

KINDLE ORPHAN OUTREACH

FOURTH QUARTERLY REPORT: OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2009

(Prepared by H. Mbeni – Area Coordinator. Presented to the Board on 23 January, 2010)

This report covers the work done during the last quarter of 2009, with the major events within each department:

SPIRITUAL / SOCIAL DEPARTMENT:

Youth groups did not change their strategies to reach out to the youth. They continued with sports evangelism, quizzes, Bible Study, memory verses, memorizing names of the books of the Bible. They continued to meet once a week in their different groups. At the beginning of the year there were 19 youth groups but three more were added towards the end of the year. Now there are 22 groups under the supervision of the Youth Coordinator, Petro, and the volunteer workers.

In November 30 girls and boys from the youth groups joined a trip to Teen Missions International in Chipoka. It was a successful and enjoyable time for the young people. Some of these had never been on such a trip before. While there, they visited places like Melisa Hostel unit where they did Bible quiz, Bible study and the like. From there they went to the harbor to see boats and play with water. Many had not been at the lake before. About 600 children turned up for the Christmas Party. It was held on 23/12/09. There was much fun at the Site Office on the morning of this day up to noon. Children sang songs of praise to Jesus, recited verses and the names of the Bible, and blew up balloons. The lucky ones went back home with a lot of gifts. Many school-related things were given out such as school bags, pens, exercise books as well as dolls and other toys.



CHRISTMAS BALLOONS

Family Life Ministries: In the month of October women met at two houses for counseling. During the month 20 families joined their friends to do Bible Study and sing songs of praise. They also encouraged each other with verses and some basic business skills. There was a training meeting on 12 November. There were 119 participants. Guest speakers and the home pastor impressed on the ladies to devote themselves to Jesus. Speakers included Mrs Marilyn Barr, Mrs Jeff Wells (visiting from the USA), and Mrs Mantchichi. They spoke on different topics related to business, spiritual, moral, and health issues.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT:

In the year 2009 the department has supported 30 students to attend various secondary schools. The department started with K1,107,684 to fund our activities. During this quarter there has been an additional MK900,000 from the German Embassy, and K1,472,910 from Global Fund for Children to cover activities that will be done in 2010. Our closing balance is now K2,572,758.

Ten boys are still waiting for Malawi School Certificate Examination results for 2009. All the girls (8) and 4 boys who sat for Junior Certificate have passed. Two boys failed the exam in 1 subject each, but they are now repeating the same class. We are pleased with these results and thankful that they are able to move on into Form 3 through GFC funding.

The two boys doing tertiary education at Skyways College in Lilongwe continue their studies. They passed Diploma 1 with high credits, and now they are doing Advanced Diploma. They expect to complete their courses in March 2010. We are trusting they will then join Kindle staff to put into practice what they have learned.

Namanda School benefitted from our primary school support program. Kindle renovated one school block at K118,900. This makes a big difference in the appearance and safety of the school.

As mentioned above, we received new funding from the German Embassy in November for the support of Vocational Training for 1 year for 4 widows and 4 older orphan girls. A new staff member has joined the department to manage this training. She is Mrs Mkwapatira. She has been trained in vocational field and homecraft. Preparations were made and equipment purchased for the project which will begin in January. In keeping with the theme of light in Kindle, the name of the project is "Tiwale!", which means, Let us Shine! *(Added note: This project was launched on 5th January, and going well.)*

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT:

Mayambo Irrigation: Much of the month of October was devoted to marking boundaries, allocating farmers to plots and tilling the land. The quick ones have started making ridges. Some farmers have planted maize and tomatoes. In some plots maize germinated in the month of December and fertilizer application has started.

Mtseche Irrigation: By end of December work at Mtseche is at a snail pace. There was very poor turn up of people to help build the tank. In November wood was hauled to burn additional bricks at the site, for the tank. Sand was loaded into the 3-tonner by local community people, showing that some villagers have begun to show interest in the project. There was utterly nothing done in the month of December. The chiefs cite funerals as the main cause of this break, but efforts are mounted by staff to ensure resumption of the work soon. We are concerned as to how long this project is taking to complete. *(Added note: As of end of January, after some consultations and special prayer times, we are glad to report that work at Mtseche has picked up and the building of the water tank is nearing completion.)*

Kolezani: Staff went around in Salima to try and get some quotations for fertilizer to assist the families in the program. Using the Site food store as a Food Bank went well, and people's maize was treated to avoid weavils. By the end of October the Kolezani families had finished clearing their fields in preparation for planting. In November we conducted several meeting with clients to prepare them for the project. We briefed them on the scope of the project and what is required of each stakeholder to make the Kolezani 1 project a success. 40 Kg of maize seed and 8 bags of fertilizer were bought and we distributed the items to every one of the 4 households in the month of December. Rain came late and planting was delayed until the end of December, but we pray for good crops.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

This department comprises of three main branches, namely: Katawa Clinic, Onsite Clinic, and Community Health Services. The total catchment population served by this department is 17,000. The department serves the same population with Chinguluwe Government Health Centre, but the District Health Office in Salima is in the process

of demarcating the catchment area so that the department has its specific catchment population in the near future.

Katawa Clinic:

During the past 3 months, the clinic has treated a total of 8,430 patients. This represents 50% of the catchment population, but in the real sense not this huge number can get sick. According to our data, a big number of patients come from outside the catchment population. Patients leave close clinics and Health Centres in their areas and come to this clinic because of good and quality health services offered. Patients come from as far as Chipoka, Nkhotkota, Mvera, etc. Here is the data for the top 13 diseases seen and treated the past 3 months:

- Malaria – 2,489
- Respiratory conditions – 1,634
- Muscular/skeletal conditions – 924
- Diarrhoeal diseases – 451
- Skin conditions – 328
- Surgical conditions – 360
- Malnutrition/anaemia – 38
- Sexually transmitted infections – 87
- Intestinal worms – 73
- Gynaecological conditions – 87
- Oral/dental conditions – 182
- HIV/AIDS – 24
- Eye conditions – 219

Note: This list goes up to 56 diseases, according to DHO policy

Some further statistics for Katawa Clinic:

- 21 very malnourished children were screened and referred to the Onsite clinic for Nutrition program.
- 98 patients were referred to Salima District Hospital for investigations and further management.
- 18 sputum specimens were sent to SDH Laboratory for TB microscopy but none was positive.
- 59 Bible devotions were conducted to assist patients spiritually
- 3 general cleaning sessions were done (once a month)
- 11 staff meetings were conducted for the past 3 months
- 3 Salima DHO clinical visits were conducted the past 3 months.

Other Katawa news:

- The chiefs surrounding Katawa clinic have molded 122,000 bricks for further development. 35,000 bricks are already at the clinic.
- The Clinic Committee and the Orphan Care Committee have gone under a three day training. The basics of the training were to equip the committees with knowledge of :
 - Decentralization process
 - Concept of ownership
 - Concept of empowerment
 - Simple book-keeping
 - Concept of leadership

The total cost for the training was K66,320.

- The clinic committee and the clinic management have held 4 meetings during the past 3 months.

- One staff member has been demoted for misbehavior. He is a pastor and community worker, but has been demoted to a patient attendant due to misappropriation of clinic assets.

On-Site Clinic – Nutrition Program:

- 102 malnourished children have been screened and assisted. Nutrition clinic is held every Friday.
- 21 lactating mothers with different problems are getting extra feeds to supplement their milk production
- An average of 6-7 new children who are malnourished and HIV/AIDS exposed are recruited every month in the program.
- 6 very sick and malnourished babies were admitted in the short-term care facility during the past 3 months.
- 12 devotions have been conducted – during each Friday, nutrition day.

On-site Clinic – HIV/AIDS program:

- 61 patients and clients were tested for HIV and 9 were positive. This VCT unit is run by Salima District Hospital at Onsite clinic premises.
- 12 babies who are exposed to HIV + parents were taken to Baylor clinic in Lilongwe at KCH for testing and 4 are positive.
- 33 HIV+ patients and some with cancer problems are in the clinic program and are driven to SDH on a weekly basis to collect their ART dosages.

Community Health Services: The program continues to deliver health education to the community and make some follow-ups of very sick patients. These activities are done twice a week and whenever need arises.

Finances:

- Raising Malawi has signed an agreement to fund Health Department for 1 year and 6 months.
- Other funds are raised from clinic patient fee – K50 per patient.
- 10% of clinic patient fees goes to the chiefs for use of development at Katawa Clinic.

There is an urgent need to hire more staff for the clinic, especially a Medical Assistant.

Finally, Health Department is thanking the Almighty God for smooth running of all health activities.

CONCLUSION: 2009 was a good year for the departments and the organization. Staff are united despite the bad relations at the beginning. I am optimistic that this good trend will continue for the benefit of the organization, community, Malawi Govt, and every staff. May God bless us.

SPECIAL NEEDS/CONCERNS:

- Spiritual Social Dept: need for a Motor bike for Pastor Mbereko (Dept. Head) - approx US\$6,000
- Education Dept: Spartan & Yohane finishing Advanced Diploma course to join Kindle staff
- Community Development: Completion of Mtseche Irrigation Project
- Health – hiring a Medical Assistant. Funds for house for him – approx US\$ 35,000

QUARTERLY REPORT : OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2009

(Note: This report forms part of the 4th Quarter report along with reports from the Department Heads and the Financial reports for this quarter. Presented to the Board on 23 January, 2010.)

Management Team:

This quarter started with 2 significant events for the Management Team in October.

- 1) A Budget and Action Planning meeting for 2010. This was held for 2 days at Sani. Each department head had prepared their Budget (both actual and “If God Provides”) and Action Plan in advance, and shared it with the MT for review. After looking carefully at each Department, it was then useful to put them together and get an overall picture of what Kindle plans for 2010. One theme recurred: **Capacity Building – for both staff & facilities.** (These budgets and Plans are presented to the Board for approval.)
- 2) A Workshop on Project Management. This was held for 2 days at the end of October at the Salima House, and it was facilitated by Jacky and Mike Hammond of SIM. This gave very useful training for planning, preparation, and development of projects, as well as monitoring, evaluating and reporting on them using Results Based Management techniques. There was also training on preparing Project Proposals for fund-raising. As MTL, I found this very useful and have already used nearly everything that was covered in the workshop.

Continuing the capacity building of the MT, especially in the area of M&E, Board Member Beth Barr also spent a day in November consulting with each Dept. Head as to their roles and activities, in preparation for new reporting procedures for 2010.

A third significant event for the capacity building of some of the Management Team was the International Leadership Institute Conference held in Lilongwe in November. This was largely sponsored by our partner, Woodsedge Community Church, and they paid for 3 members to attend. (Mr. Mkandawire was not able to leave Katawa for those several days, and Pastor Mbereko could not attend because it was held in English.) Those who did attend appreciated the spiritual and leadership training they received. We also appreciated the visit to Kindle of the 4 Woodsedge personnel who led the conference.

New Partner/New Ministry:

Contact with the German Embassy through Board Member, Ruth Ehret, resulted in them accepting one of the 3 proposals which we had presented to them. This was to provide Vocational Training in sewing and other homecrafts for 8 widows and older orphan girls. For the 1-year project MK900,000 was given to buy machines and supplies, and to pay salary for 2 trainers. All preparation had to be made and funds spent before 15th December, but the training was to begin the first week of January 2010.

Kindle and the Community & Committees:

As a continuation of the report from last quarter, we give praise that God has answered prayer in an amazing way. The committee for the Katawa Clinic was approved by the chiefs, and there has been some positive interaction between Kindle and the chiefs. The 2 main committees – Katawa committee and Orphan Care committee – are now functioning well for the most part. A 2 day training was held for all members of the committees at the end of November. The District Social Welfare Officer was also involved in this training, as a

means of strengthening the relationship with this office. We pray that the committees will be blessed through their service for Kindle and the community.

Central Office:

We praise God that although the debit balance was not completely erased by the end of the year, it is much less than at the beginning. However, the frugal spending in order to accomplish this means that there are still some outstanding needs for the efficient function of the office. For example:

- 2 computers are needed, and 2 printers /photocopiers
- Vehicles need significant upkeep, and it would be ideal to replace at least one of them.
- Final work on the house needs to be done early in 2010 in order to make the house fully useable and become an income generating asset.

Prayer still continues for a full time Director, and other central staff.

Christmas:

The MT and Central Office joined with other departments in the celebration of Christmas with 2 Christmas parties. The first was for the orphan children, youth groups, and students supported by Kindle; the second for Kindle staff and families. We are thankful for funding provided by some Board members and other friends. A good time was enjoyed by all! Kindle was then closed for 10 days over the holiday period, apart from Katawa Clinic offering services for some of those days.

Conclusion:

This has been an amazing year! We have seen God at work in so many ways by His grace, mostly as a result of prayer but sometimes just to surprise us! Relationships have strengthened, ministries have grown, partnerships have been forged, people have been reached with the gospel through practical means and through the preaching of God's Word. We trust that some children and adults have come into the Kingdom of God in response to this. We thank God for the open doors to serve Him in this community, and although there has been opposition in many forms, we give honor and glory and thanks to the Lord Jesus for victories won!

As mentioned in the early part of this report, Kindle's theme for 2010 is **BUILDING!** We need to build the capacity of **people** - of our Management Team and Administration, as well as the other staff, and also community leadership. We need to build the capacity of our **physical plant** – staff houses & working facilities. Our **programs** are growing, so we need to build them wisely and in line with the staff and facilities already mentioned.

As we have experienced in 2009, this can only be done through PRAYER, PERSEVERANCE, AND PARTNERSHIP! I am confident that the Board of Kindle Orphan Outreach will join us in these to accomplish great things for the glory of God.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Barr (Acting Director/MTL)