

NEWSLETTER – July 2025

Dear Friends,

Life in Malawi is currently very challenging, as the government continues to import maize to help keep food available. A lack of forex is causing economic hardship to many, as the International Monetary Fund puts inflation at 24%. Presidential elections take place in September and we hope it will be fair and peaceful. In the midst of this Chipipo, Janet, Rhodessa, Patterson, Regina and Patricia work to bring hope and change in their local communities.

Celebrating our Happy Families work

This month we highlight our Happy Faces work, which provides five weekly groups for parents to learn and experience educational play with their children. We see 58 families on a typical week. There were 26 children who graduated a few weeks ago and they will start school in September.

Stories of Transformation

Mkoma 'I used to want more than 6 children, but after being part of Happy Faces I realised how expensive it has become to raise up a child. This changed my mind so that in having only a few children they will receive good care from me. I am now practicing family planning and encourage my friends to be responsible and caring parents.'

Nasuluma 'Before bringing my child to Happy Faces I was not able to count or read, but Happy Faces has helped me to start reading. I can now read the bible on my own which has made me grow spiritually. I thank God for Happy Faces in my community.'

Sanati 'I thought that to have a good level of education was about your background or family history. I visited a Happy Faces session with my child and it enlightened my mind to look forward. I am the first person in my family who has a child reaching secondary school. I believe our child will go to college; I am encouraging those who doubt that they can change and to look ahead with hope.'

A focus of the past year across all our work has been to identify and equip more volunteers. Happy Faces now have 18 who after receiving some training, help the Happy Faces team lead sessions.

Napilira 'I never saw the importance of having programmes for children, but after coming to Happy Faces it made me to understand a child's development. Now, after being trusted to lead, I even stand in my church to teach how vital children are. God be honoured.'

Belekani 'Before I started helping at Happy Faces I thought that those leading, needed to be highly educated. After being trusted to lead a session of Happy Faces, I feel encouraged to become more confident and lead in other groups too. I am happy that I am building my leadership skills.'

Likalipo 'Before I started leading Happy Faces I could give poor advice to people when they asked me. Since leading I have chosen to stop that behaviour as people now trust me. I try to give productive advice as a leader and am thankful Happy Faces is in my village.'

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

Tom & Ali

Tom & Alison Husbands, The Dalitso Trust

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Volunteer training day



Graduation Day!



Graduation celebrations



Receiving certificates