccinated** supporters to join us without reservation. We are most excited to once again welcome you and share the journey of the past two years. Tickets will be \$50.00 and

Winner of Tickets for 2020 CHW Celebration Dinner WHO ARE YOU?

If you won these tickets at our dinner in 2019, please contact Linda Willis at (519) 271-5598

will be available beginning on May 6 at Blowes Stationery on Wellington Street in Stratford or on our website.

www.changeherworld.ca



Everyone is encouraged to bring soft covered storybooks for children ages 5 to 10 which will be sent to our library in Malawi.

June 2022

		1	2	3	4
7		8	7	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30		
	20	20 21	13 14 15 20 21 22	13 14 15 16 20 21 22 23	8 0 10 13 14 15 16 17 20 21 22 23 24

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
NEW CHW BENEFICIARIES2
35 WOMEN RECEIVE FOOD3
DONATE TODAY!
MEETING MEMBERS OF THE PROJECT COMMITTEE IN CHILUMBA4
LIBRARY BUILD UPDATE5
MIDWEST REPORT 5
MEMORIAL DONATIONS 5
SEEKING NEW DIRECTORS6



Join us for this special evening of celebration!

New Change Her World Beneficiaries!

With the start_of the school year in January, the Board was able to add 14 new elementary students as well as 14 additional secondary students. The Ministry of Education in Malawi has been slowly re-adjusting the length of the school terms with the goal of getting back to the original schedule with the regular start of school in September.

Our complement of girls currently is as follows:

Nursery School - 20 Students

This number remains constant. The children attend for three years. Ten students have parents who pay a small fee monthly while ten students are supported by CHW. These ten students enter the school system under the auspices of CHW. Our next graduation will be in July. We supply food, soap & water, uniforms and the necessary teaching and learning materials which are restocked as needed. There are two trained ECD teachers paid an honorarium who carry out the daily teaching assignments overseen by the Chilumba Committee.

Elementary Students - 75 students

These are students in Standards (Grades) 1 to 8 and reflect distribution amongst the 7 zones.

Secondary Students - 78 students

These are students in Forms 1-4 (Grades 9-12). The distribution statement above applies for this complement also.

Tertiary Students (Colleges and Universities) – 26 students

All secondary graduates have one year to decide on a career path and to be enrolled in a college or university. Below are indicated the career paths of those currently in post - secondary programs:

Total Students being supported—199



Training of 5 Early Childhood Development Teachers











In March 2022, these 5 women from various CHW Zones were supported in their training to operate community nursery schools.

Tertiary Students Areas of Study

Education - 3 students pursuing degree programs

6 students in certificate programs to teach primary level

Health – 3 students pursuing diplomas in clinical medicine and nursing & midwifery

3 students enrolled in nursing and midwifery degree

1 student attending Pharmaceutical studies

Other Programs-

2 students studying a degree in Business Administration,

1 students studying a degree in Humanities

1 student studying a Social Work degree,

1 student studying a degree in Statistics,

1 student pursuing a diploma in Agriculture,

2 students studying Hotel & Catering Management

2 students studying Shipping & Logistics

The Board takes great pride in the accomplishments of these young women who strive to achieve their dreams, often overcoming overwhelming odds!



Alpha Gondwe has recently begun a two year program which will train her to manage the new Change Her World Community Library.

35 Vulnerable Women Receive Food!







When the Facebook request was posted just before Christmas asking people to donate to the vulnerable women supported by Change Her World, the response was wonderful. We were able to purchase a bag of maize (\$15) and a bag of beans (\$18) for each woman. The smiles speak volumes. These women struggle mightily to keep their children and themselves fed during these harsh seasons of food scarcity. Thank you to all who donated to help make a difference!

On March 28, 2022 the first shipment since October of 2020 left Stratford. It consisted of 47 cartons of underwear & clothing, resuable sanitary protection kits, nursery school supplies for 5 new nursery schools, office supplies, dried soup mix as well as 13 cartons of medical supplies. We wish to acknowledge and thank Jean Aitcheson who offered the medical supplies as part of their move to St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Stratford.

Due to rising air freight costs and the Rubbermaid cartons used, we will not be accepting items for the collection campaign **except for underwear and the re-usable sanitary protection kits** for now. The exception to this will be the shipment of more than 2,500 children's books for the library along with the 1000 birthing kits in the Fall 2022.

To date, we have shipped 17,736 pairs of underwear for girls and women and 1,533 complete sanitary protection kits.

CHW Shipment to Malawi!





It was a cold, snowy morning in Stratford when the firefighters from Fire Hall #1 in Stratford arrived to help load the cartons to be shipped to Malawi. We are so grateful to... (L to R) Kevin, Cory, Shawn (Wayne—Navigator Logistics Truck Driver), Mike, Rick and Kevin! (and Chris).

Donations for Change Her World Are Greatly Appreciated! TO MAKE A DONATION PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING: NAME: ADDRESS: ☐ I wish to contribute to Change Her World with a donation of \$ _____ **CHANGE HER WORLD** P.O. Box 1057 Stratford, Ontario Please find enclosed payment by \square CASH \square CHEQUE (Made Payable to Change Her World) N5A 6W4 Receipts are issued for gifts of \$20.00 or more. □ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD Donations may be made online at CARD NO. _____ EXPIRY DATE ___/__ Cardholder Name (Print) _____ SECURITY CODE _____ www.changeherworld.ca

Change Her World has a TD Waterhouse Account. We are now able to receive donations of stock, bonds and securities. Please contact Linda Willis at lwillis@changeherworld.ca for more information.

Meet Three Members of the Chilumba Project Committee

"We are truly grateful for these volunteers as well as Wezzie Moyo, Joyce Mkandawire and Lackson Kachiwanda (highlighted in Fall 2021 Issue #21 CHW Progress Report) who bring steadfastness, integrity and passion to their community and to the betterment of girls in particular."

Linda Willis, CHW Board Chair



Ellen Gondwe (Original committee member since 2010)

Ellen has been a member of the CHW committee since it began in 2010. She grew up in Mzuzu and then moved further north to the Karonga District where she graduated from secondary school. Following a year as a clerk with the Egg Marketing Cooperative, she was trained at the Karonga Teachers College and in 1993 began her teaching career. She was married in 1994 and taught in the Chilumba area until her retirement.

Mama Subilagha Njoka (Original committee member since 2010)

"Mama" as she is affectionately known, is a stalwart supporter and has been a vital aide to the Nursery School Food program. She was born in Zambia in 1954 and because of a lack of school fees dropped out of secondary school after the second year. She is a widow with 4 grandchildren. She earns her living selling vegetables in the local market. She freely says she has been living with HIV since 1997. Please read her own words.

"I really appreciate what Change Her World is doing and I wish it was there when I was young because I would have been educated. I encourage girls who are on the CHW program to work extra harder so that they should not be like me who dropped out of school due to lack of fees from support from anyone or a charity like Change Her World. I always tell these girls they have a golden chance in their hands."





Levie Gondwe (Original committee member since 2010)

Levie was born in Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) and was raised for some time by his grand-mother. Eventually, he came to Malawi in 1981 and subsequently graduated from secondary school. He was employed by the Malawi Red Cross Relief Department as a District Distribution Officer and later with World Vision as a Facilitation Officer and Field Supervisor. Levie worked at Karonga Prevention Study, a health institution, until 2021. He too has been part of the committee since it began and presently acts a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer.

Buy A Bag - Shape the Future

These bags make great gifts!

Cost: \$40.00

To purchase a bag, order online at www.changeherworld.ca or call Linda at (519) 271-5598

Orders can be picked up in Stratford, Ontario or shipped at a cost of \$20.00 flat rate per bag



Library Build Update!

The library exterior construction is now complete (except for the painting). We are proud of this accomplishment and so very grateful to those who donated to make this dream a reality. The next steps will be to provide electrical power to the building in the form of solar power and hooking into the community electrical grid. As electrical power is not always a surety, it is important to install as much solar capacity as possible. Once the power is assured and the water lines connected, the office can be moved from its current location in the Port Authority. This will be a big day for the committee and the Chilumba community.

When the water tower and tank is installed, we will begin plans for developing an orchard and garden for food production. Stay tuned for the equipping of the library with shelving, tables, chairs and computers!





Report from Midwest Coordinator— Donna Milbrandt





(L) Donna Milbrandt with CHW Display at Fall Fair in Yorkton, Saskatchewan. (Above) Sewing supporters of CHW in Yorkton.

Memorial Donations



The Board of Directors wishes to acknowledge all those who make memorial donations to Change Her World each year. Pictured here are Linda and Carol with Monique VanderSchot of St. Marys,

Ontario whose donation in memory of her husband-Tony—contributed immensely to the library build.

A lasting legacy for the girls and women of Malawi!

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

From the Board of Directors

SEEKING ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS

As the work of charity grows, so does the breadth of responsibilities. The Board is seeking to increase its numbers by no more than three persons at this present time. We are a working, volunteer board that values passion over perks, humility over hubris and believes in a grassroots approach. If this philosophy — to making a difference — appeals to you, please complete the application found on the Change Her World website www.changeherworld.ca and send to:

Linda Willis-Board Chair 248 Redford Crescent, Stratford ON N5A 1P2



Linda and Carol collecting dried soup mix for shipment to Malawi donated by the Ontario Gleaners—March 2022.



We are grateful for the directors who have served the charity in the past including Cathy Johnston and Michelle Semak. Lorraine Stevenson, who has served on the Board of Directors since 2014, continues to contribute significantly in her role managing the ever growing CHW database and overseeing the communications to our donors through our email software. Congratulations Lorraine on your recent retirement in IT with TD Canada Trust! We look forward to continuing our work together as we seek to carry out the passionate work of this charity!

Linda Willis and Carol Hamilton-Co-founders

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

Change Her World

P.O. Box 1057 Stratford, Ontario N5A 6W4

Phone: 1-888-909-2491 E-mail: info@changeherworld.ca

www.changeherworld.ca



PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE

Mail Label