

Malawi food, shelter and education programme

Background

Our ROPEholder is the head pastor of 18 churches, in Mzuzu to the North of Malawi. Historically most outside charity has been focussed in the South of Malawi and the North has been neglected. The area is extremely poor and has suffered greatly from recent droughts which have devastated local food production. There are many orphans due to AIDS and the pastor has many starving people come to his home in search of help. Many children receive no education as they live in villages too far away from schools.

The programme

The pastor has now established a food, shelter and education programme for some 510 orphans and desperately poor children. There are many more children who need assistance and the pastor has had to choose the very poorest and most needy. The children receive free education and many of the teachers and other staff are volunteers or receive only a very small payment for their work. Although orphaned, many of the children still live with distant relatives, however their relatives are too poor to pay for schooling or food. 83 of the children have no family at all and these children have been provided with housing, bedding, clothing and basic items. The children are aged between 3 and 10 and will be given nursery and then standard education. The scheme also helps poor people in the community such as widows, the elderly and disabled by providing them with employment, food and occasionally clothing.

The sponsorship scheme

The initial cost for sponsoring each child is **£65 per annum**. This covers their food, schooling and medical treatment when required, as well as shelter and clothing for the 83 children being housed at the centre. Supporters of this project will not sponsor a specific child but will receive an annual update and photographs on the progress of the programme and the 510 children in general, with example reports on how some of the individual children are progressing.



Some of the children and staff involved in the programme



Children whose parents are disabled and who cannot find employment. They receive education and sometimes food and clothing

The poorest community who receive food once a month and occasional clothing