

Monsanto officials visit Mzimba TTC



DAPP Malawi's teacher training program under which 28 Monsanto Fund - supported female students are being trained is uniquely geared towards training students to be skilled, competent educators, who see their role as agents of change and are motivated, able and willing to work in rural settings. The importance of improving gender equality through the program and the promotion of children's - including girls' - education and enrollment is a key element.

On 1st December, 2016, local representatives for Monsanto, Samson Munthali and Manase Sikelo visited the students at DAPP Mzimba TTC. During the visit, the students shared their experiences since their training started in September 2015 and what they have learnt thus far.

"The training has enabled me to gain the skills to boost my confidence and empowered me to challenge the established patriarchal pattern and behaviors that do not support girls education and empowerment," said Lusungu Mhone, one of the students at Mzimba TTC during the visit.

"Through the activities we have been carrying out during open days at the college and in communities, I feel that a supportive environment for girls in schools has been created and awareness among community members on the importance of education continues to be enhanced," shared Elizabeth Mphande, Mzimba TTC student.

Mzimba TTC Case Story: Ovaline Phiri



37-year old Ovaline Phiri lives in Chaliwa Village with her husband and four children (2 boys and 2 girls). She is the Parent - Teachers Association (PTA) Chairperson at Mbwiliwiza Primary School in Mzimba and has been actively involved in DAPP Mzimba TTC's community activities.

She appreciates DAPP's work and the student teachers who carry out teaching practice in her village. Her children have benefited from the remedial classes that they facilitate for children who struggle with their studies. They have also been able to enjoy food produced in the school garden that student teachers established.

Mrs. Phiri thinks it's particularly important for female children to have female teachers so that they have examples of educated women, and she feels that every school should have at least one female teacher so that girls have someone to talk to about their needs and challenges, particularly around puberty.

As an uneducated mother, she would like to see the children in her community succeed in life and take part in teaching future generations in her community. Recognizing her responsibility as PTA Chairperson, she vowed to continue mobilizing parents, community members and local leaders to participate in education promotion activities and ensure that all children attend school and reach their full potential.

Hands Up For HIV Prevention



The DAPP Total Control of Tuberculosis (TC – TB) project joined Malawi and the rest of the world in commemorating World AIDS Day under the theme “Hands Up For HIV – Empowering Adolescents and Young Women”. The project participated in the national event held in Dedza district.

TC – TB in Thyolo is working with people in

14 traditional authorities to reduce new TB infections in order to further mitigate the burden and impact of TB and TB/HIV co-infection. The purpose of the project is to reduce the spread of TB by raising awareness, community mobilization and increasing both access and demand to TB and HIV testing in the district.

Case story from CHW: Janet Mayaya



It was a cold morning when I set out to conduct door to door home visits for my clients. I met two women who were conversing about a persistent cough, the younger woman was explaining that she had been coughing for nearly two months. I greeted the women and introduced myself as a Community Health Worker and told them about my work.

The younger woman was eager to know more and I asked if she could give a sputum sample. She later tested positive for TB and HIV coinfection. Her relatives also went for TB testing as part of contact tracing and they all tested negative.

A trio was formed with the patient and two family members to support her to adhere to treatment. She immediately started receiving nutrition support and she now has a backyard garden which provides her family with fresh vegetables everyday.