

DEVELOPMENT AID FROM PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

CSOs CHALLENGED TO STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST GBV



Performance to mark the launch of 16 Days of Activism

The Government of Malawi through the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare launched the 16 Days of Activism campaign against Gender Based Violence (GBV) on 23 November 2018 at College of Medicine in Blantyre. Malawi is commemorating the 16 days under the theme “End GBV in the World Work and Tertiary Institution”. The campaign against GBV tallies with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 5 which aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. The event was graced by the Minister of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare Honourable Cecilia Chazama MP who called on individuals, Civil Society Organisations and different stakeholders to join her ministry in order to strengthen collaboration in the fight against GBV.



Participants during the solidarity march

She emphasised that GBV issues need to be addressed in all areas not only the work place or tertiary institutions as this year's theme stipulates.

The 16 Days of Activism campaign is commemorated in over 160 countries since its introduction in 1991. In Malawi, it is being supported by various stakeholders which include Action Aid, Plan International, WORLEC, ZATHU, United Nations, Engender Health, SAT, University of Malawi, Timveni, LUANAR, Self Help Africa, MCTU, Norwegian Church Aid, Malawi Human Rights Commission and DAPP Malawi.

NTHULO PRIMARY SCHOOL TRAINED IN RE-USABLE SANITARY PADS MAKING

DAPP Malawi through 400 Primary schools, a DAPP Teachers Training Colleges (TTC) graduated Teachers Network, project is in partnership with Febbie Tambala, a Master of Public Health student at Melbourne University in Australia, training adolescent girls and women (members of the mothers' group committee) on how to make reusable sanitary pads using locally available resources for use during menstruation. The project is part of Febbie's University's requirements for the award of a Masters degree.

Febbie said she chose to focus in the areas of menstrual hygiene and installing hand washing facilities around the school after establishing that adolescent girls tend to miss school during their menstrual periods which contributes to the drop out of young girls from school especially in the rural areas where there are poor families who cannot afford to buy disposable sanitary pads.



Learners show off pads made during the training with Febbie (L)

The sewing of sanitary pads training took place at Nthulo primary school in Nansato education zone in Thyolo district on 13 November 2018.

The Mothers' Group committee was provided with two sewing machines for continuation of the project activities after the training and income generation through selling of the reusable sanitary pads. The program will support over 500 adolescent girls at the school and from the surrounding communities.

Nthulo primary school is in a rural area where, George Mphanje the Deputy Head teacher is one of the DAPP graduated teachers who is also a member of the 400 Primary Schools.

The 400 primary schools project is a network of DAPP graduated teachers who stick together to share ideas and network on how they can improve the school environments around their schools.

Currently there are 90 teachers in the network who are working in 67 schools across Malawi.

NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

66 MORE TEACHERS GRADUATE AT DAPP CHILANGOMA TTC

39 females and 27 males new teachers were trained at DAPP Chilangoma Teachers Training College (TTC) were awarded the IPTE 2 (Initial Primary Teacher Education) certificate by the Malawi Nation Examinations Board (MANEB).

The certificate qualifies them as primary school teachers in Malawi.

On 2 November 2018, DAPP Chilangoma TTC awarded certificates of completion to the 66 teachers who had been trained specifically to teach in rural Malawi primary schools. The event was graced by the Southern West Education Division Manager Henry Gwede as the guest of honour who called on the graduated teachers to go out and embrace their noble profession by working hard to produce desired results and maintaining social distances.



The Division Manager awarding certificates

In his remarks, he emphasised that his office will continue support teachers and as teachers trained for rural Malawi primary schools they need to prove that they are indeed change agents and another kind of teachers.

DAPP Malawi trains primary school teachers specifically for rural primary schools. The teachers are not only trained in the profession, but to also become change agents who will play leading roles in the community building efforts.

To date DAPP has trained 2738 teacher with over 2300 employed by the government.

25 YOUTH EQUIPPED WITH TAILORING SKILLS

DAPP Malawi in partnership with Sympany Holland is training adolescent girls and young women from disadvantage backgrounds in tailoring and entrepreneurial skills in four of its DAPP teachers training colleges namely Mzimba, Dowa, and Amalika & Chilangoma since 2016.

The tailoring centres were set up in the schools as an extension of DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School programs to reach out to more youth with technical skills.

On 9 November 2018, DAPP Dowa Satellite Tailoring Center awarded certificates of attendance and handed over start up tools to 25 beneficiaries of the program who had been trained in tailoring for a period of four months.



Beneficiaries of the tailoring training awarded certificates

Beneficiaries of the free training are adolescent and young women aged between 15 to 25 years from communities that surround the colleges.

The District Youth Officer for Dowa Mr Chigamba who presided over the function as the guest of honour called on the graduating young women to go out and utilise the skills acquired from this opportunity and challenged them to work hard and transform their lives.

To date, the four Satellite Tailoring centres have trained 432 tailors out of the 720 target to be reached by 2020.

CASE STORY: ALINANE DONDA



Alinane (R) in the tailoring shop with Sailesi

Alinane Donda comes from Mpungula Village in Traditional Authority Chekucheku in Neno district.

She is a beneficiary of the DAPP Mobile training centre which target to equip young and adolescent with tailoring and entrepreneurship skills in hard to reach rural areas.

Following their four-month tailoring training, Alinane is able to produce garments using a sewing machine. She said at first she had no idea how to cut fabrics or put pieces together to produce clothes.

As a mother of three, she used to rely on seasonal farming activities from which she could sell some of the produce to support her family.

“After the training I joined a tailor at Neno Boma (district) who had a spare sewing machine. I asked Harry Sailesi (the tailor) if I could join and be sewing in his shop in order to advance my tailoring skills and that way I do not forget what we learnt during the training,” she explained.

Alinane said she is now able to make an average of 10000 kwacha in a month.