

Dear Friends

February 2015

Unfortunately Malawi has been in the news recently with serious flooding in the south. The team has not been affected, but we are all saddened at the loss of life and the catastrophic loss of homes and crops.

If you would like to receive our monthly prayer letter, please let us know.

The Trust has three areas of focus & this month we are highlighting **health**. We use a fantastic long-term strategy called **Community Health Evangelism (CHE)**.

CHE is a grassroots health work, where our team train local volunteers to be health visitors to their neighbours. CHE runs in four villages and communities choose the lessons they want to learn. Recent lessons have included making fertiliser, how to ask questions, deforestation, the difference between aid and development, family hygiene, why have a toilet? What do we do with rubbish?

We have had a year's absence from Mbanga due to issues within the village and have recently been invited to return. Chief Mbanga *'I had to hinder CHE here in the village, thinking that CHE is contributing to disagreements. Now I am approving CHE into this community again, because it helps to solve our community problems through love.'*

Mr Kanganza sums up how CHE can change local culture *'CHE has helped me a lot in my life because I was always waiting for fertiliser from the government as I did not have enough food. I am now making my own fertiliser through CHE and this teaching has helped me produce enough food for the whole year.'*

Chippo helped to lead a CHE training course for another organisation in December and took some of the team too. Jameson took part, *'I have learnt again to respect people by giving them the chance to say their views. I can now say I consider them as more important than myself when we have group discussions.'*

Chikombole village is in the initial phase of CHE and Patterson has been surprised at the communities' response *'even though CHE is not underway with official teaching, the questions we ask have already created inertia. Some people have constructed latrines, as they had no toilet. All from asking questions and taking time to listen.'*

Kesi *'I thank God for your coming as I had many questions in my mind and fear from a broken marriage. How can I feed my children as my husband took everything? Thank you for sharing your time and verses with me, these have cooled my worry.'*

Ulia *'my family has always been struggling, we could not feed our children and we were rejected by our village. We were on the edge of the community, being counted as worthless. This past year we have seen a change through taking part in CHE. As of now we have food and some extra to sell. We will keep learning and opening our eyes to see our future. We have a faith now and can associate with others, which before was very hard for us. Thank you.'*

These testimonies reflect your support. On behalf of the whole Dalitso Trust team, thank you for sharing the journey with us to serve these rural communities.

Tom and Ali

Tom & Ali, Directors

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Cecil writes in the dirt to record CHE discussions



CHE course in December



Core CHE activity – sitting and discussing



The whole Dalitso team in Malingunde