

The Likulezi Letter 2022



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The Likulezi Project
Malawi, Africa

(HIV/AIDS and Community Development Project)

**“Facilitating communities to
develop their potential”**


**Funding body of
the Likulezi
project**

Unfortunately as we belatedly write our annual Letter(March 2023)... we have (just now) been struck by cyclone Freddie and our area of Phalombe is devastated. Our centre has survived (being on a height) but some of the staff and volunteers houses destroyed and of course all the crops as the Harvest was due in April. The problem of drinking water is paramount as cholera is already there. But to report on 2022 only we could be happy to say that Likulezi had survived again though struggling with the rising cost of living, a hike in school fees and the vagaries of the weather. Although the whole world is suffering from these same issues, the poor are the ones at the bottom Of the Pyramid. Here at Likulezi we are carrying on...because we are resilient. Resilience is the great gift of the poor.

Before the cyclone hit (March 2023) we had been back into full swing after the restrictions of Covid. In fact we didn't lose any of our volunteers during Covid to actual covid, even though restrictions were sporadic. However we have lost some since to other illness's, including a very hard working chief.

Educational activities took priority with workshops, Trainings, meetings and our library back in full use. This Library has become a Hub of the Project as it caters for all from the “cradle to the grave”...children's storytelling and holiday school, chess club, school curriculum books for both Students and teachers alike, novels for the surrounding community and further afield and the great asset of the weekly newspapers for the surrounding community to browse. The Library also holds the Likulezi Olympics (childrens sports day) and football finals...and all focused on education. This little library has evolved into a true community centre. We are pleased to say that the Library escaped the ravages of the cyclone...also being on a height although one of our sub libraries was ruined.


THE BAD NEWS

A circular graphic with a blue gradient and a white border, surrounded by a dynamic splash of water droplets and bubbles.

1) Jan 2022 floods

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2) Deaths of volunteers

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*3) Top volunteer
incapacitated*

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4) Activities curtailed

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5) Cholera outbreak

BAD News of 2022

1. Flooding at the start of 2022 had crops destroyed and some houses of our volunteers collapsed.
2. Deaths of 5 volunteers (not covid related) and one of our most revered chiefs..chief mahere.
3. One of our most hard working volunteers and also a pastor “Waya”, had to have a leg amputated.
4. Cutdown of some activities due to funding constraints.
5. A Cholera outbreak in our catchment area....after the flooding.

THE GOOD NEWS

1. CBO's become independent

2. MANASO Trainings

3. 50 Orphans Sponsored

4. 1 Orphan at Medical School

5. Funeral Policy Provided

6. New Library

7. New Funding Received

Good News of 2022

1. We are proud to say that 4 of our CBO's (community based organisations) are now registered independently with the government of Malawi.
2. Our volunteers accepted for trainings conducted by MANASO (Malawi network of AIDS Services organisations.)
3. 50 Orphans sponsored for Secondary and vocational school.
4. 1 orphan at clinical medical school.
5. 9 Staff members took funeral policy through Likulezi project.
6. New outlying Library set at Mikomwa CBO.
7. We are most grateful for new funding received for The project library/ Activities and Educational activities.

Photos from 2022



Children are collecting their fees



Orphan as a tailor making uniforms



Volunteers learning how to teach



Lady's destroyed crops after the floods



"Gladus" made it to secondary school



Practising for chess competition

We are now well into 2023 but with a big “zikomo Kwamberi” (much thanks) to all our steadfast donors, sponsors and wellwishers for once again getting us through, a special thank you to 2 new donors in 2022 “Nenagh World Development “and “J.P. McManus charitable foundation “. This assistance is coupled with the amazing resilience of a people hit with all sorts of tragediespoverty, disease, the “Big one “AIDS and now cyclone Freddie. Yet this place remains a place of laughter, it is everywhere and it comes to you from across the plains and through the gaps in the mountain, it’s in the air you breathe and seeps through all the tragedies. We are in the warm heart of Africa here.

Any donations will be gratefully received via www.africaaware.net. Or Via www.globalgiving.org

We specially need donations for our Orphan programme as costs have drastically risen. Global Giving project can be found under Africa aware: project name:”Plant a seed for tomorrow for an orphan child “Zikomo”

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