



RCA Missionary Update

from Justin and Ruth 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 programs related to HIV/AIDS, food security, evangelism, and education support.

Malawi facts:

- Population: 11 million
- Size: 45,745 square miles (slightly smaller than Pennsylvania)
- Major religion: 67 percent Christian, 15 percent Muslim, 9 percent other



MINISTRIES

Community orphan care, education sponsorship, HIV/AIDS, food security, evangelism

LOCATION

Lilongwe, Malawi

PARTNER

Save Orphans Ministries

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www.rca.org/majawa

2010 Yearly Report to Supporting Churches from the Majawas

What is your ministry's primary goal?

Assisting orphans and caregivers in Malawi to live a productive life in their communities

Over the past year, how have you seen God working in your ministry? Please share both the progress and the setbacks with respect to your ministry goals. Please include your joys, challenges, and/or disappointments.

I have seen God working in the lives of the orphans and their caregivers in ways that I never thought of: 7,000 children are meeting in 60 community-based child care centers; 52 kids' Bible clubs have been developed—the groups meet once a week and encourage each other; God provided resources to purchase another 400 goats for 400 families in addition to the 200 that were passed on; the building of a care center for children suffering from AIDS; sponsoring 20 orphans with school fees and uniforms in elementary schools; training 120 people in adult literacy and 40 in income-generating activities; the food security project established five irrigation schemes for orphan caregivers and drilled one well (\$10,000); seeing two members do church weddings; and receiving a mission team from Missouri. These were all blessings. One disappointment is that people in Songa did not harvest enough food due to drought and dry spells that affected their farms and they will need some sort of relief food. That is a challenge when you work so hard. But the joy of knowing God loves them and seeing children who are being fed daily in the community-based care centers and knowing that they know the Lord cannot be compared with the disappointments.

Share any physical or spiritual health issues that have impacted your ministry during this past year.

The children, the caregivers, the patients, and the students that meet once a week for Bible study continue to grow. The staff of SOM meets every Monday for prayer meeting. SOM's HIV/AIDS care center for children who are suffering from AIDS is caring for 57 children—seeing them know the Lord and having the joy in their hearts is a spiritual milestone. The hope our activities bring to the orphans and the caregivers is a spiritual blessing.

While celebrating the blessings, SOM staff morale sometimes is low due to the global financial crisis. You never know

whether people are going to give or not. SOM's funding has been affected drastically and some sponsored students did not go back to school. We were also encouraged by our supervisor's visit. Rev. Jones spent sometime with us and encouraged us.

Briefly discuss your goals, your dreams, and/or any changes you anticipate in your ministry during the coming year.

- In the absence of the much needed funding, cheap community training and community contribution will be intensified.
- Providing school fees to 200 orphaned children at \$150 per student per year.
- Support of 50 children who are HIV/AIDS positive with nutritious packed meal that helps boost immune system of those who are HIV/AIDS @\$100 per year per child.
- Support 20 community child meeting places with play ground equipment at \$300 per play ground.
- Build a laboratory for our high school (\$60,000).
- Provide four wells to the most suffering villages at \$10,000 each. Women and children walk nine miles to get to the next well that we did and that breaks my heart.
- Conduct four VBS (one per quarter at \$2,500 each for 1,000 children).

Share some specific project-related needs and other ways supporting churches might be able to assist you.

- Volunteers and funds to construct laboratory, HIV/AIDS Child Care Center kitchen, and teachers' housing at SOM's secondary school.
- Financial and medical support for our HIV/AIDS care center in Ntcheu.
- Vitamins for chronically ill patients that SOM supports.
- Support Kids' Bible Clubs with Sunday school materials and training.
- Support our food security efforts in irrigation scheme.
- Provide funds for the wells.
- Provide funds for the VBS.
- Pray, pray and pray.

Please tell us about ongoing as well as special prayer needs you have at this time.

- Education Sponsorship program for nursery, secondary and vocational school.
- HIV/AIDS support and care center construction, which has just started caring for 48 children.
- Feeding and Bible clubs, including VBS.
- The success of the Buy-A-Goat for a Family program
- Vision to build Save Orphans Ministries an office building that will be a source of programming income for the organization for sustainability.
- A container to be sent to Malawi from the U.S. with school and health center supplies.
- Financial support for Save Orphans Ministries staff.
- Financial support for a community vocational school.
- Prayer for our 48 young HIV/AIDS clients.
- Prayer and financial support to drill four wells.

If you desire to support the SOM project-related needs, please contact the RCA Africa missions supervisor, Derrick Jones (djones@rca.org) or Sharon Schramel (sschramel@rca.org) or call 1-800-228-3813.



Please visit www.rca.org/majawa for more information about us, prayer items for our ministry, and donation information.

To order prayer cards for us and our ministry, please contact Nancy Ellens at (800) 968-3943 or nellens@rca.org.