

# Chikondi ONE HEART ANGELS Orphanage

Community Newsletter

April 2016



## Meet the Children of Chikondi: Update on Rosh



We are so happy to share an update on Rosh. Rosh is a boy who came to stay with us at Chikondi after his father died tragically in a boating accident on Lake Malawi. His mother was unable to provide for him on her own so she made the difficult decision to transfer him into our care. Since then her circumstances have changed and she's able to provide for him, so he left Chikondi last month to go live with her again. He and his mom are so happy to be reunited and we wish him and his family all the best!

## State of National Disaster Declared in Malawi

The President of Malawi, Peter Mutharika, has recently declared a state of natural disaster after last year's devastating flash floods were followed by a drought. These back-to-back natural disasters have drastically reduced the production of maize, the staple food crop, and will further reduce food security for millions of Malawians. According to the World Food Program, 3 million Malawians already receive food aid and those numbers are expected to increase in the coming months. While a number of Sub-Saharan countries are facing drought, Malawi is considered to be the hardest hit. The price of available food is expected to rise. Price inflation on food will create an extra burden on the impoverished country where people already struggle to survive. With living and food costs increasing your donations are more important than ever to help provide for the orphans in our care.

## Chichewa – The Language of Malawi

Girl Cousin.....	Mtsikana Msuweni
Boy Cousin.....	Mnyamata Msuweni
Friend .....	Zanga
Stranger .....	Mlendo

## Dr. Sango Jean Baptiste and the DREAM Programme

At Chikondi we are very lucky to have Dr. Baptiste on our team as our Medical Director, Board Member, and Innovative Communities (ICO) Team Member. As one of only around 250 doctors in a country of over 16 million to say that he is a very busy man is an understatement. Dr. Baptiste is also one of the best HIV/Aids specialists in Malawi, where just over 10% of the population have the disease. He is working hard to help reduce the transmission of the disease, focusing on preventing the infection spreading from mother to baby and helping HIV+ children live long, healthy, and productive lives. In addition to working at the Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital, Malawi's largest hospital, he gives his time to help Project Malawi's DREAM Programme. Project Malawi was started in 2005 by Intesa Sanpaolo and the Cariplo Foundation; it's an ambitious project that aims at helping prevent HIV/Aids transmission, providing children with live saving food and medication, and reducing the stigma and increasing the education surrounding HIV/Aids. The Drug Response Enhancement against AIDS and Malnutrition (DREAM) Programme started in 2006 in Blantyre and has since opened up other locations in Malawi to provide front line intervention on the fight against AIDS. To date the programme has prevented at least 6600 babies from being born HIV+ and saved countless lives. We can't say enough wonderful things about Dr. Baptiste and the work he's doing to better the lives of Malawians. Zikomo Dr. Baptiste!



*Jamali Milanzi, Chikondi Director (left) and Dr. Baptiste (right) at the DREAM centre in Blantyre*

## On the Team: Mr. Jamali J. Milanzi – Director



Jamali has been a pastor in Malawi since 2004. He loves the children of Chikondi and uses his work with Chikondi as a way to serve God. He is the founder of the Shower of Blessings Church in Blantyre, Malawi, which the Chikondi family attends. He has a background in marketing management, is writing a book, and is happily married with two children. Jamali was the pastor that married Arelene and Max and is like a brother to Max. He is a real support for Chikondi, and no matter how far away he provides encouragement by reaching out on a regular basis. Recently he has increased his role with Chikondi to include working as part of a volunteer team that includes Board Member Dr. Sango Jean Baptiste and Chikondi's volunteer accountant in Blantyre, Bruno Mwakaswaya. This three member team will work with Innovative Communities (ICO), a Victoria B.C. based charity, to assess the needs of the children and other community members in Blantyre to figure out how best to move forward with Chikondi's long term goal of creating a sustainable community.

**Give ♥ Love ♥ Joy**