



UPDATE Apr 13

Dear Friends,

The rains have finished and Malawi is waiting to harvest its maize crop. The huge challenge the country faces is the devaluation of the Kwacha (MK) in one year from MK270 to MK630 to the British Pound. In this economic backdrop the team in Malingunde is doing really well. There is also a local expectation/hope that once expats leave, organisations normally implode through mistrust and theft. The Trust is on a firm foundation and has not suffered the same result as many other organisations. We continue to seek to build upon and maintain the effective and life changing work that is being delivered to local communities.



Healthy Families Creating
Healthy Villages

Community Health Education

This project aims to teach local volunteers to be Community Health Evangelists in their village and teach 10 neighbours. Methodology is very comprehensive relying on nothing physical from DT but teaching, commitment and encouragement. It is producing wonderful results and is a highlight of my week to see people changing their lives. Health is taken as the whole person so we deal with emotional, physical, spiritual and the social health of people and their village.

In **Mbanga** the villagers feel a sense of great accomplishment because they've started using the borehole.



This is a great story. After initial CHE training as a village, they identified clean water as a priority; we helped them write to the government to be on the borehole list. After raising money as a village for a deposit the borehole was provided. An easy way to save lives with clean water and we are proud that DT did not provide physical help, but the village themselves did what was required – the achievement and pride is theirs.



The village has chosen and finished a 2nd community project to construct a bridge to nearby Nyong'a village.



In **Ndumira** Patterson & Janet have 6 women volunteers. We hope some men will join soon! Health lessons have included worms, reconciliation, typhoid and helping our neighbour.

"My life has been transformed in many areas through CHE, mainly how we can prevent ourselves from some sicknesses and the other thing I learned is how to forgive, as I had a hard heart" **Goliat**

In **Chanika** Cecil & Jameson continue to work with the 4 CHEs who invited us into the village. They are now explaining CHE and what's required to the whole village so it can expand.

"I struggled from January to January, CHE has uprooted me from poverty by teaching me to make compost manure. I apply it to my vegetable garden, from which I am now making money every day as I take vegetables to market" **Mkokomo**

"I lived a life of regrets because I did not have any hope. I failed school, failed farming, but CHE has helped me to come to know Christ which gave me hope and I am now able to support my family through farming of which I am proud" **Foster**

In **Chakwindima** village where I teach, we now have 12 volunteers and the community has decided to learn more about farming.

"I never attended school and don't write or read, so I thought that I am nothing. But CHE has changed me from nobody to somebody in the way that people are coming to learn CHE from me. I am teaching people about how to have a healthy home and about compost manure because they have seen that the manure is benefiting me a lot" **Samuel**

In **Mbuna** Cecil, Patterson and Jameson have 12 CHE volunteers since starting with one family; looking at Malaria, Diarrhoea, fish farming, God's love, and forgiveness.

"Sicknesses in my home have been reduced by half and for this reason we have had enough time to work in our fields. I am sure we are going to have double harvest from our field compared to last year" **Sakiza**

Chippo

Community Health Education



Pioneering Education Play and Parenting Skills

Dalitso Play – Janet

I'm now leading Happy Faces and it's been a challenge since Rhodess and Martha left. Many mums were very used to them, but a lot is happening and God is working in the hearts and lives of the children and parents. We lost Brian a child of HF, to malaria last month, which was very sad.



"This is my closing testimony as I leave DT to follow my husband's job in moving away. My life has been transformed in all areas, physically, spiritually, emotionally and mentally from 2005 up to date. I have learned how I can encourage women who are emotionally wounded, telling them that they are special in Gods eyes and He has plans for their life. I am praising God for what He did to my family to be part of The Dalitso Trust to make me to grow. Thank you to all the people who have been coming from UK to mould me up and DT staff who have been encouraging me in all situations." **Rhodess**

"I am the Mum of Tendai who is 5. There's very big change since being at Happy Faces. She now eats and drinks using proper utensils, she is now friendly and knows some letters. Please continue to help us that we can know more from Happy Faces" **Sarah**

"My son Chisomo is 4. I've learnt I am responsible for teaching my children, not leaving all the responsibility to primary teachers" **Mtitme**



Mentoring and Equipping Local Leaders

Dalitso Leaders

The 5 courses are running well and we are sad to announce the death of Mrs Ndiwo who was studying FM4. Testimonies give the best picture of the power of attending the courses and how counterculture it is.

"I have discovered FM is done differently to our normal ways. Everyone is allowed to talk/contribute to the subject and to ask any question is allowed. I have seen advantages of discussing and studying in a group" **Elmes**

"As a leader I did not see a problem of sending children to learn witchcraft because I thought that there are some good skills to learn. FM has changed me and I have learnt that witchcraft is against God." **Toby**

"I do FM4 and belong to African Abraham Church; we follow Abraham's lifestyle and polygamy. FM has helped me to know that Abraham's polygamy was his weakness so it is not good for us to repeat the same mistake. I am a senior pastor and oversee many churches, the sad thing was I did not know the full truth when I started my leadership." **Jimson**

Staff News

We said farewell to Rhodess at Christmas as Limon's job has moved location. Rhodess has been a wonderful member of staff and we have seen her grow and mature into an excellent educator. She has led Happy Faces with determination and vision as it's ethos and outworking is so unique in a rural culture which does not value teaching children. Martha left in March as her husband has just qualified as a teacher and his job is in another district. We have some new interns Elmes, Fanny and Jameson who we hope will thrive as part of the team.

Land Issue

The police are still investigating but the leading officer has been moved to another job so everything is on hold. We hope to have more news soon. We are getting closer to having electricity in the office, as new poles and wires appear nearby.



The Husbands Family

It has been quite a time since returning to the UK. Tom eventually had 2 stays in hospital and we are thankful that he is almost fully recovered from a liver parasite. As we settle in to UK life we hope to reconnect with many of you as we seek to move the DT forward.

Please pray for the Dalitso Trust Team (pictured); for their unity and health as they serve the local community in the midst of serious economic and cultural challenges.



Janet, Elmes, Fanny, Cecil, Patterson, Jameson and Chippo.

Tom and Alison

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