



RCA Missionary Update

from Justin Majawa

Justin Majawa lost his dad when he was seven months old and grew up as an orphan. He worked hard on the farm growing vegetables, which he sold to go to school. In his 11th and 12th grades he was adopted by a pastor who mentored Justin and enabled him to go to college.

In 1996, while in college, Justin created Save Orphans Ministries. Moved deeply by the extreme suffering of so many orphans, Justin resolved to offer them help and hope. His message to the children is that God is the father of the fatherless. Today Save Orphans Ministries serves over 10,000 orphans in their communities through HIV/AIDS, Food Security, Evangelism, and Education Support.

Malawi facts:

- Population: 11 million
- Size: 45,745 square miles
- Major religion: Christianity



MINISTRY

Holistic Community Development

LOCATION

Lilongwe, Malawi

PARTNER

Save Orphans Ministries

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A VISION BECOMES A REALITY

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"Where there is no vision people die." So goes the saying. After the death of our adopted son, Ben, we felt God was asking us to share his life—and what he taught us while he was alive—with others. At the age of 5 Ben had learned to give and to share. Every time we gave him something he wanted to share it. He had a big heart and we feel led to give his life to other children in the form of nutrition, rehabilitation, and care for those who are dying of AIDS.

In Malawi, HIV/AIDS drugs that prolong life for children and adults are still scarce. Most of the hospitals that provide the drugs only do so to adults, leaving little to help children who are dying of AIDS. Our kids' clubs have seen 3-5 children die every year due to lack of AIDS drugs.

Because of the lack of hospitals, many children and adults do not have access to Anti-retroviral (ARV), a drug that prolongs life when one is HIV/AIDS positive. The hospitals are far away and currently are congested. After registration at the government hospital to receive the drugs, one can wait up to 6 months before they call your name.

Last year Save Orphans Ministries, an organization work-



ing with 15,000 children in Malawi in the Ntcheu and Mangochi districts, launched the construction of a nutrition rehabilitation center for children who are dying of AIDS. The center will help children who are HIV/AIDS positive and in the critical condition of developing multiple diseases. The care center will have 50 beds to care for 25 boys and 25 girls who are critically ill. At the center children will be given nutritious foods, vitamins and Anti-retroviral (ARV) drugs while on the waiting list at the government hospital. Their caregivers will come (for training in family enrichment programs) every day until

the orphan has improved and has started receiving Anti-retroviral (ARV) drugs from the government hospital. The caregivers will learn how to administer the drugs, how to read the Bible and how to grow herbs and other foods that help in boosting the weak immune system including how to prepare nutritious foods using locally available crops. Administration of drugs will be taught. Not many people know how to take the drugs. Some cases have been reported where someone took the drugs without knowing you have to do that after meals.

A child will be released as soon as he/she has started receiving drugs from the government hospital. After graduation, the caregivers and the child will be given herbs that boost the immune

system and other crops for them to grow at home. Follow ups will be made by the nurse and an agronomist to help them with the production of the herbs as well as referring them to the government hospital and make sure they follow the drug routines. It is expected the herbs they will grow home will help boosting their frail immune systems. It is also expected the nutritious food they will learn to make will support their health.

The care center will have a farm, afternoon classes for the children, adult literacy for caregivers who do not know how to read and write as well as a kitchen where cooking lessons will take place. Caregivers will be trained on how to lead Bible Studies in their communities and family enrichment programs on who is God and



how to raise your children including those adopted in a godly manner.

The building at the center is almost finished now. However, the project still needs a well and the AIDS drugs. A well will cost \$7,000 (a one-time expense) while the drugs will cost \$1,500 a month. Funds can be given to the Food Security and Nutrition project by sending them to:



The Reformed Church in America
 PO Box 19391
 Newark, NJ 07195-1938
(In the memo portion of the check, please indicate "SOM Food Security Project")

Your assistance would save the lives of these needy children and in turn they will grow in their knowledge of the Lord Jesus

Christ. Thank you very much for your partnership of spreading the gospel in Malawi. "For the doors have been opened wide to share the good news." Mother Teresa said, "I don't want people to send me something because they want to get rid of it. Giving is something different. It is sharing. I also don't want you to give me what you have left over. I want you to give from "your want" until you really feel it! The love you put into giving is the most important thing." - Mother Teresa (Excerpt from *No Greater Love*)

Yours in His Love,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Justin and Ruth".

Justin and Ruth Majawa