



RISEUP MALAWI

EDUCATE. INSPIRE. EMPOWER.

Side by Side

Partnership Program

Background

In April 2019, RiseUp Malawi, in partnership with the local social welfare offices of Mangochi, conducted an in-depth household survey to determine risk levels of children in the community. Questions in the survey addressed barriers to education & livelihood security in terms of access to food, shelter & clothing. This survey was conducted amongst 50 households to identify some of the most vulnerable individuals for participation in our partnership program.

Results of the survey showed that almost 98% of the children interviewed were going to school without eating breakfast. It was determined that the most vulnerable households were child headed households that had lost both parents to HIV/AIDS or other preventable illnesses. Other notable risk factors included lack of proper school clothes/shoes, insufficient shelter (thatched roofs with vulnerability to the elements) & HIV positive outcomes from birth. The initial 15 beneficiaries for our partnership program were chosen based on a combination of need in these areas.

Goals & Objectives

The primary goal of our partnership program is to foster long-term, sustainable relationships with individual children in our community in Malawi through monthly giving that helps them meet their physical, emotional & spiritual needs. This is not a hand-out program, but an opportunity to give a child in our community the basic rights to clothing, shelter, food & education so they can grow into their God-given potential. By working closely with our families and beneficiaries through bi-monthly check-ins, we are taking a holistic approach towards development and tackling the root causes of poverty.

What Makes Our Program Unique

Unlike other sponsorship programs that assign their children numbers in an online marketplace so you can “shop” for a child to sponsor, we keep the identities of our children private, only revealing personal information once a secure match has been made in order to preserve the dignity of those we are serving. We’ve intentionally labeled our program a “partnership” program instead of “sponsorship” to change the language around what it means to support a child in the long-term. The verb “sponsor” means to provide funds for and we believe this language reinforces a hierarchy of power between the sponsor and the child being sponsored. Our program has been designed to go beyond passive monthly monetary support by using language that describes a relationship of equality and shared interests. The word “partner” by definition means a pair of people engaged together in the same activity or a person with whom one shares an intimate relationship.

Child Well-Being Indicators

Our partnership program manager in Malawi will be regularly checking in with our families throughout the year to assess the following categories:

1. **Good Health:** making sure our children and families are well-nourished, protected from infection and disease and have access to essential health services.
2. **Opportunity for Education:** giving children opportunities to learn and develop their talents by making sure they regularly attend school and are equipped with the necessary supplies (including school uniform, pens, writing tablets and bicycle for transport*)
3. **Spiritual & Emotional Growth:** helping children and families grow spiritually through opportunities for Bible study & access to our music program while encouraging them to live at peace & share God’s blessings with their neighbors
4. **Be Cared For & Give Back To Their Communities:** ensuring that our children feel safe and valued by their families and our organization and help them find meaningful ways to participate in their communities as agents of change/transformation.

The Partner

We are seeking partners with an active interest in supporting economically disadvantaged communities in a developing country. As a partner you should have some interest in learning about Africa and specifically how Malawians live, what daily challenges they face, and what dreams and hopes they have for the future. This is NOT a program for someone who passively wants to give money every month. Yes, it is a financial transaction but our program extends far beyond that and we are specifically looking for individuals who want to grow into deep,

long-term relationships with children in our community. If this sounds like it is you, then keep reading!

Your tax-deductible contribution of just \$35/month covers:

- Access to essentials/basic living such as basic hygienic & educational supplies
- Food assistance
- Medical emergencies

When you partner with a child, you'll receive your child's photo, personal video story and a child partnership packet by mail in approximately 10 days.

When children find out they've been selected for a cross cultural partnership, the joy they feel is indescribable. Just knowing that someone across the globe cares for their well-being, education & success is life changing. Partnering with one of our children will profoundly impact their future and will change your own life as well as you experience the joy of giving to another in need.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

We want to foster a long-term relationship between you (the partner) & the child you are selected to partner with. In order to do this, there needs to be a sharing of life's stories through regular communication. As a partner you will be prompted to voluntarily communicate with your child through written and video messages. Your child will share updates with you quarterly in the form of written letters, video messages, & artwork. These exchanges are critical for fostering a true relationship. Remember, this is not just a financial transaction. It is walking beside your child as they journey into adulthood.

Monthly Cost Breakdown

As mentioned above your tax-deductible contribution of just \$35/month covers:

- Access to essentials/basic living such as basic hygienic & educational supplies
- Food assistance
- Medical emergencies
- School Fees (for secondary school only)

In order to serve these children in the most impactful way possible, our Partnership Program manager will be consulting with the children and their families twice a month to determine what needs are immediate. Each month will look different according to these time sensitive needs but here is one example of what a monthly breakdown of costs might look like:

BREAKDOWN OF OF COSTS OF THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MONTHLY PACKAGE - BUDGET				
Description	Unit	Qty	Unit Price	Total (\$)
Breakdown of costs' budget of the Partnership Prog. Monthly Package			\$1=MWK648.9531	
Bathing soap		4	0.46	1.85
Washing soap	ea	8	0.2	1.60
Sugar	Pkt	4	1.53	6.12
Doughnuts (30 days)	ea	30	0.14	4.20
Body lotion VASELINE	ea	1	3.06	3.06
Exercise books and pens	ea	8	0.15	1.20
Contribution to food (Floor) 10kg	Kg	1	7.66	7.66
Relish and tomatoes	ea	1	9.19	9.19
Total				34.88

*Doughnuts are a staple food in Malawi that children eat for morning breakfast to fill their bellies. Vaseline is important for keeping skin protected from mosquitos.