



Zikomo kwambiri
(Thank you very much)



Mr Humphrys and Mr Donaldson
of



for the gift of dignity and mobility

21 home chairs for tots

+

10 wheelchairs

Family responses

Surprised, overwhelmed, tearful, but very, very grateful all of the families had similar reactions when told that their children would be assessed, fitted and supplied with a wheelchair funded through the generosity of Kitchen Table Charities Trust.



Nekita (4 ½ years)

Ngwale Village, Ntchemba
Chiradzulu
[Hydrocephalus]



Favour (10 months)

Managala Village, Kadewere
Chiradzulu
[Cerebral Palsy sec to Birth Asphyxia]



Bertha (4 years)

Kusiwa Village, Kuntaja
Blantyre
[Cerebral Palsy]



Rabecca (11 months)

Chiedzo Village, Mbenje,
Nsanje
[Cerebral Palsy]



Grace (10 months)

Kaminga Village, Mwamadi,
Blantyre District
[Cerebral Palsy secondary
to Birth Asphyxia]



Talisi (12 months)

Chilimba Township,
Blantyre
[Cerebral Palsy secondary
to Delayed Birth]



Hafizi (9 months)

Manyowe Township,
Blantyre
[Cerebral Palsy]



Jack (8 months)

Manase Village, Sombe,
Blantyre
[Cerebral Palsy]



Philoma (9 months)

Light Village, Bvumbwe,
Thyolo
[Cerebral Palsy]



Jessie (12 months)
Chilomoni Township,
Blantyre
[Cerebral Palsy]



Mercy (20 months)
Ndirande Township,
Blantyre
[Cerebral Palsy]



Samson (9 months)
Makhetha Village, Kapeni,
Blantyre
[Cerebral Palsy]



Happy (16 months)
Mbayani Township
Blantyre
[Hydrocephalus]



Ketula (22 months)
Mwitiya Village, Kapoloma,
Machinga
[Cerebral Palsy]



Mervis (12 months)
Kwelani Village, Likoswe,
Chiradzulu
[Cerebral Palsy secondary
to Birth Asphyxia]



Shukurani (7 months)
Ngwale Village, Jalasi,
Mangochi
[Hydrocephalus]



Happy (12 months)
Makhetha Village, Kapeni,
Blantyre
[Cerebral Palsy]



Rahim (8 months)
Kameza Village, Machinjiri,
Blantyre
[Cerebral Palsy]



Joseph (22 months)
Mandota Village, Mwambo,
Zomba
[Hydrocephalus]



Vincent (27 months)
Zimba Village, Kuntaja,
Blantyre
[Cerebral Palsy]



Chifuniro (28 months)
Tande Village, Manchinjiri,
Blantyre
[Various developmental delays]

WHEELCHAIRS



Mathias (9 ½ years)
Gomezza Village, Kuntaja
[Cerebral Palsy – birth issues]



Alex (5 years)
Ben Village, Kuntaja
[Cerebral Palsy]



Bridget (14 ½ years)
Puli Village, Kuntaja
[Hydrocephalus]



Maxan (13 years)
Phimbi Village, Nyaya, Balaka
[Spina Bifida Myelocoele]



Estery (11 years)
Chinhunchako Village, Kuntaja
[Paralysis – lower]



Chisomo (8 years)
Ben Village, Kuntaja
[Hydrocephalus]



Halima (4 years)
Kawanula Village, Machinga
[Brain Damage –Sepsis/Malaria]



Sydney (16 years)
Samama Village, Kuntaja
[Cerebral Palsy –sec. Jaundice]



Aubrey (13 years)
Mgundo Village, Kuntaja
[Sudden onset Paraplegia]



Tinenenji (4 ½ years)

Mvimba Village, Kuntaja, Blantyre District.

[Congenital Hip Dislocation with resultant pelvic and other issues]

IMMOBILITY in MALAWI

If life for the average, 'healthy' Malawian child is poor then life for those with severe mobility problems can be dire.

The consequences for the child and its family can be many and debilitating.

The Government of Malawi does not provide mobility aids.

Even if they could find them, most families would not be able to afford a mobility aid for their child.

Without a mobility aid the child cannot go to school and will have a very limited social life.

If the child cannot go to school, in most cases this restricts both parents from working therefore impacting the family income needed just to survive.

Without a mobility aid, like a wheelchair, parents and guardians carry the child on their backs. As the child grows the weight causes back problems for the adults....and so the above negative cycle continues.

The prosthetics workshop at the Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital, Blantyre, Malawi has been developed to make wheelchairs, home chairs for tots and orthoses each to meet the specific needs of those children fortunate enough to receive charitable funds to meet the cost.

For very young children in Malawi with severe mobility and posture problems and who are still too small for a wheelchair, home chairs mean that they are not condemned to a life lying on the ground or, at best, the floor. They can now see the world from an upright position like everyone else and be fed more safely.

The chairs are made locally and to orthopaedic specification, with adjustable strapping through the back of the chairs to allow for each child's particular posture needs. The chairs come with a detachable lap tray that serves many useful purposes.