



MONTHLY REPORT

MAY 2019

BY

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(COUNTRY DIRECTOR)

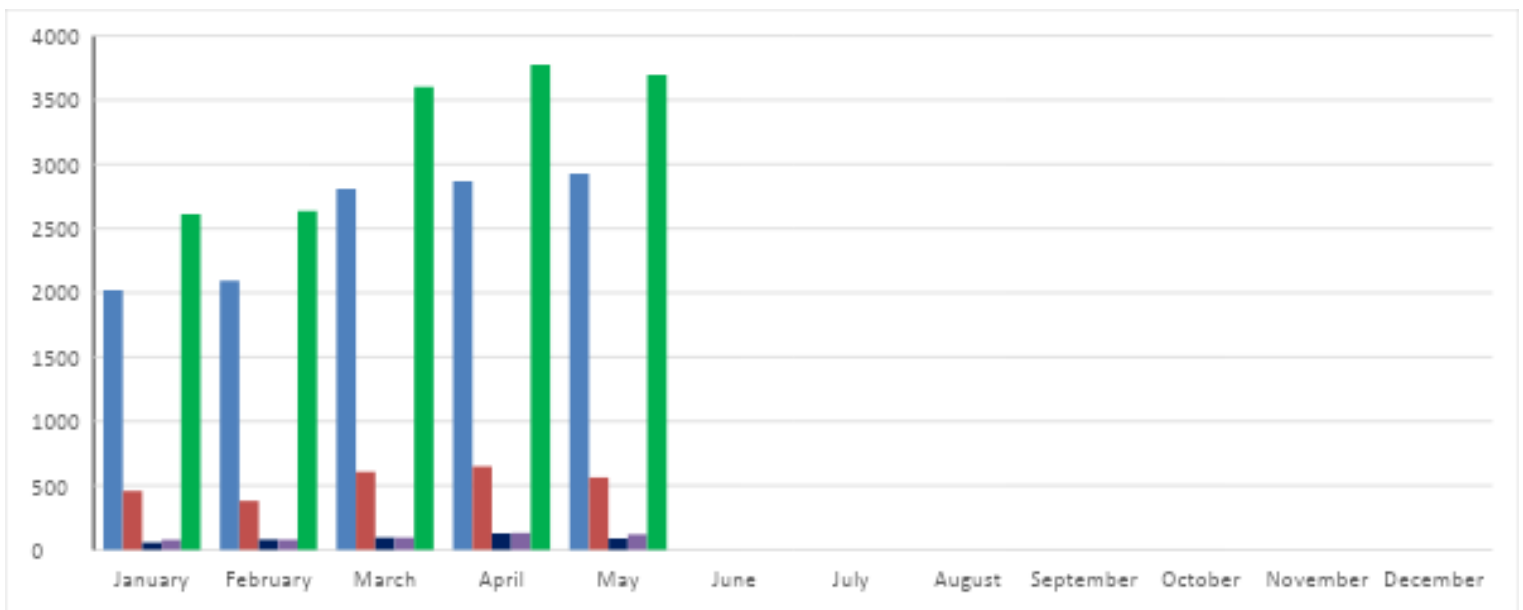
HEALTHCARE PROGRAM

Introduction

Orant Charities Africa (OCA) operates a rural health centre in the community of Kasese in coordination with the Ministry of Health through the Dowa district Health Office (DHO). Kasese Health Centre provide the following curative services; outpatients clinic, 24hrs children's observation and admission ward, maternal health like obstetrics (Antenatal care & deliveries) and gynecology services, family planning and cervical cancer screening. OCA also conducts Outreach clinics and patients are provided with healthcare services right in their villages. Preventative health and promotion services are conducted through public health program (which includes nutrition, growth monitoring, and immunizations). The healthcare program in its provision of services also work in collaboration with other stakeholders like St Andrews hospital, and other non-governmental organizations such Reach Trust. Kasese catchment area has a population of approximately 36,320. The distance to the nearest government hospital is 78km, and to Madisi hospital which is under Christian health association is around 5km.

Clinic patient's attendances

The health Centre saw a total **3,697** patients. Out of the total patients seen; **89** children were admitted in 24 hours' children's ward, **563** patients were seen at outreach clinics and the eye specialist clinic saw **13** patients, none of the eye patients booked for surgery. It has been observed that non-communicable diseases like hypertension and diabetes are on the rise. Figure below shows the clinic attendance from January to May.



Maternity and neonatal healthcare

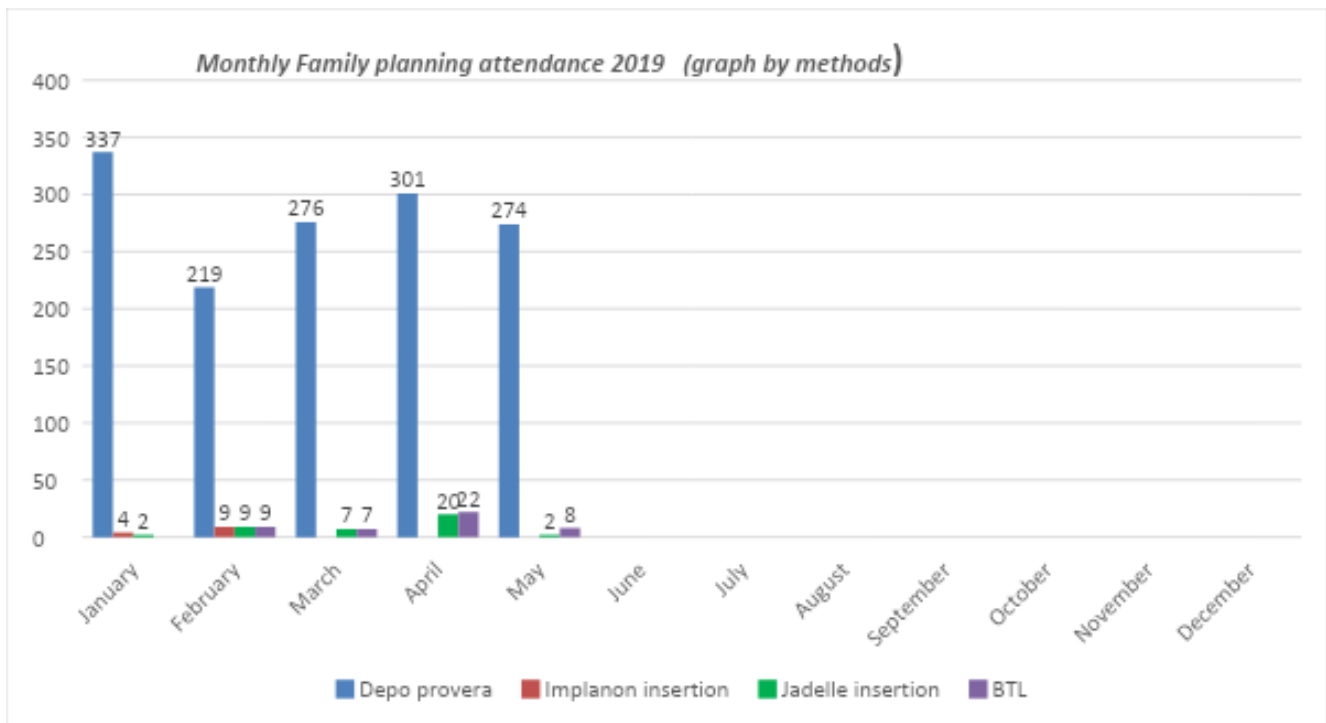
The health Centre received **55** mothers in the labor ward, **53** delivered at the facility, all attended by our skilled nurses and midwifery technicians. Two mothers had obstetrics complications which included retain placenta and were referred to Madisi hospital. Six neonates weighed less than 2500 grams and two were asphyxiated during birth.

Cervical cancer screening (VIA)

Cancer of the cervix remains the leading cause of death in Malawi and in addressing this problem, the health Centre conduct routine visual screening of cervix using acetic acid to women of childbearing age between 25 to 49 years, and for the month of May 2019 the health Centre screened **21** women and all negative results.

Family planning clinic

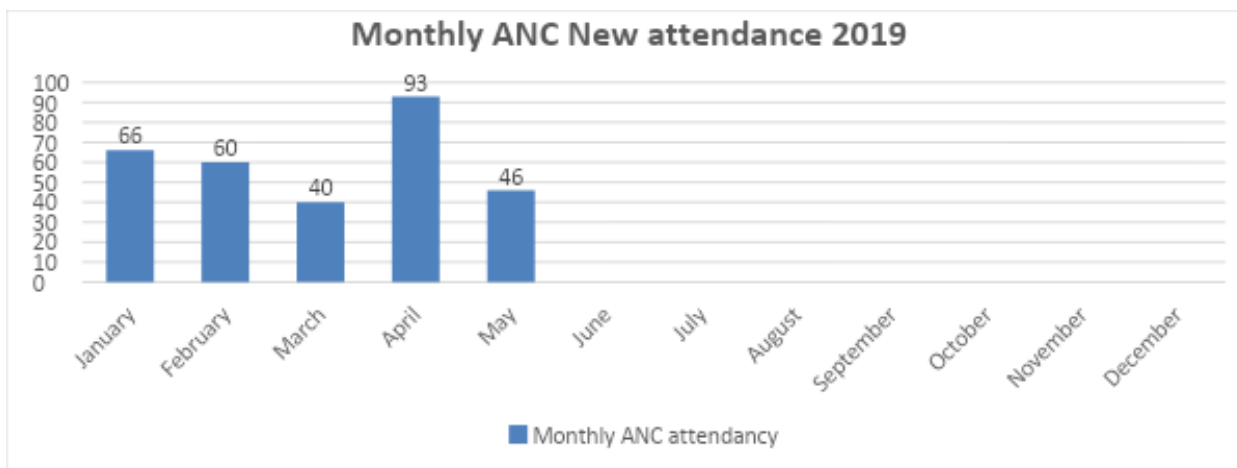
In accordance to with ministry of health (MOH) and Banja Lamstogolo the health centre provide oral, injectable and implanons family planning methods to women of reproductive age as per their choice and medical indication, above is the graph showing the number of clients who access different methods .



Antenatal Care (prenatal care)

The health Centre conducts prenatal clinics twice a week, on Tuesday for those enrolling for the first time in the program and Thursdays are meant for subsequence visit.

Below is the graph showing monthly antenatal attendance.



Laboratory services

For the month of May 2019, total malaria test done were **2,468** those positive were 1,652 and negative test were 816 this represent over 65% positivity rates. As for children less than five years, a total of 1,449 were tested and those positive were 966. For those over 5 years; total test done were 1,019 and those positive were 986. Forty-seven underwent pregnant tests and 25 were negatives. All five suspects for Tb come out all negative. Four patients tested VDRL positive for syphilis test (STI). For H.pylori's total tested patients were 36 and those positive were 17 and while 19 were negative. In addition, for Hepatitis test, 2 were positive and 2 patients negative.

Clinic administrations

The autonomous mobile outreach clinic preparation is at advance stages, qualified health workers and support staff have been recruited and orientation has been done. The issue of logistic and governance has also been addressed, Public Health Clinician George will be responsible to oversee the program. George has been pivotal in coordinating outreach clinics previously and this role suits him well. Discussion are still under way with Kasungu DHO for provision of antimalarial in Kasungu district.

Two Nurses (Linda and Oliveta) attended nurses celebration day which was held in Salima, lead nurse Linda Phiri was recognized as the best nurse of the year from Kasese health Centre by nurses association of Malawi(NOAM) on the other hand all seven nurses have updated their registrations with nurses and midwives council of Malawi(2019-2020)

As part of quality management, we received supportive supervision from the District by DHMT and ONSE project staff; they came to check on the health Centre Health information system, especially on key priority health indicators. According to their report, the health Centre keeps records in safe place and all registers were clean and well organized. However, there was some observations and findings which needed to be improved soon and it includes, incompleteness in client's registration in the registers, for example missing age information.

Health Financing

The health Centre main funding is from donations. We are very thankful of all donors out there who fully supports our operations. Lives of people are being saved because of the sacrifice of donors. The clinic collects a small filing fee which gives room to those who are really in need of medical services to access the clinic services. However, those who do not have money are not barred from accessing the service, while others are exempted according to the user fee policy. The funds collected helps patients in various ways such as payment of medical bills and provision of transport.

WATER PROGRAM



Introduction

Orant Charities Africa (OCA)-Water program in the month of May 2019, focused on increasing steady access to water supply service and sanitation in its impact area. This was done in pursuit of the goal to ensure sustainable access to water and sanitation services in Kasese Area. Activities that were lined up included borehole drilling, Water quality testing, as well as capacity building for Water point committees.

In this report, a detailed account of the aforementioned activities has been made to highlight the impact so far. The report starts by providing a summary of activities and their impact followed by a detailed narration.

Progress on work Plan

No	Planned Activities	Target	Achievement	Reach / Participants		
				Male	Female	Total
1.	Borehole Drilling and Construction	1	1	NA	NA	515
2.	Water Quality Testing	1	1	NA	NA	NA
3	Water Users' Training	3	3	15	21	36
4	Supervisory visits to Water Point Committees.	5	5	NA	NA	NA
5	Borehole Repair	NA	09	NA	NA	2170

Borehole Drilling and Construction

During the reporting period, approximately 515 more people were given the gift of potable water through the new borehole that was drilled in Ntata village. The people of Ntata used to draw their drinking water from unprotected hand dug wells and worse still from the nearby (1 km away) Bua River during dry season. The drilled borehole is expected to solve a water crisis that has been there since time in memorial to the people of Ntata and surrounding villages.



Images showing the newly constructed borehole (left) and the previous water source at Mtate Village

Water Quality Testing and Analysis.

Following the drilling of a new borehole in Ntate 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' Training (Refresher CBM) Trainings

It has been learnt that most committees managing wells in Kasese catchment area lack technical and management capacity to sustain their water points, as such OCA organized a 3-day capacity building CBM training focusing on borehole repair, general management as well as sanitation and hygiene. The training was facilitated by a Water Monitoring Assistant (WMA) and Health Surveillance Assistant from Dowa District Water Office and Kasese health center respectively. A total of 36 (15 Male and 21 Female) participants from kamsale, nkhwichi and joseni were trained.

Supervisory visits to Water Point Committees

OCA has in the past months 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. 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. It was also interesting to note that communities are making good use of waste water for irrigating gardens which generate income to support preventive

maintenance activities of the borehole. 5 water points were supervised during the reporting period that included; chiipanthenga, Katumbu ,Kachigwada, Kamphata and Makonola.

Borehole Repairs

OCA is advocating for Community based management of water supply facilities in which the community takes charge and ownership of water supply facilities using communities' own human, material and financial resources, there some repairs which the communities need to be supported. OCA supports communities with major repairs. During the reporting month, OCA supported repair of nine boreholes as outlined in the table below;

<u>SN</u>	<u>VH</u>	<u>Repair(s) Done</u>	<u>Number of Users on the Repaired Borehole</u>
01	Lungu	Fulcrum pin, foot valve 10 rod centralizer, cup seal, rubber flapper, hunger pin, 6 pipes, 4 sockets, 1 cylinder, 3 rods, Bush 4 bearings	689
02	chazaila	Foot valve, 4 Bush bearings, 13 rod centralizer, 10 pipe centralizer, 8 pipes, 6 sockets,6 rods and plunger full	497
03	chimamba	Full set inner parts12 pipes	656
05	kampaliro	Head pump, Furculum Pin, Hanger Assembly and bush Bearings.	490
06	Ngala	6 Pipes, 6 Pump rod, cup seal, Bobbins, and 6rod centralizers	<u>367</u>
07	Singo	5 Pipes, 2 Sockets, 4 rod centralizers, Cup Seal, and foot valve.	<u>532</u>
08	Katundu	Inner parts (Full Set)	<u>345</u>

09		Inner parts (Full Set)	<u>264</u>
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Image showing new pump head being installed and the community taking part

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM



Irrigation project

The activities on irrigation project focused much on training and demonstrating bed making, maize planting and tomato transplanting. It also focused on pesticides application, delivery of watering equipment such as diesel water pump and treadle pump.

Training of Irrigation clubs

Irrigation club members total of 56 members were trained in bed making, sasakawa maize planting and transplanting of tomato seedlings.

Kasangadzi irrigation club is one of the OCA irrigation clubs which has been involved in tomato production. Club members were training in bed making which are suitable for irrigation purpose and proper spacing for tomato production. Total of 25 members were available during the training. The most common bed designs being practiced are raised beds and sunken beds. The bed design which was put into practice by farmers was sunken beds. During dry season sunken beds are mostly preferred for irrigation since it has the capacity of holding water after irrigation and it does not dry faster hence farmers being able to save time, labor and resources for watering their plants.



Club members practicing bed making after training

Another training was conducted at kasangadzi irrigation club which aims at equipping farmers with knowledge on proper time for transplanting tomato and procedures to be carried out for effective transplanting process of tomato seedlings. To produce good tomato fruit size, spacing for planting must also be considered hence club members were trained in transplanting of tomato seedlings at the spacing of 45 cm apart. This creates enough space for aeration and penetration of sunlight into the plant for good crop growth.



Planting of tomato seedlings in progress

Mantchedza irrigation club was trained in maize production where by the main points of discussion were proper seed selection and sasakawa (One seed per planting station) planting of maize in irrigation farming. A total of 31 people participated in the training. Maize is the staple food in Malawi and has to be grown in a special way that can bring a lot of produce within small area of production so that some land can be free for other purposes such as livestock production and cash crop production. Through sasakawa method of maize planting, there are high chances of having bumper harvest within small area of production.



Farmers listen attentively from the facilitator

Extension Support and Monitoring of Irrigation clubs

Extension support and monitoring visits were done at Timvane and Ndalusa irrigation club. Timvane irrigation club which is practicing tomato production was involved in top dressing fertilizer application. Mulching was also monitored at Ndalusa irrigation club with the aim of reducing the amount of water lost due to evaporation and also controlling the tomato fruits from getting into contact with soil which can reduce the fruit quality. Timvane and ndalusa were monitored in pruning of tomato plants. Pruning was done to control the number of flowers and fruits hence reducing the competition between fruits. Pruning ensures nutrients are channeled to fewer fruits sinks which can lead to increased fruit size whilst increasing sugar content of fruits.

Distribution of farm inputs

Watering equipment, pesticides, seeds and fertilizer were distributed in irrigation clubs and the distribution process was carried out as follows:

No	Name	Materials distributed
1	Timvane club	Tradle pump, D compound, Chrolipyrifos, Copper, Diathen, and Cypermethlin
2	Kasangadzi club	Fertilizer, Decis, Copper, Chrolipyrifos
3	Ndalusa club	Diesel water pump, Fertlizer, Cypermethlin and Daconil

4	Matchedza club	Seed, Chrolipyrifos, Cypermethlin
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Due to increase in land holding size for irrigation farming at Ndalusa and Timvane irrigation clubs, Ndalusa was supported with watering pump and Timvane was supported with Treadle pump to improve the processing of watering.



Delivery of Diesel water pump

Timvane irrigation club was using watering canes for irrigating 6 acres land and this was labour intensive which was resulting into low supply of water but with the use of treadle pump, the watering process has become easier and faster hence club members are able to supply their crops with enough water.



Delivery of treadle pump

School garden pilot project

School garden project had its activities at Mndinga and Katsuka primary school. Mndinga and Katsuka primary school were producing vegetables last term of school session and activities at Mndinga focused much on re-establishment of vegetable garden after harvest from last term which begins with sowing of rape, Chinese and mustard vegetable seed. The garden will help both school and learners as learners will be able to gain knowledge on garden production and being able to conduct experiments on agriculture

related reasons. The school will also benefit from this program since they will be able to raise some few funds for school development activities. Katsuka primary school garden was also visited to see the progress of selling the vegetables and selling of vegetables is expected to end in June. According to the preliminary data which has been gathered there is a high expectation that the production will come out with good returns.

OCA Farm

The main activities conducted at farm were shelling of the Soya, maize and further drying of groundnuts and packaging. The groundnuts were further dried and packed into bags ready for storage. The groundnuts have been packed unshelled and the total of 10 bags from demonstration plot was packed. This process of further drying before packing was done to overcome problems of fungus development particularly fungus that causes aflatoxin referred to as *Aspergillus flavus*. The fungus is very dangerous if consumed by humans and it affects the health of humans hence further drying of groundnuts and storage under a very dry condition is important.

Shelling process was done on Maize and soya where by 30 bags of maize have been harvested from the demonstration plot and 2 bags of soya have also been harvested. The produce is expected to be sold at higher price since it is being produced under special management comparing to the maize to be sold for consumption.

Below is the table of total yield and expect outcome from groundnuts, soya and maize.

Crop	Total outcome	Expected Price (Mk)	Expected income
Soya	95 kgs	400	38,000
Groundnuts	10 bags (30 pales)	2,000/pale	60,000
Maize	1470kgs	350	514,500
Total			612,500

Sharing the harvest of soya and groundnuts with the OCA tenant has been done whereby according to MOU the agreement was on 28 percent of the harvest will be given to OCA. The sharing process was done peacefully and the table below shows quantity shared.

Crop	Total harvested	Percentage	Total shared (bags)
Maize	70 bags	28	19 bags
Groundnuts	1572 pales	28	440 pales

Meetings

OCA attended a meeting with Area Stakeholder Panel (ASP) where OCA is a member. It was discussed that, the complaints raised by farmers in communities has to be noted and be resolved and referred to ASP where necessary.

EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM

Students are in their last term of the academic year 2018/2019 school calendar. This term started on 29th April 2019. The month of May, 2019 was a busy month for the education program since it focused on visiting the schools for the payment of school fees and collection of school reports.

From the three streams of OCA education support sponsorship program. The following information was gathered during the reporting period.

Visiting schools

I. Geo shack students

School fees for all 42 Geo shack students has been paid. OCA has a total of 8 schools in which Geo shack students are sponsored. The education program managed to visit all the schools in payment of school fees and collection of school reports. Amongst the schools only two schools did not provide the school reports since they were not ready. The schools include Likuni girls secondary school and Byanzi secondary school. For the schools which OCA collected school reports, a lot of students have an average performance and only a few are the best performers. OCA education program has discovered that since these students are in form 1 there is a problem of transition from primary to secondary school so they are slowly catching up with the secondary syllabus. OCA believes all these students will perform better.

In addition to that, OCA also had a chance to visit its Geo shack and Rotary students at Nkhamenya girls secondary school. The Visit was accompanied by OCA Executive Director Mr. Bernard Thomas Brennan. It was a great visit since the students were encouraged to work hard in school and the Ge- shack students were provided with some material support to help them in school. The materials include; sanitary pads, washing and bathing soap, body lotion, sugar, tooth paste, tooth brushes and buckets.



Nkhamenya Geo-shack students posing after receiving their material support

During the same visit at Nkhamenya girls secondary school, OCA education program together with its Executive Director had the chance to select two students who are the top best performers among the vulnerable list of students in form one. These students were selected as a replacement of 2 OCA sponsored Geo-shack form 1 students (Leah Chirwa and Agness Kaunda) who are now being sponsored by a certain Organization in Malawi called Campaign for Female Education (CAMFED). The reason they picked the 2 girls is because these girls happened to come from the villages in which this organization is working.



The 2 newly selected Geo shack students... Lexina and Uchizi with OCA Executive Director

II. Rotary students

School fees for 29 rotary students has been paid. OCA had a total of 30 students sponsored by Rotary international donors but is remaining with 29 students because one of the students has dropped out due to pregnancy. This student is Eneless Phiri and was in form 2 at a boarding school called "Chamkango CDSS". Eneless is 21 years old and is interested to go back to school after giving birth, she says she did not want marriage but due to shyness for the pregnancy she decided to get married. Eneless has learnt a lesson from her mistake and does not want her future to be destroyed that's why she made the decision of going back to school. OCA education program will consider all the possible measures to bring her back to school in pursuit of its goals which is to support girls come out of poverty through education. OCA also thrives to increase the access of girls to education and to change the life condition of poor girls through education.



A form 2 dropout student, Eneless Phiri

OCA is also sponsoring Rotary students in 8 different schools. In this month, OCA education program managed to visit 6 schools out of the 8 schools for the payment of school fees and collection of school reports for second term. The 6 schools include; Chamkango CDSS, Natola CDSS, Chigodi CDSS, Dzena mission secondary school, Madisi secondary school and Nkhamenya girls secondary school. OCA did not manage to visit 2 schools which are very far but has plans to visit them this month (June). These schools are Bishop Mtekateka and Mlanda Secondary school.

A lot of the Rotary students are performing well in their studies and only a few need further encouragement.

III. OCA students

OCA education program has paid school fees to primary students, secondary students as well as University student in the month of May. In the same month, OCA visited two of the primary students at St. Peters secondary school to encourage them and provide them with some support to help them in school. The support includes; note books, pens, soap and sugar. These students are all doing well in their studies and are performing good.



A standard 6 boy Christopher and a standard 4 girl Omega

OCA had 14 secondary school students in two day schools around Kasese. 2 students from one of the schools; Tchale Community Day Secondary School (CDSS) dropped out due to pregnancy and marriage. OCA is now sponsoring 12 students in day school. All these students have dropped out while in form 2. One of them, Vanessa Banda (17years old) is interested to go back to school while Triza Mwale (18 years old) shows no interest of going back to school.

Lastly, OCA education program is sponsoring 2 University students. One student is in his final year finishing in August 2019; he is studying Nursing at Ekwendeni College of Nursing. In the same reporting period, OCA discovered that the other University student Alick Nathan studying Metallurgy and Material engineering at Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) failed his 3rd year first semester exams and is supposed to repeat the semester and is therefore expected to repeat the semester in September, 2019. Alick being one of the best student at school, OCA education program did not expect him to perform poorly and the school said that despite concentrating on his studies Alick was also busy in some school activities since he was the President for the students' union. This might have been the reason which lead to his poor performance.