



DISABILITY 2021 MID YEAR REPORT

The Disability programme is run by Malawi Council for the Handicapped (MACOHA), a Government agency that works with disabled people of all ages. Starfish began to assist in the year 2019 to help with transport money for those referred to go to different referral hospitals such as Bette Cure in Blantyre about 300 miles round trip or at Kamuzu Central Hospital in the capital city Lilongwe for orthopaedic surgery, physio aids, and other health issues. Many parents are unable to send their child for surgery due to having insufficient funds to travel the long distances to the hospitals so this financial assistance plays a key role in overcoming their disabilities. Starfish targets children from 0- 18 years of age who are identified by MACOHA.

WHAT SUPPORT HAS BEEN GIVEN SO FAR

Over the period of a year the programme assisted twice with a number of selected clients in the months of April to June and August to October. From the months of April to June this year, Starfish has supported 9 Children with transport money . The amount of cash used to support the nine clients totalled MK104,000 approximately £90.00, which is so little for so much.

Covid prevented a lot of visits happening in 2020/early 2021, but we hope and expect things to return nearer to normal in the second half of the year. Hundreds of children are in need of this funding.



Preston Kumbuyo

PRESTON KUMBUYO.

Preston Kumbuyo is a disabled boy aged 15 from Kambwiri in Salima. He was supported through transport money to go to Kamuzu Central Hospital because he was born with a condition of Hydrocephalus causing his head to be enlarged. The Doctor inserted a pipe in the brain and he always visits the hospital to check if the pipe has no blockages and review other medical related issues. Preston is one of the standard 5 primary school learners who is also benefiting from Bible Explorer lessons at Kambwiri School.

MALIA KAYESA.

Malia Kayesa is a girl aged 16. She was born without any disability but at the age of 6 developed a condition of having one leg shorter than the other and therefore had difficulties in walking. MACOHA identified her and she was referred to Kamuzu Central Hospital to provide special raised shoes to have a balanced posture – a shoe raise. This also helps position the veins at the back of her knee which are twisted. Now she is thankful to Starfish for the money given to her for transport to make it to the Hospital. She says now she is feeling comfortable using these shoes.



Malia Kayesa