

NEWS July 2018

Dear Friends,

The harvesting has finished and Malawi is experiencing its coldest time of year. This month we are highlighting our Happy Faces (HF) work, which is an under 6 years stay and play project. We have 2 sessions in Malingunde each week and also visit families in their homes. Home visits are an opportunity for health lessons and a time to help encourage the skills learnt at HF to transfer to the home in their everyday lives.

Emma *'My daughter has changed so much in her behaviour and knowledge since coming to Happy Faces. I have changed too and by taking more responsibility to feed my children properly. The future is now bright and I am thanking God for the family He has given me.'*

One of our highlights every year is to celebrate our HF's children who are transitioning to Primary School. This year we had 7 children graduating. We were pleased to have our friend Samuel Kasakula (a Follow Me pastor) officiate proceedings and have 11 Chiefs attend, which is a great endorsement.

Kaluma *'Elisa is our second daughter to come to HF as we were so encouraged in how well her sister is doing at Primary school. Elisa has really developed at HF and now she is ready for school. As a Mum I have learned a lot through HF as I was not good at answering my children's questions and interacting with them, but I am so thankful for the change in me and them.'*

Page *'I believed that I had nothing to offer to my children education wise, as that was for teachers to do. Happy Faces has helped me to realise that I am the genuine teacher of my children.'*

We are very proud of the Happy Faces team consisting of Rhodess, Janet, Fanny and Ethel. Ethel has been on maternity leave and we are pleased to announce the arrival of Paul! Regina is joining the team as we continue to develop this important work and expand further into the community.

Sikeni *'After my husband saw that families involved with Happy faces are doing well, he suggested I bring our son. I was encouraged to love him, teach him, empower him and that I should take my responsibility as a Mum. Things are now so different and this has been a surprise as I didn't know how important HF is. He can now count from 1-20, knows shapes, colours, the alphabet, objects, some Bible stories, how to play games and share.'*

Martha *'I was struggling with how I can love my daughter, most time I liked to shout and smack. With a lesson taught by Rhodess on 'How we can love our children with care', I discovered that my behaviour is not good. I now concentrate on loving her by encouraging her and taking good care. My daughter is much happier because of the changes she has seen in me.'*

We continue to be busy as a team serving Malingunde through our 3 main areas of HF, CHE and Follow Me. We have had several visitors from the UK recently providing training to help equip us in our work. Thank you to Dave, Brian, Nick, David, Clair and Sophie!

On behalf of the whole team, thank you for sharing the journey with us,

Tom and Ali

Tom & Ali, Directors, The Dalitso Trust



Ethel and Paul



Graduation Day



Regina



Rhodess, Janet, Fanny and Graduates



Waiting to Start