

SUMMER NEWSLETTER - Sept 2024

Dear Friends,

As the cooler season comes to a close, our communities are bustling with preparations for the coming growing season. This time of year always brings a sense of getting ready and anticipation for the hard work ahead. We have much to share with you from the past two months.

Empowering Through Training

In August Rhodess and Janet had the pleasure of assisting a visiting team from Kenya, leading a training on children's Community Health Evangelism (CHE). The entire team assisted Kevin and Erica in CHE training to a group visiting from Hong Kong and Madagascar. We are incredibly proud as our team's skill, experience, and character continue to be recognised and valued.

Celebrating Happy Faces

This month we are celebrating the growth of our Happy Faces programme led by Rhodess. This initiative has expanded to six communities, creating Stay and Play groups for children aged six and under. With 41 families participating, we are thrilled to see nearly 100 attendees each week, learning and growing together.

Reflecting on the programme's journey over the past few years, Rhodess shares, *'During Covid, I feared for the future of Happy Faces as we could no longer meet indoors. With encouragement from Tom and Ali, I moved our sessions outside, into four different communities. This was the beginning of a new chapter and we have now expanded to six villages.'*

Stories of Transformation

The impact of Happy Faces is evident in the stories from our community.

Tsanzo *'Before Happy Faces, I would leave my children to play on their own while I was busy gambling and just wandering around. Since attending Happy Faces, I've changed. Now, I make sure we go to Happy Faces to learn together and I've even found the courage to stop gambling so I can focus on caring for my children.'*

Agnes *'Initially I refused to attend Happy Faces with my daughter, so my sister took her instead. Within a few weeks I saw a real change in her behaviour. She's become calmer and more willing to listen. We are so proud of her progress!'*

We recently celebrated the graduation of 25 children who are starting primary school this month. We are incredibly thankful for the 15 volunteers who have been trained and are now helping to lead these sessions. Their dedication is inspiring and we are proud of the ownership they have taken in raising up children and their families.

Ellen *'I am so happy to be trusted to help children in my village. Before I was too shy and afraid, but now I'm inspired to serve. I was motivated by the courage of our facilitators, and I now feel it's my responsibility to support the mums in our community.'*

Kalia *'Happy Faces has shown me that children are just as important as everyone else. I am proud to volunteer, investing my time in planting seeds of learning and growth in their lives. I feel responsible for laying a foundation that others can build upon as the children grow older. Treating all children with dignity is essential so they know and experience that they are valued.'*

On behalf of the entire Dalitso Trust team, we want to thank you for sharing this journey with us. Your support and involvement mean the world to us.



Tom & Alison Husbands, The Dalitso Trust

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Training People in CHE



Local Headteacher presenting certificates



Happy Faces graduates and parents



Happy Faces graduates with the Happy Faces team