

### DAPP MVS Celebrates 20 of Youth Empowerment



DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School (MVS) clocked 20 years of empowering youth in the year 2017. The 20 years anniversary celebrations took place on 20 October at Mikolongwe Vocational School campus in Chiradzulu district.

The celebrations were held under the theme **“Skills and Knowledge for Youth, Key to Socio-economic Growth”** and were graced by the Minister of Labour, Youth, Sports and Manpower Development Honourable Francis Kasaila who recommended DAPP for the skills and technical trainings which enable youth to be self-reliant and venturing into entrepreneurship.

The celebrations were spiced up by performances by the students at Mikolongwe which included fashion show, storytelling, choir performance, and sporting activities like netball and football as well as the awarding of a gift to 11 outstanding students by CMOS Electronics.



DAPP Mikolongwe Vocation School opened its doors in 1997 at the Providence Industrial Mission in Chiradzulu district. The institution moved its campus to the current location in Traditional Authority Likoswe in the same district in 1999.

The school is registered with Technical Education, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training (TEVET) Authority under the Ministry of Youth, Labour, Sports and Manpower Development and offers both formal and informal training. To date, Mikolongwe Vocational School has trained over 8500 youth in various trades, who are contributing to the social and economic development of the country.



The courses being offered at the institution include; Agriculture, Beauty Therapy and Hairdressing Salon, Plumbing and Wash Technician, Bricklaying, Financial Accounting, Shoe Making, Electrical Installation and Renewable Energy, Carpentry and Joinery, Fabrication and Welding, Community Development, and Textiles and Fashion Designing.

DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School equips youth with technical skills and knowledge for them to become productive youth, be able to secure employment or become self-reliant by starting up small scale businesses thereby alleviating poverty.

## DAPP Dowa TTC's Youth Centre Supporting Communities



The Youth Centre at DAPP Dowa Teachers Training College constructed with funding from the Chinese Embassy is making significant impact to youth and communities around the college. The centre which includes a Mass Media and Information Centre, a Pre-school and a borehole was handed over in July 2016.

Youth from the surrounding areas have been receiving computer lessons in computer hardware and software packages Microsoft word. In addition, the centre is a meeting place for youth to discuss and share experiences on issues that affect their day to day lives.



During the youth meetings, lecturers from Dowa TTC provide motivational talks with a focus on economic empowerment, youth involvement in decision making as well as health and nutrition. The Pre-school at the Youth Centre is offering lessons to over 45 children and over 100 children have gone through the pre-school since opening.

The borehole at the centre supplies water to over 700 households from Dzaleka refugees camp, Lirambwe village and Dowa TTC.

Since handing over of the facility, the community around the TTC has continued to support and take care of the resources at the centre by ensuring that there are security measures put in place like using a padlock to secure the borehole from theft.

## Mzimba TTC Second Year Students Making Strides



DAPP Mzimba Teachers Training College (TTC) second year students have been interacting with the public to share what they have been learning while at the college and during their study period called "hitting the hearts". Hitting the hearts is a period whereby the student teachers take to the general public what they have been learning while in college and share with the communities around them.

This is followed by classroom observation activities in surrounding primary schools in the colleges. The classroom observations introduce the student teachers to basic teaching skills, they observe all the activities at a primary schools from the morning assemblies to classwork so that they do not overlook important elements in the teaching profession. DAPP TTCs train "Another Kind of Teachers who are expected to work in rural Malawi primary schools.