

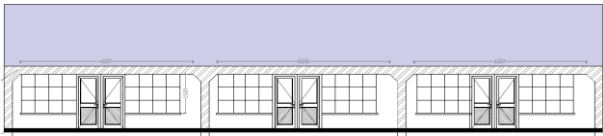
NEWS December 2020

Dear Friends,

This year has been a tough one in many ways and we want to take this opportunity to especially thank you for the ways you have continued to support The Dalitso Trust. We are so proud of the team as they continue to bring hope and see lives changed in the midst of the pandemic. This update describes the changes we have made in response to the virus and some testimonies to give a flavour of the ongoing transformation in peoples' lives.

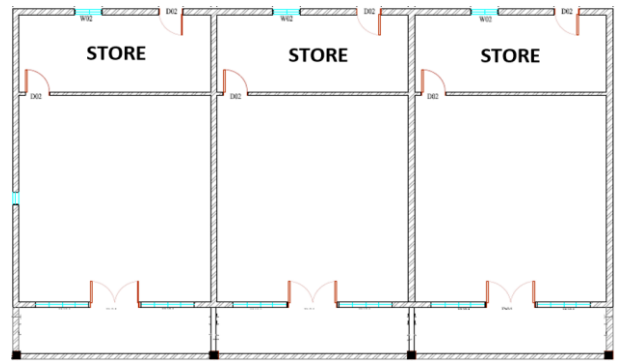
We were initially very concerned at how Malawi would cope with Coronavirus but it does not seem to have taken hold, although testing is limited. Whilst adhering to government guidelines all our projects are now community based. This movement away from our building has increased our reach to allow greater access to our work. Another positive outcome is that with this community emphasis our teams are smaller to reach more villages, so people are taking on new responsibilities. The office is now only used for team meetings, preparation and study.

Our New Building



In late February we completed our compensation negotiations with the Water Board for compulsory purchase of our plot in Malingunde. We received payment in May and immediately started to develop a new 22m x 14m building nearby, but outside of the Water board's development.

We purchased a small flatbed lorry to transport items such as bricks, sand, gravel etc for the construction site. We hope that the building will be ready at the end of the year. Regular photos and updates are



posted showing progress on our [Facebook Page](#). Chippo has done a great job being project manager. In the New Year we will be able to take down our current building to reuse and recycle as much of it as possible.



Our new home under construction



Progress in late November



Many happy memories in our first Dalitso Trust building



Jameson, Ethel, Rhodess, Janet, Regina, Patterson and Chippo

Team News

This year has seen some changes in our team as Bazilio left to take some exams and he hopes to join the Police Force. Bisifat has transferred out of the training team and is now looking after the landscaping of our new plot. The current training team is Chippo, Rhodess, Patterson, Janet, Jameson, Ethel, Regina and Patricia.



Chippo, Patterson, Regina, Janet, Patricia, Ethel, Bisifat, Jameson and Rhodess.

CHE

Due to changes in the team, CHE will be slightly different as we enter 2021. We have phased out our work in four villages and CHE will now happen in the villages that are hosting Happy Faces.

Ben *'For my whole life I have been waiting for the Government or someone else to come and give me resources, the things that would develop my family. In day to day life I sat and did nothing so my life was going nowhere, as I didn't even grow enough*

food for my family due to laziness. After learning a CHE lesson on ownership, it changed me and helped me to take some initiative. I now know that I have to choose to develop my own life, my family and also my community. For the first time ever we have grown more food than we need. I am so thankful to the CHE training team.'

Chabwalo *'My wife and I are old now and felt forgotten by our community. We have a loss of relationships, but after a visit by the CHE team I have seen a change in our minds. We now know that we are a part of the community and have a role to play. Yes we are old, but we have been reminded of who we are and our true value. This has helped our stress and worry to reduce.'*



Rhodess and Patterson say farewell to Bazillio

Narda *'Before I was growing local maize seed that I kept from year to year. In CHE we had lessons on crop husbandry and learnt about different types of seed. So this year my harvest was so large because I changed to a hybrid seed. Many people admired my crop. I become friends with the DT team as we share vision and even stories that are hidden.'*

Follow Me We now have two community groups with 34 students taking part. This has increased the opportunity for different people to attend with groups 10 and four miles away from Malingunde.

Andrew *'I am now in FM3 and for many years I had no interest or idea of what was going on here at Dalitso. Time came I was invited to be part of FM and it shocked my heart to see how delicious it is to have FM in my life. I am now in my 3rd year of learning and being part of this Follow Me family – I sometimes wonder why I delayed before joining this family. Above all I now know God loves the whole church, every denomination, before I could not be open to others or care for them. We are all part of the same body.'*

Patricia *'I am in FM 2 and these books have helped change my life from the old one I was living. As I look back I was thinking about myself all the time, not considering others. Even in my personal life I was not paying attention to caring for myself or my family. These things have changed greatly and I have a new mind – I seemed so ignorant before, so I am really changed. The chapter called 'The Leaders Family' has been my favourite and born so much fruit in my life.'*

Kingdom Expansion (KE)

The last 6 KE weekends have seen over 150 people come to faith and 300 people healed.

James *'We have been gathering as a new church for three months. Thank you to DT for training and showing us how to preach the gospel, pray for the sick and encouraging the weak. This is the best foundation we could stand on.'*

Sophie *'I have been feeling depressed and had no peace. I was experiencing severe anxiety when trying to worship. My heart starts to race, it beats so very fast. So I shared and received prayer. I felt something as they prayed, but my hearts emotions did not feel right, so they prayed again. That is when the big change came, my problem was gone and I know that a healing has taken place!'*

Happy Faces

Our 2 groups which were based in our Happy Faces room have now expanded to 4 groups in the community. We are thrilled that 40 Mums and 50 children are taking part each week. Families also receive health lessons once a week through our CHE programme.

Cecelia *'Before HF I was not knowing what to do with my kids at home during school holidays. The HF team has taught me many games and activities which I can do. This changed the lockdown to a time of me learning to teach them as a Mum. It is a miracle as in the past I have found them to bother me as I had nothing to offer them. I am full of praises for this change.'*

Kilesi *'In the past we only washed our hands to take food and the same water*

could be used for many people. In HF we have many family health lessons and help about the virus with things we did not know. I now have a tip tap at home which is helping to keep us safe. As I wash my hands regularly now, I pray, express praise and my desire to draw close to Him.'

Sara *'For many years I stayed away from people to be on my own. I was very worried of what people thought of me and how they looked at me. After hearing about a new HF group I decided to take my daughter. Taking part in the games and teaching showed me that I am a capable person. I realised I was thinking things which are not true. I have now made friends and will not block my child's learning. I am her first teacher and know that God has given her and me gifts for us to use. She is bright, clever and I am proud to help her learn.'*



Happy Christmas
with love, Tam & Ali + The D.T. team

