

A close-up photograph of a person's hands, one of which is a prosthetic limb, gripping a bright blue vertical water pipe. Water is spraying out from the pipe, creating a dynamic splash. The person is wearing a red and blue plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus.

OCTOBER 2020

# FALL REPORT

*Orant Charities Africa*

Orant  
CHARITIESAFRICA



# ABOUT ORANT CHARITIES AFRICA

## Mission

To build stable local communities in Malawi by empowering women and the poor with holistic and data-driven programs.

## Programs

- Healthcare
- Water & Sanitation
- Education
- Agriculture & Business



# LETTER FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR



Greetings from Malawi, the Warm Heart of Africa. I am filled with joy as I write to you. It has been one of the toughest years for Orant Charities Africa, yet we are optimistic nonetheless. From January to date, we have faced changes because of the arrival of Covid-19.

We prepared for the pandemic by conducting training and providing protective wear and equipment for our staff. We reduced the number of visits to villages for extension work such as agriculture and water projects. We even halted our mobile outreach clinic services. This reduced the number of patients our medical team could see. To battle hunger and malnutrition, we stockpiled bags of maize to distribute during the upcoming lean season.

As of today, we are happy to report that we continue to increase access to healthcare and clean water. We support irrigation projects and send young girls to school. We distribute Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) to children and other malnourished people. Our Masks for Malawi campaign has provided an opportunity for young women to earn a living sewing masks. So far, our seamstresses have produced over 10,000 reusable cloth masks that are then sold at an affordable price to the community.

Our imperative interventions wouldn't have been realized without the hard work of the Orant Charities Africa team, the sacrificial support of our donors, and the guidance of the Board of Trustees. Most importantly, I thank the community in which we work for their engagement in our projects and their faith in us.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Kapanda



# EDUCATION

On 12th October, students will be back in school after a hiatus due to Covid-19. Free education stops in Malawi after eighth grade. Students must pay for tuition and few students can afford it. Even when parents can afford tuition for some of their children, boys are often prioritized, girls left out.

Our corporate and individual donors gift 97 students in Malawi tuition and school supplies. 93 sponsored students are girls.

One of our greatest challenges is keeping girl students in school when circumstance and gender expectations push them elsewhere. 4 of our sponsored students this year dropped out due to pregnancy.

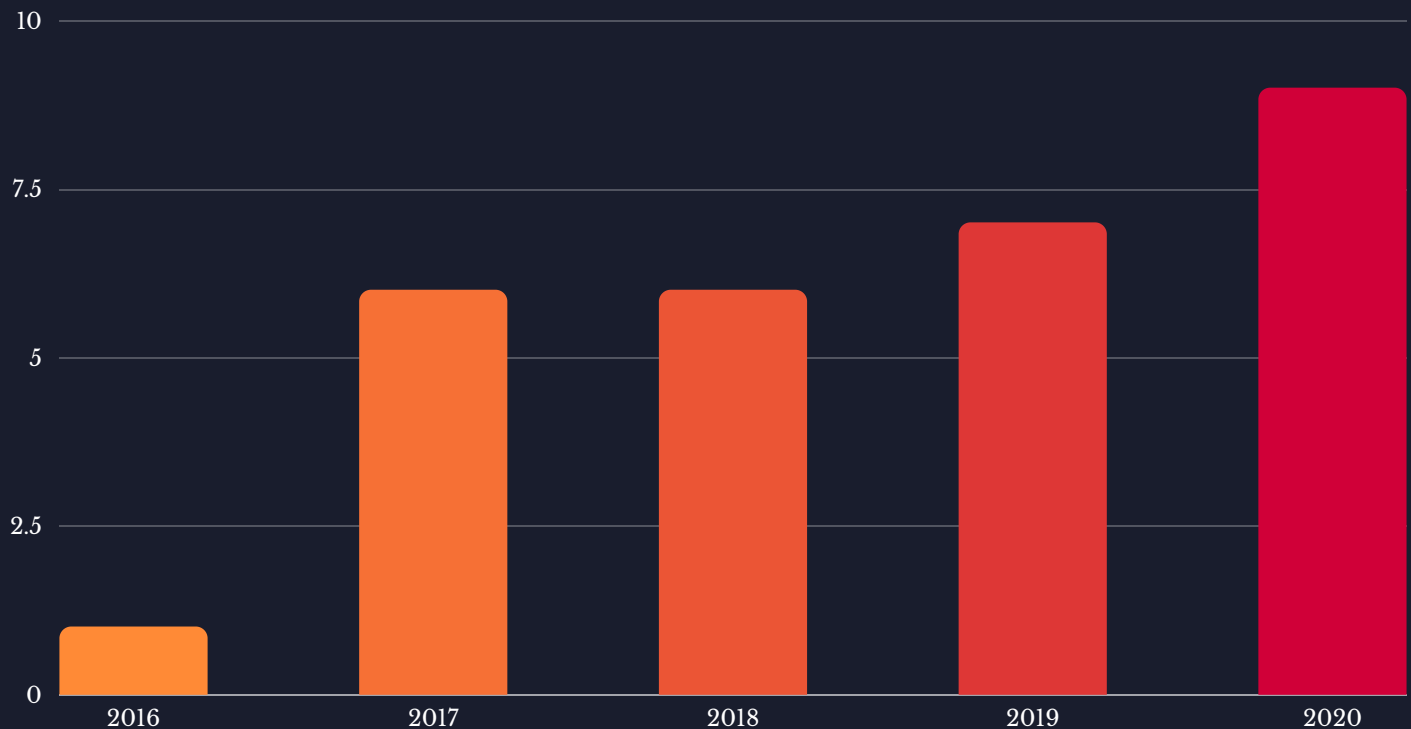
To avoid scenarios like this as much as possible, we monitor students' progress through regular site visits and stay in touch with them after graduation.

**60% of graduated sponsored students were accepted into university in 2020.**



# WATER & SANITATION

**In 2020, Orant drilled more wells than any other year thus far.**



## Water in Malawi

About 20% of Malawians do not have access to basic water supply services. Even those who have access to reliable water often walk a couple of kilometers a day to get it. This disproportionately affects women and girls, who are often the ones who must gather the water.

## 2020 Water Program Achievements

- Drilled 9 new boreholes
- Trained 9 committees in community-based management of water systems
- Repaired 61 wells
- Provided 50 handwashing stations to local communities for Covid-19 prevention

# AGRICULTURE & BUSINESS

Orant's operations area is rural and agrarian. Most families maintain subsistence farms. With our programs, we aim to transform farming for survival into farming for business. We sponsor and manage 14 irrigation clubs and run one demonstration farm plot. Our FEM for Women Program provides local women entrepreneurs with microloans.

## \$30,000+

dispersed in loans to farmers and local entrepreneurs.

## 976

farmers are supported through our partnership with the Bowe Farmers Association (BOMFA) and our own initiatives like the Irrigation Club Program.

## 100%

of our microloan partners payed back their loans despite complications with Covid-19.



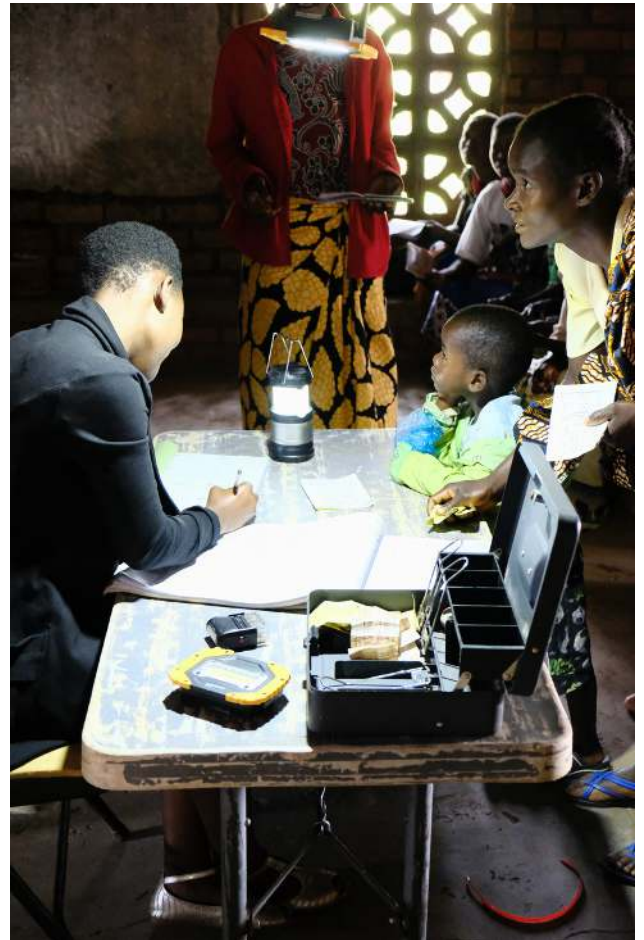


# HEALTHCARE

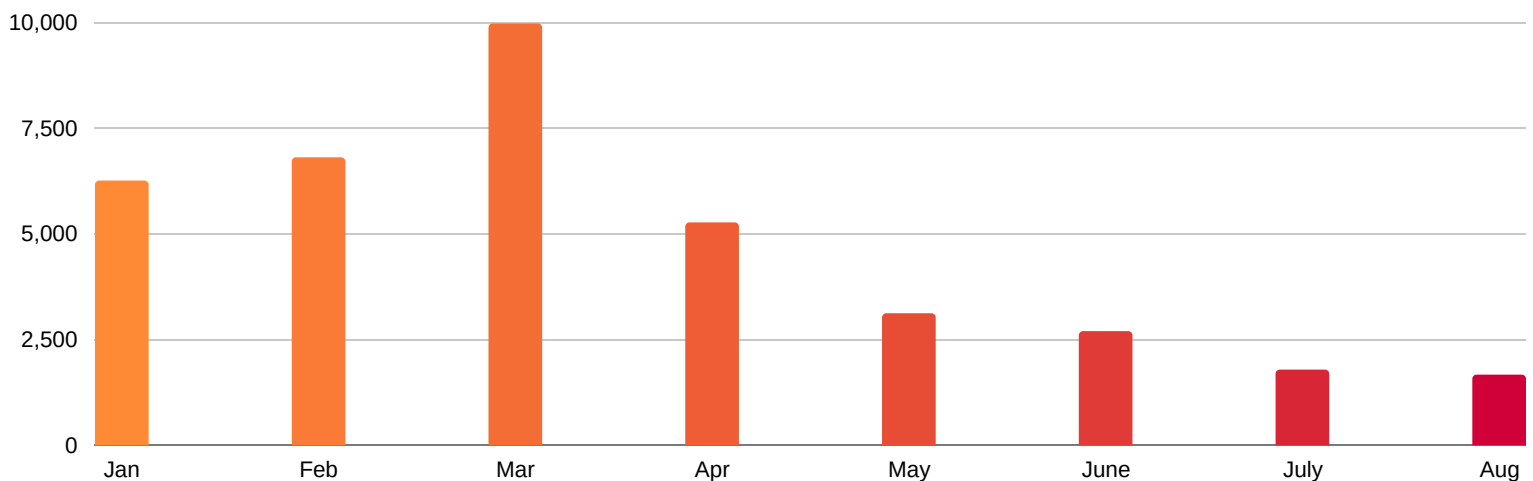
Orant runs a static health clinic on campus in Kasese and a **Mobile Outreach Clinic** that travels daily to see patients in hard-to-reach rural areas.

We suspended operations of our Mobile Outreach Clinic from April to August because of Covid-19. We have since resumed modified operations. Our clinicians distribute face masks to patients, spread information about Covid-19, and encourage social distancing practices.

The 2020 malaria season, from December to April, was bad this year, but luckily it was mostly over by the time Covid-19 arrived. Around 70% of the 28,000 patients treated between January and April were for malaria.



## Total Patients Treated







# CHALLENGES

- Covid-19
- Hunger and Malnutrition
- Unemployment



# COVID-19

Orant has worked hard to build the necessary infrastructure to battle coronavirus since before the first cases were detected in Malawi in April. Donors purchased and supplied PPEs and other necessary equipment for the staff. Staff underwent professional government training and prepared communities by distributing portable handwashing stations.

## Hunger & Malnutrition

COVID-19 has increased the danger of widespread hunger in Malawi because of trade restrictions. We are working with BOMFA, our partner farming cooperative, to ensure that we will be able to supply food where it is necessary as the year continues.

Malnutrition is a consistent challenge in rural, underdeveloped communities. Orant's health clinics fight malnutrition by distributing a nutritional supplement made of peanut butter (RUTF) to malnourished children.

## Unemployment

Many Malawians are rural subsistence farmers. Funds necessary to start businesses are difficult to find and steady employment is harder still. Our microloan programs aim to lessen this difficulty, encouraging business ventures and economic growth.

Our Masks for Malawi Program employs four local partner seamstresses. We provide them with a sewing machine on loan and pay them per mask they produce. Often, their earnings reach five times the average Malawian daily salary. The seamstresses employ three of their own assistants. We aid seamstresses in setting up bank accounts and building professional relationships to expand their businesses in the future.

# Masks for Malawi

Though the pandemic is global, so is generosity. In September, our fundraising team launched a campaign for Masks for Malawi. Our goal was to raise \$15,000 and we raised over \$17,000. We hope that mask production and distribution will prevent a disastrous outbreak of the virus on an already vulnerable community.

**"I am proud that I am a tailor and I am able to make a living and support my family."**

**-Chisoni Puleti  
Kaundama**



## Your Donations:

- Provide 4 seamstresses and 3 assistants with steady work
- Support the production of up to 240 masks a day
- Will distribute over 20,000 masks to people in rural Central Malawi
- Have allowed Orant's Mobile Outreach Clinic to return to its routine schedule for the first time in four months

