



MONTHLY REPORT

MAY 2020

COMPILED BY

GABRIEL KAPANDA
(COUNTRY DIRECTOR)

HEALTHCARE PROGRAM

Executive Summary

Kasese Health Centre (KCH) continues to provide excellent care to the residents of its catchment area and beyond. The major diseases of public health concern in Kasese and Malawi at large is Malaria, with its epidemics in every rainy season. The entire population is affected, however, pregnant mothers, under five children are at higher risk.

Monthly Patients Attendance for May

As for the month of May 2020, the Health Centre saw a total of **3,207** patients a number which is fewer than last month because outreach team stopped its operation due to COVID 19 pandemic and because the rainy season is gone, hence the environment is not favorable for mosquitoes which spread Malaria. **97** children aged between 2 months and 12 years were admitted in 24 hours' children's ward, majority having malaria and they all got parenteral treatment of artesunate. Maternity department had **41** deliveries and referred 7 mothers for caesarian section (C/S) at Madisi hospital. (see figure 2).

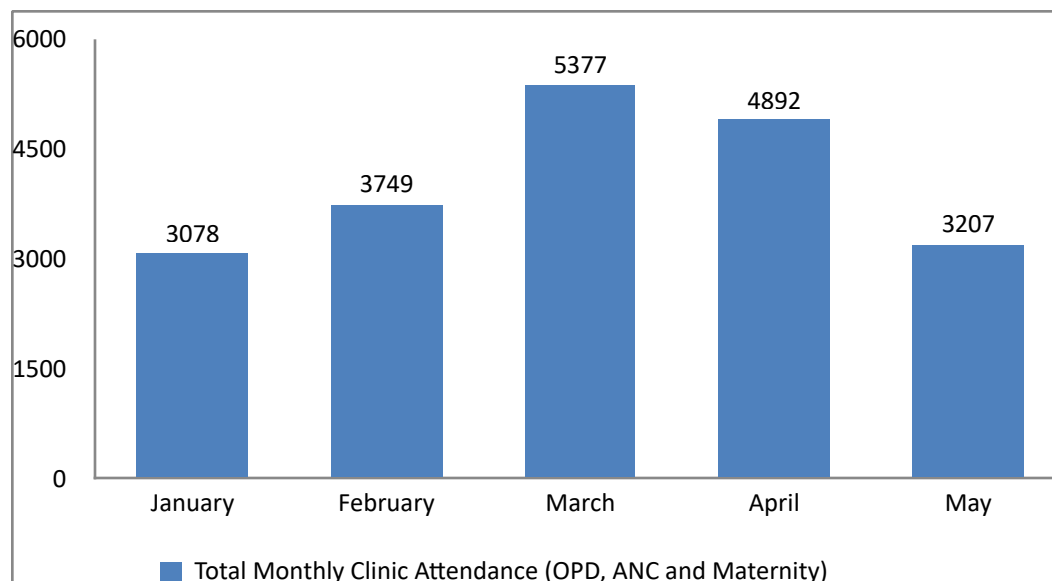


Figure 2: Summary of total Monthly patient attendance at Kasese health Centre (OPD, ANC, and Maternity.)

Figures 3 and 4 details the breakdown between communicable and non-communicable diseases for May 2020.

Figure 3: Communicable diseases of public health importance for the month of May 2020.

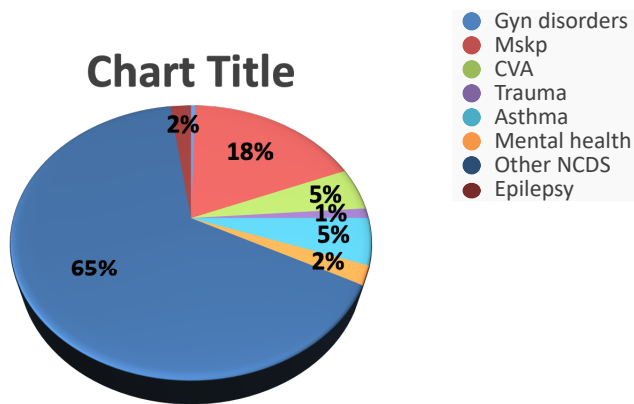


Figure 4: Non communicable diseases for the month of May 2020

Corona virus (COVID -19) preventive measures.

Kasese Health Centre so far has not registered any case of COVID 19. However, Malawi continues to confirm many cases, by the time this report was written the total confirmed cases were 455 with 51 recoveries and 4 deaths. Of all these cases 366 are imported mainly from South Africa and 79 are local transmission. Dowa district in which Kasese Health Centre is situated has registered four cases at Dzaleka refugee camp.

During the same month of May 2020 the Health Centre continues to encourage and adhere to (WHO) COVID 19 preventive guidelines which includes: frequent and thorough hand washing hygiene, use of face mask, maintaining social distancing, avoidance of overcrowded places, while at the same time, encouraging people to stay at home if they can, this and more are among the daily health talks to patients and staff.

International Nurses day celebration (IDN).

Every year Nurses commemorate international nurse's day, in Malawi nurses from all over the country meet on specific day at a chosen place annually. But due to COVID 19 the activity was done at their respective work place. This year, the theme was to celebrate the 200 birthday for their founder Nightingale and it was also good time to remember healthcare workers who have passed on due to COVID 19 pandemic.

Figure 5: shows a picture of Kasese health Centre nurses having commemoration candle light.



Maternal and Child healthcare

The Health Centre continues to provide excellent maternal and neonatal health care. All women access high quality care during pregnancy and delivery. All women who delivers at the clinic receives quality medicine and are attended to by skilled healthcare workers. Mothers who need referrals to hospitals are assisted in time evidenced by good maternal outcomes as the Health Centre has not experienced maternal mortality for the past five years.

During the reporting month, the maternity department had **41** deliveries; **40** spontaneous vertex deliveries (SVD) and one breech. One neonate was born on transit to the hospital (BBA) and one was born at home. Seven mothers were referred to Madisi hospital for C/S due to prolonged labor while one had preeclampsia. The Health Centre had no neonatal death.

Tables below shows New born survival / PMTCT for the month of the May 2020.

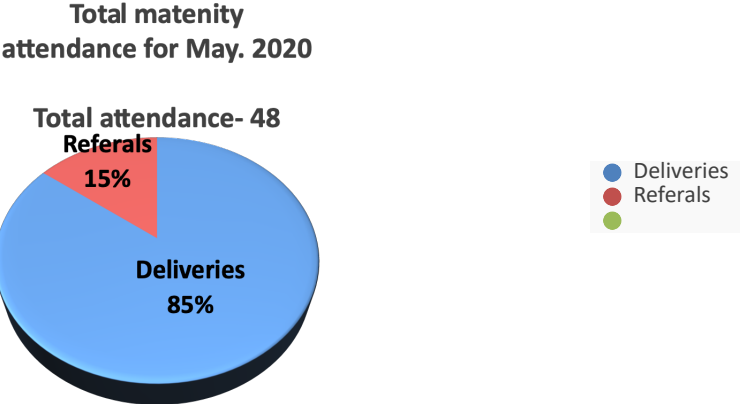
Alive, not HIV exposed	41
Alive,exposed,no NVP	0
Alive, exposed, NVP started	0
Alive,unknown exposed	0
Fresh still birth	0

Macerated still birth	0
Neonatal deaths	0

Newborns complications.

New born with no complications	37
Weight less than 2500grams	1
prematurity	2
Asphyxia	1
Sepsis	0
Total	39

Figure 6: Maternity attendants for May 2020



Cervical cancer control clinics report

Cancer of the cervix remains a public health problem in Malawi and amongst the top three leading cause of cancer death in Malawi (MOH, *National cervical cancer strategy 2016-2020*). In addressing this problem, the Health Centre conducts routine visual screening of cervix using acetic acid to women of childbearing age between 25 to 49 years. The two cases were referred to hospital for surgery total hysterectomy, one patient will be supported by OCA in terms of bill payments (As her case was referred to a paying hospital). Below is a table showing monthly total cases screened and positive results.

Table 1: Monthly number of clients screened for cervical and their outcomes

Month	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept
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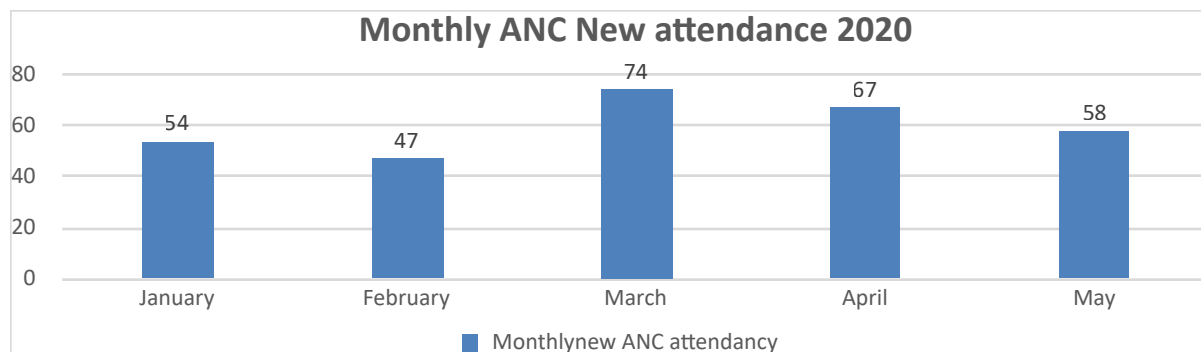
TOTAL	36	48	80	31	28
positive	0	1	5	4	2

Family Planning

The month of May 2020, a total of **287** patients received deprovera injection. While **6** clients opted for Norplant’s method, as it’s the second most liked method. Permanent family planning methods like bilateral tubal ligations (BTL) was not done as the Health Centre partner BLM stopped the services due to funding challenges.

Antenatal Care (prenatal care)

For the month of May 2020, the Health Centre antenatal clinic registered **58** new mothers. During the Antenatal clinics, mothers receive; two doses Tetanus toxoid vaccines, 3 doses of SP, FEFOL tablets, albendazole, Insecticides Treated Nets (ITNS) and get tested for syphilis.



HIV Care Clinic

The health Centre HIV/AIDS Clinic continues to provide excellent ART/ TB care as depicted by quarterly award of certificate of excellence by the Malawi ministry of health through HIV/AIDS unit. Good percentage of patients continues to get their viral results which are routinely done at every visit according to their milestone. The health clinic continues to switch patient’s treatment from 5A to 13A which is DTG based regimens. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the health Centre continues to provided 6-month bottle supply of ARV to all clients who are stable on ART. The Health Centre received routine supply of antiretroviral medicine (ART) from the Ministry of Health (MOH) through the department of HIV unit.

Laboratory Services



The following tests were conducted;

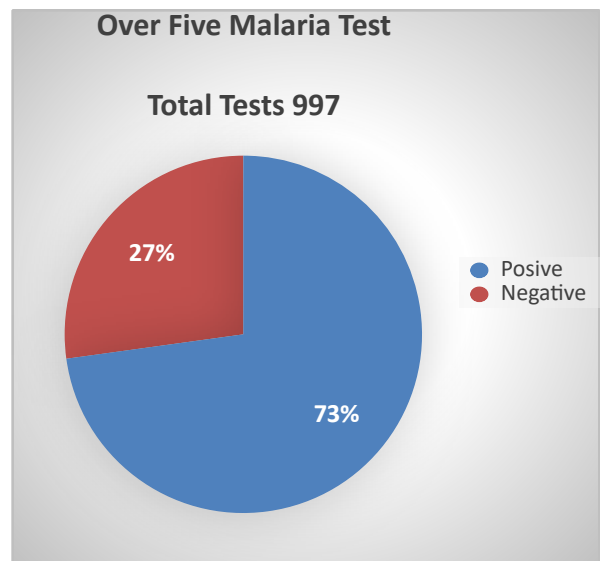
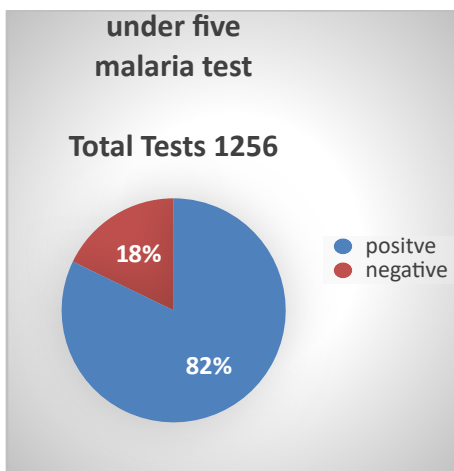
Complete blood count tests.

The donated complete blood count (CBC) machine commonly known as the full blood count machine in Malawi (FBC), is in proper use and as of the month of May, 2020 **87** tests were conducted.

Malaria test (MRDTS & Microscopy)

The Malaria test is conducted both rapid test (MRDTS) and microscopy blood smear slides. A total of **2,253** Malaria were tests done and those positive were **1,758** and negative tests were **495** this represent more than 78% positivity rates. As for children under five years; total tests done were **1,256**, **positive** were **1,032** (82%) and negatives were 224. For those who are above five years, total tested for malaria were **997** and those with positive malaria were **726** representing a positivity rate of 73%.

Figure 9 : shows under five, over five percentage of malaria tests.



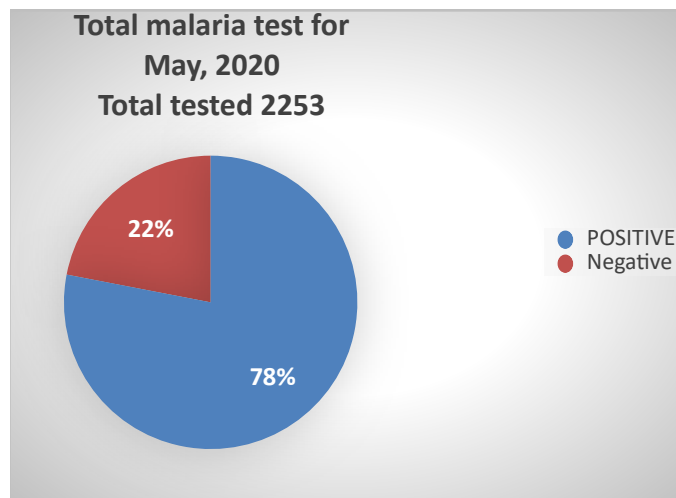


Figure 10: table shows other laboratory tests conducted.

Tests	Total tests	Result(pos)
H. PYLORIS	23	7
salmonella	0	0
Hep B	4	0
VDRL	2	0
HCG	36	13
TB MICROSCOPY	14	3
GLUCOSE	31	

Clinic administration

- Due to the risk posed by COVID 19 pandemic, OCA provided risk allowance to all the frontline health care workers and support staff. Each one got an allowance according to their cadre ranging from MK 25,000 to MK 50,000. We are thankful to management for the support.
- After all the infection prevention measures are put in place, there is plan to resume Mobile outreach clinics by July 2020 (depending on the situation on the ground), for example after procurement of hand washing facilities to all outreach clinic post, training of all healthcare volunteers on Covid-19 health guidelines and supplies which includes PPE for the outreach team staff.

WATER PROGRAM



Figure 7: Commissioning of the first 2020 Borehole in Chapuwala village by the Country Director

Introduction

In pursuit of the goal to ensure sustainable access to water and sanitation services, the water program conducted various activities in the month of May, 2020 which included; Borehole drilling and construction, Borehole Repairs and Community Based Management (CBM) training. In this report a detailed account of these activities has been provided, it starts by providing a summary of the progress of activities against the work plan followed by a detailed narration

Table 2: Progress on Work plan

No	P l a n n e d Activities	Target	Achieveme nt	Reach / Participants		
				Male	Femal e	Total
1.	Borehole Drilling and Constructio n	1	1	NA	NA	
2.	W a t e r Quality Testing	1	1	NA	NA	NA
3	W a t e r Users' Training	1	1	5	6	11
4	Supervisory visits to Water Point Committees	17	17	NA	NA	NA
6	Borehole Repair	NA	5	NA	NA	3374

Borehole Drilling and Construction

OCA drilled the first borehole in 2020. Additional 360 people in Kasese area can now afford access to potable water in Chapuwala village of TA Chakhaza, Dowa owing to a new borehole that has been drilled in the area by OCA. Before the new borehole people were drinking from the nearby Bua River. The drilling and construction of this new water facility was preceded by a detailed hydrogeological assessment of the area to locate water bearing zones.



Water Quality Testing and Analysis.

Following the drilling of a new borehole in Chapuwala village, there was need to ascertain the quality of water if it was fit for human consumption as per World Health Organization (WHO) and

Malawi Bureau of Standards (MS) standards. OCA thus engaged the Central Water Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Water Development to carry out a full biological and chemical analysis. The water Samples were analyzed for Results indicated that the water was fit for human consumption

Water Users' Community Based Management Training

Water Users Committee called water point committee (WPC) was established in Chapuwala village with the aim of managing the new water facility in the area. In order to build capacity of the committee, OCA organized a 5-day training in operation and maintenance of the water facility for continual health benefits.

The training had 11 participants of which 10 (4 males and 6 female) were committee members and 1 was the area chief. Technical components of the borehole, sanitation and hygiene, group dynamics and financial management were some of the topics covered during the training. The training mode of delivery included lectures and practical sessions. Moving forward, OCA will continue to monitor and mentor the WPC to see to it that it has the undoubted capacity to manage and operate the borehole.



Images showing participants during the training

Borehole Repairs

OCA continued to support communities with major repairs during the reporting period, 05 wells were repaired as indicated in the table below, the repaired boreholes serve an estimated total of 614 households translating into a service to a total of approximately 3374 people.

<u>SN</u>	<u>GVH</u>	<u>VH</u>	<u>Repair(s) Done</u>	<u>Number of Users on the Repaired Borehole</u>
01	Kalumo	Kalumo	10 Rod centralizers, 4 Bush bearings, 8 double-end sockets, 5 Pipes, 1 Cylinder, 6 pump rods, 2 Bobbins	1062

02	Mphamba	Mphamba	6 double end Sockets, 2 pipes, 11 Rod Centralizer, 1 O ring, 4 Bush Bearings, 1 Foot valve, 2 Bobbins, 1 Fulcrum pin, 1 Hunger pin, 4 bolts and nuts	903
03	kachila	Matekwe	12 Rod Centralizer, 1 1 Rubber corn, 4 double end Sockets, 2 Bobbin, 4 Bush bearings, 1 Foot valve, 1 Fulcrum pin, 1 Hunger pin, 1 Plunger rod, 1 Rubber flapper	324
04	Khomo	khomo	2 Pump rods, 6 double-end Sockets, 4 Bush bearings, 12 rod centralizers, 1 Hunger pin, 1-foot valve, 1 cup seal, 2 bobbin	616
05	Chapuwal a	Tchesa	Full inner parts	469

2.5. Supervisory visits to Water Point Committees.

OCA has in the past years been building capacity for communities to manage their own water supply facilities sustainably; this has been done through training of elected community representatives who form a Water Point Committee (WPC).

During the reporting period, OCA provided supportive supervisory visits to WPCs with an aim of monitoring how they are conducting their business and providing mentorship support where necessary. WPCs are expected to employ various approaches to maintain sanitary conditions in their water supply facilities and see to it that the water facility is providing water throughout. OCA also embarked on an exercise that encourages the WPCs to be servicing their water point quarterly. It was learnt that previous efforts by OCA were bearing fruits as evidenced by standard book keeping by the communities and existence of sanitary conditions around the borehole. The water points were also being serviced as scheduled.

1. Conclusion

The month of May 2020, was another great as the water program managed to serve communities as per its plan. Additional 360 people now have sustainable access to water through the new borehole that has been given and hundreds others from 5 villages have been given a chance to see other boreholes work again and enjoy good health. Our plan is to drill 14 boreholes this year.

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM



Introduction

During reporting month, agriculture program conducted several activities in Irrigation project and OCA farm. Below are details of the activities.

Irrigation project

Irrigation project, its activities focused on Mulching, harvesting, marketing, pruning, staking and transplanting.

Harvesting at Tionezina Irrigation Club

Tomato plants have ripened and harvesting process has commenced whereby and good quality tomato fruits have been produced. Harvesting is in process and good results are expected as proper storage and grading is taking place to get better prices at the market. OCA is also working to secure better markets for the tomatoes which will benefit 73 as they will be able to get better profit.



Harvesting of tomato fruits in progress

Mulching at Kasangadzi Irrigation club

Kasangadzi irrigation club was trained in Mulching of tomato field. Mulching was done with the aim of reducing rate of evaporation as supply of adequate water to the tomato plants is critical. Mulching also helps in keeping tomato fruits from direct contact with soil as direct contact with soil results into tomato fruits getting rotten.



Mulching on tomato field

Marketing Produce for Mvunguti & Timvane Irrigation Clubs

Mvunguti and Timvane irrigation clubs are producing tomatoes, the crops are ready for marketing. The targeted areas for marketing tomato produce were hotels, hospitals and restaurants where better prices can be achieved. Supply of the tomatoes at the market is low at present hence high demand is expected. However, with Covid-19 pandemic other customers like schools are closed. This may have negative effect on the sales.

Pruning & Staking- Ndalusa Irrigation club

Pruning was done to maximize photosynthetic efficiency and minimize risk of pests and disease. Ndalusa irrigation club was monitored in pruning tomatoes by the use of knife or finger tips.



Pruning of tomato plants

Staking

Farmers at Ndalusa irrigation club were also trained on importance's of staking tomato plants, stalked tomato plants are easier to spray or dust for insect and disease control and easier to harvest than those sprawling in the ground. The method of staking which was taught to the farmers were by the use of steaks which is readily and commonly available in their area. This will help in bringing more profits at the end of production process.

Transplanting

Tionezina Irrigation club identified gap in their community on the crops which are not commonly cultivated by other farmers in order to reduce competition for markets. Tionezina identified and planted crops such as Onion and Vegetables as crops which are not common in the community. A training was conducted whereby club members were equipped with knowledge on proper time for transplanting and procedures to be carried out for effective transplanting onion and vegetable seedlings.



Transplanting of Onion seedlings to the main field

Bagging and fumigation

Demonstration crops were weighed, bagged and fumigated within the reporting period. Crops which were demonstrated on OCA farm were Maize and Groundnuts. Groundnuts was further dried, packed into bags and stored as unshelled. Maize was shelled, fumigated and stored hoping to be sold at higher price as it has gone through special processes of production compared to other grains produced for consumption.

Harvesting on OCA leased land has been done during reporting month in which activities of stoking, striping and shelling was done by the tenant. The crop sharing with the tenant is expected to be done within the following month so that both parties must take care of the produce by themselves (Tenant and OCA).



Harvesting on leased part of Land

EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM

Executive Summary

It has been three months and students are still at home due to the closure of schools. It is not certain on when the schools will be opened because the Corona Virus disease (Covid-19) seem not to stabilize. However, OCA education program in the month of May managed to meet with some of the students who live within Kasese catchment area to discuss on few issues concerning this lock down and find out from them the challenges they are facing. Below is the students' feedback;

- ❑ Students are worried about their education' future since they don't know when schools will open
- ❑ Students are complaining that at home there are a lot of household chores so they don't have enough time to concentrate on their books
- ❑ They are failing to attend part time sessions because of lack of money
- ❑ Their parents are facing challenges to find enough food and some basic need to provide for the family since all children are now at home unlike when they are at school
- ❑ Others are being asked out by boys so that they engage into courtships

Upon hearing students' feedback, OCA education program personnel discussed with the students on the possible solutions to the problems which include;

- ❑ Since we don't know when schools will open, students are encouraged to study no matter what.
- ❑ And to avoid too much work at home, after some assigned work, they should go at some quite places to study. For example, nearby school, church e.t.c
- ❑ Whosoever can afford part time sessions is encouraged to attend

- ☐ All students are encouraged to Abstain and say **NO** to boys in any circumstances because they will end up getting pregnant and in early marriages.



Fig

1.

Fig 2.

- ☐ Fig 1 and 2 above shows the meeting OCA Education personnel had with students

In the same month the Malawi National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) has released names of students who have been selected to various Universities for this year (2020). In 2018/2019 academic year, OCA had 8 students who passed the Malawi School Certificate of Education (MSCE). These students applied to different universities and OCA is happy to say that 5 of the 8 students (62.5%) have been selected into Universities.

- ☐ Below is the list of students, University they have been selected to, and the course to study;

Name of student	School	Course
1. Clara Mzumara	Chancellor College	Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Cultural
2. B e a u t y Mkandawire	Chancellor College	Bachelor of Early Childhood Development
3. Mary Chipala	The Polytechnic	Bachelor of Education in Business studies
4. Lilian Maholo	Mzuzu University	Bachelor of education
5. Angella Bottoman	Mzuzu University	Bachelor of Education (Science)

Furthermore, one of the students who passed the 2017/2018 MSCE has also been selected to the University. This means that in the year 2020 OCA has 6 students who have been selected to University. Below are the details for the student;

Name of student	School	Course
6. Amina Providence	Mzuzu University	Bachelor of Arts

This is a great achievement to OCA because since 2017 only 2 students were selected into university and in Malawi the competition is always high and for this year (2020) out of the 3327 students who have been selected to different universities, 1401 are girls representing a 42%. Therefore, it is not easy for the 6 OCA students to be among the 42%. These students have done very well and this has indeed contributed to the success of OCA education program.

Way Forward

OCA education program will continue to monitor and encourage students during this lock down to ensure that they stay in school and no one is left behind. In addition to that, the education program will keep on assisting in administrative work and in entering the malaria data from the clinic during free time.