

GLAD TIDINGS MID- YEAR REPORT 2023

Glad Tidings Orphan Care was established in 2003 with the support of Starfish. Orphans and Vulnerable Children have access to education, receive good health care, psychological support and have access to proper sanitation.



Currently 246 children are benefitting from the programme. At each of the four nursery schools, namely GTOC, Moyo, Jonasi and Kundayi, the feeding programme ensures that each child receives a cooked meal each day. There are 25 people who work as volunteers – but receive an allowance.

EDUCATION

Glad Tidings Nursery School commenced in 2004, followed in 2010 by Moyo and Jonasi Nurseries, and in 2011 by Kundayi Nursery School.

We receive learning and teaching materials such as pencils, rulers, writing/drawing paper, toys, Bibles, and footballs from Starfish. These resources are used by teachers to prepare for class work. The students make good use of the gifts. Lessons are enjoyable and fun times.



IMPACT OF NURSERY EDUCATION ON EARLY YEARS OF PRIMARY EDUCATION

The following table shows second term performance records of children attending Ngolowindo model primary school in standard 1 and 2, showing comparisons of grades of those who attended the GTOC Nurseries with those who did not.

Term 2 year 2023	Class 1	Total no. that sat for exams both GTOC and Ngolowindo	Total no. that passed for exams from GTOC.	Total no. that passed the exams from non GTOC members.
		241	111 (77%)	130 (45%)
			Percentage grades grade 4=14-13% grade 3=33-30% grade 2=38-34% grade 1=26-23%.	
Term 2-year 2023	Class 2	Total no. that sat for exams both GTOC and non-members.	Total no. that passed exams from GTOC.	Total no. that passed the exams from non GTOC members.
		194	80 (71%)	114(32%)

Key

Grade 4 = Excellent, **Grade 3**= Good, **Grade 2** = Average, **Grade 1** = Needs support.

You will see the difference that Glad Tidings makes in early years progression. We will continue tracking this difference throughout.

FALIDA MISI

Falida was born on 2 December 2015 at Salima District Hospital into a family of 8 children. After the birth her mother was unable to produce breast milk. This meant that she was supposed to be feeding baby Falida milk formula but the family were unable to purchase this because they had insufficient finances.

Falida started receiving milk formula at GTOC when she was 1 month old. Now, she is 8 years old very healthy and attends Ngolowindo model primary school. She is in class 2.

Falida also benefits from items received when the Starfish Container arrives, e.g. Blankets, clothes and shoes. Her mother is very thankful for these gifts.



Falida Misi - one of the beneficiaries at GTOC

ELDERLY SUPPORT

In April 2023 Starfish, through GTOC, donated food packs to elderly women who come from poor households in the Ngolowindo area. Each pack contained rice, cooking oil, bathing soap and beans.

Elizabeth Muziwo, one of the elderly women who received the packs, thanked Starfish for the help. Most elderly people are not regarded when it comes to help as they are considered to be witches and wizards.

The gifts have brought so much joy and change in the lives of the elderly women.



Some of the elderly women after receiving the food packs.

FARMING

GTOC is also involved in farming. This was introduced by Starfish and is in its pilot stage. In the last farming session, we planted Groundnuts. The harvest amounted to 13 bags. The groundnuts will be of great help in reducing costs.

Groundnut powder is used for the Feeding Programme in all the four nurseries. The cost is now reduced thanks to our groundnuts that have been harvested. We look forward to continuing with the farming project.

CONCLUSION

We are so grateful for all that Starfish has done to support Glad Tidings Orphan Care. They have made a great difference over the years both to the children and the staff.

Every year there is excitement and joy when the Container arrives from England. We are so thankful for all the gifts that are distributed to Glad Tidings Orphan Care.

Clothing, toys, beautiful blankets and quilts are among the wonderful gifts that we receive for distribution to the children and local families. On a chilly Malawian night, it is such a wonderful blessing to be wrapped in a beautiful hand knitted and colourful blanket.

To all the ladies that make quilts, knit blankets and jumpers throughout the year we send our thanks for the kindness and love shown to us.

