

## SUPPORTING MALNUTRITION CASE FINDING EFFORTS IN MACHINGA

The DAPP Nutrition Screening project in Machinga district is in its second year of implementation. The project continues to implement the activities but with limitations due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Active case finding through screening of under 5 children is currently not taking place to avoid physical contact and the risk of contracting and spreading the coronavirus which was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organisation in March 2020.

However, field officers are still working with health facilities to ensure that children who were identified as malnourished are receiving therapeutic and supplementary food supplies. Apart from patient follow-ups, the project is also civic-educating the community on hygiene practices for the prevention of COVID-19 infections and what to do if they suspect possible infections in their families.



“We have managed to visit some of the children who are receiving the supplementary food and they are showing signs of improvement, unfortunately we cannot assess their nutrition status because we are avoiding contact,” said Shyreen Malunga the Project Coordinator.

On 27 March and 27 April 2020, the project made a distribution of the food supplies to 100 families; 50 families at Mkwepere and 50 at Nyambi Health Centre respectively.

The project is being implemented in Traditional Authority Nyambi and targets to directly reach 1,000 pregnant and lactating mothers and over 30,000 people indirectly.

## CHILD AID PROJECT RESPONDING TO COVID-19

The Child Aid project under Community Development programs implemented by DAPP Malawi is built on the idea that communities should work together to identify issues of mutual interest that affect them in and come up with solutions.



In Dedza district, DAPP Malawi is implementing a Child Aid project in the two Traditional Authorities (T/A) of Chilikumwendo and Kamenyagwaza.

With the Coronavirus pandemic, the project has from the month of April been mainstreaming key Covid-19 messages in its activities as one way of responding to the pandemic to reduce its risk and spread.

In mobilizing households to wash hands regularly, 225 households have mounted hand washing facilities in their homes also known as tippy taps which are made from materials which are locally available in rural communities.

This has been possible through demonstrations carried out by project field officers in the communities.

Apart from campaigning Covid-19, project activities like demonstrations on construction of firewood saving stoves were also carried out in the month.

The use of firewood saving stoves is one of the measures the project promotes in the fight against climate change. The stoves use less firewood as compared to open fire which requires more wood for fuel.

## CASE STORY – ALISHA KALUA



Alisha Kalua comes from Mukhulu village in Traditional Authority Ntchindi in Mzimba district. She is 26 years old, married with one child.

In June 2018, she was enrolled for a six months basic Cobbler and Shoe Making course offered by DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School at its Satellite Centre in Mzimba, under DAPP Mzimba Teachers Training College.

The six-month shoe making training equips young women and men with basic shoe making, repairing and entrepreneurial skills. Following her training at Mzimba Satellite Centre, Alisha had an opportunity to further advance the vocational training at Mikolongwe Vocational School campus in Chiradzulu, where she was trained for another six months in advanced shoe making course.

By course design, students receive start up tools in groups of three upon successful completion of the training. This is done to enable them to establish small scale businesses. “After our training at Mzimba centre, we received start up tools which include a shoe sewing machine in a group of three to work as a trio, currently we are two of us renting this room and using the machine while the third person went to school for a training in another field,” said Alisha. Alisha and her colleague are based in Euthini, an approximately 100 kilometres from Mzimba district council in a hard to reach area. She narrates that their challenge in their business has been finding materials

especially different types of leather in order to produce materials that meet their customers’ demands. However, she said operating in her area is also advantageous as the two are only ones that are making shoes in the area.

“We have a lot of customers here, it’s like almost all people that want a shoe made will come to us because we are the only ones producing shoes without much competition,” she said.

Alisha and her colleague have been operating their shops for less than three months at Euthini Trading centre. She said despite the setbacks that are materials for producing a variety of shoes, they are able to make more than 50 thousand Kwacha in a month.

## HPP 2019 PROGRESS REPORT OUT!



We are excited and proud to share the Humana People to People (HPP) Progress Report 2019. The report carries unique personal stories of change from diverse development activities and other exciting new developments that have taken place over the course of last year.

In 2019, the Humana People to People movement reached 12 million people in social development efforts around sustainable agriculture and environment, community development, health, and education through 1, 259 project units.

Together with the people in the communities where HPP works and its numerous partners, HPP continues to stand by countries as they strive to meet the Sustainable Development Goals of 2030, creating lasting positive change in the process.

Read more about in the Progress Report at the following link: <http://www.humana.org/images/publications/Progress-Report-2019.pdf>

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