

“WE HAVE TAUGHT MOTHERS TO SCREEN THEIR CHILDREN”

Coronavirus which causes the Covid-19 disease was the dawn of the new way of living worldwide.

Malawi was not spared as the country registered its first cases of Covid-19 from April 2019 and the cases started rising. Preventative measure to control the spread and reduce the risk of contracting the virus were enforced and awareness campaigns have been conducted.

In response to the calls to join hands in fighting Covid-19 organisations implementing developmental projects derived measures on how to reduce the spread of the virus. DAPP Malawi, working in the areas of agriculture, health, education and community development introduced measures to help in the fight against the spread of the

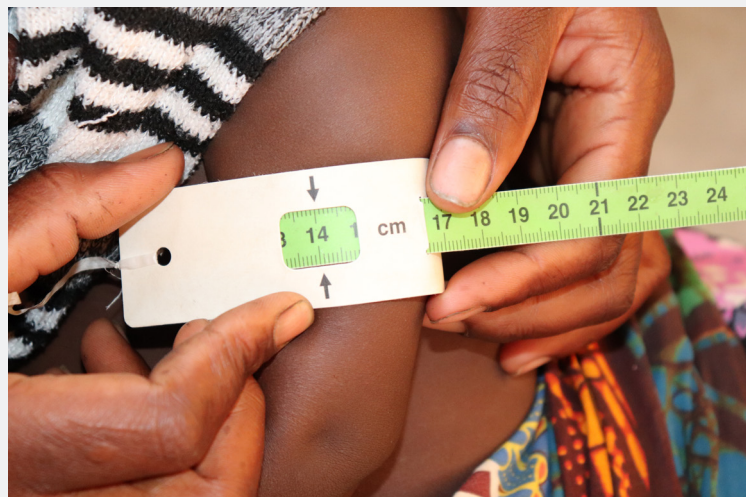


coronavirus.

Apart from the hygiene measures which included washing hands with soap, use of face masks and observing social distances, in its Nutrition screening for 0 to 2 years old children, parents were trained on how they can screen their children for malnutrition thus to reduce human contact.

“As a project we distributed the screening tools, MUAC (Mid upper arm circumference) tapes so that parents can be able to screen their children and record the progress in the growth of their children and especially their nutrition status,” said Shyreen Malunga the Project Coordinator.

One of the Care group members Mrs Christina Sukali said as mothers involved in the project they are able to track the nutrition status of their children as they are now able



to screen their children in their homes. Apart from the screening they said they are also encouraging the women with children who are malnourished to provide their children with foods that include all the six food groups and to establish backyard gardens, she explained.

In villages around Mkwepele Health centre in Traditional Authority Nyambi, Machinga district, there were over 90 children that has been identified as malnourished since the project commenced in January 2020.

To date, over 150 children identified as malnourished have recovered according to the Senior Health Surveillance Assistant at the hospital Mr Robson Muverwa.

The project is running for a year and it is being sponsored by the Valdesse Church through Humana People to People Italia.

FARMSE PROJECT ROLLS OUT

DAPP Malawi has been contracted by the Financial Access for Rural Markets, Smallholders and Enterprises (FARMSE) to implement a project called “Poverty Reduction of Vulnerable Beneficiaries through Community Based Financial Organization and small scale Enterprise Development (PROVED) Project targeting to increase income of 37,500 beneficiaries in Nkhosakota and Nkhatabay districts.

The programme works to support the graduation of poor Malawians along the poverty spectrum from ultra-poor to a productive pathway on a sustainable basis.

The programme also supports household economic development through access to financial services that are appropriate to each socio-economic level of poverty



including ultra-poor, poor but food secure, vulnerable to poverty, and resilient to poverty.

The project has a unique approach with a focus on increasing the access to sustainable, diversified financial services. The project will support poor and vulnerable beneficiaries to achieve the improved socio-economic well-being.

The project targets to work with 1500 Community Based Farmers' Organisations (CBFOs) from the two districts. The groups will comprise of members aged between 18 to 50 years and will promote women's, men's and youth accessibility to financial services and empower them to access their rights through social inclusion.

The 36 months (July 2020 to September 2023) scalable project has to date registered a total of 509 existing CBFOs; 186 in Nkhatabay district while 323 in Nkhonkhotakota district. Apart from training the farmers in Village Savings and Loan groups, they are being encouraged to take up income generating activities which include growing crops while promoting Climate Smart Agriculture practices.



The project targets Traditional Authorities; Malengachanzi, Mwadzama, Mphonde & Mwansambo in Nkhonkhotakota district and Traditional Authorities; Mkumbira, M'bwana, and Sub Traditional Authority Mndola, Chipimininga, Siyalimba, Boghoyo and Mkondowe in Nkhatabay district.

I WANT TO INSPIRE MY FELLOW YOUTH - WILLIAM



William Sambo, 23 years old, is a Cobbler and Shoe Making student at DAPP Mzimba Satellite centre based at DAPP Mzimba Teacher training College. While schools were closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, William has been making shoes and selling to improve her skills and earn money. He said he is able to make a profit of 40 thousand Malawi Kwacha (an equivalent of 53 USD) in a month from his shoe making business.

William Sambo is based in Chiputula area, in Mzuzu City, the Northern part of Malawi and his wish is to inspire his fellow youth in her community and create jobs. He currently works with 6 people, four males and 2 females, he employed.

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