

DAPP Dowa Farmers Club Project Hands Over Physiotherapy Centre



The DAPP Dowa Women Farmers' Club project handed over a physiotherapy centre to Manondo community in Traditional Authority Nkupula in Dowa district. The centre is expected to reach out to over 50 children from the surrounding communities through restoring of movement and functioning of body parts when affected by injuries, illness or a disability.

The facility has been furnished with beds, mattress' and toys for children to play with when they go to receive assistance.

The Malawi Council for the Handicapped (MACOHA) Rehabilitation Technician Officer from Dowa Thokozani Mekisen expressed gratitude towards the rehabilitation of the facility saying it will lessen the pressure of having to visit every child in their homes. She added that this centre will, apart from reaching out to people with disabilities, be used as a health facility to the community.

Senior Group Village Headman Manondo presided over the function and said the community will join hands and build other structures at the centre.

The event was attended by 26 traditional leaders and 44 children with disabilities have already been identified from within the 26 villages and they are expected to benefit from the facility.

DAPP Mzimba TTC Students in Cleaning Action

The student-teachers from DAPP Mzimba Teachers' Training College (TTC) who are in their first year of study carried out a common action at Mzimba District Hospital on the 4th of August 2017. The students visited and cleaned the premises around the district hospital as part of their "Hitting the Hearts" activities.

Hitting the Hearts is a learning period when the student teachers go out to communities surrounding the colleges to carry out charity activities with the people in those particular communities. This equips the student-teachers with mobilization skills and leading role playing in their communities.

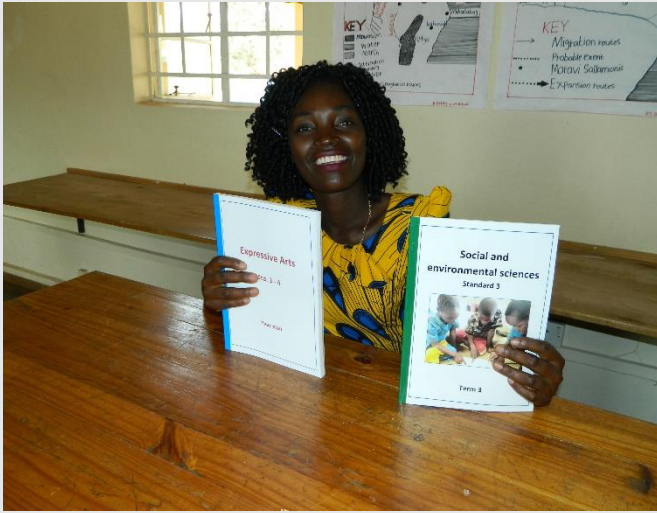


At the hospital, the students swept grounds, mopped rooms, slashed grass, and picked litter around the premises.

The action went on well and officials at the hospital expressed gratitude towards the DAPP TTC program saying indeed the student teachers will be agents of change in rural primary school where they are expected to teach after graduating.

DAPP TTCs train teachers who do not keep their hands in the pockets but those who should be multi-skilled and spearhead community building efforts in the areas around their schools.

400 Primary Schools Teachers Get Into Using Spine Materials in Senior Classes



The network of DAPP graduated teachers program also known as 400 Primary Schools program who are working in government primary schools meet regularly to plan and evaluate their work before and after every school term during what is called a Production Camp.

The teachers volunteer and commit themselves to actively modernize their practice as primary school teachers and spread their practice to the school environments.

The Production Camp that took place from 23rd to 26th August 2017 at DAPP Chilangoma TTC in Blantyre involved reporting on previously set goals, orientation on the use of supplementary materials (also known as Spines in the network) in senior classes, waste management and improving of sanitation and hygiene in schools, production of TALULAR (Teaching and Learning Using Locally Available Resources) materials and establishment of school gardens and their importance.

Spines are teaching materials which the 400 Primary School teachers use as supplementary teaching resources for their learners. They are developed by DAPP Malawi with support from the Humana People to People headquarters to help improve the quality of teaching in turn improve the pass rate.

Previously, the 400 Primary School teachers have been using Spines in junior classes of Standard 1 to 4, however, during the Production Camp, the teach-

ers have been oriented on how to use the Spines in senior primary school classes with a teaching demonstration done by one of the teachers Upile Tambala.

One of the teachers Agness Chipamba from Kanjira Primary School in Lilongwe district said she is very confident with using the Spines to teach her learners. She said there have been improvements in her learners' pass rate since she started using the Spines.



The Project Leader Jimmy Brian Kayange said the Production Camps bring together DAPP graduated teachers who are working in different districts across the country to share their experiences, skills and knowledge in their work. In addition, teachers work hand in hand with the communities around their schools to get them involved in their children's education. Open Days are organized where the community members are encouraged to establish vegetable gardens, trees and construct firewood saving stoves in order to fight against climate change.

The network comprise of 86 teachers who are working in 56 primary schools in 16 districts across the country. Of the 54 teachers present during the Production Camp 30 are expected to be teaching in senior classes.

The idea behind the program is to provide the opportunity for teachers graduated from DAPP Teacher Training Colleges to stick together and support each other in improving the school environment, where they are working.