



in
MALAWI



Thanks to the generosity of



**Kitchen Table
Charities Trust**

CHANGING LIVES BY THINKING SMALL

30 more children in Malawi have been able to be assessed and fitted with wheelchairs or home chairs or orthotic devices tailored to their specific needs.

7 year old **Rolyn** comes from Nkuchira Village, Nsamala in Balaka District.

She has Cerebral Palsy, a result of a premature birth and a mother with high blood sugar levels throughout pregnancy.

A wheelchair would help fulfil her ambitions to attend school and to eventually become a primary school teacher despite the restrictions of her disability.





10 year old **Ikirah** lives in Menyanga Village, Jalasi in Mangochi district.

Coming home from school one day in 2018, he felt a strange sensation in his legs and fell down. He was carried home by well-wishers passing by.

His lower limbs are paralysed and the cause has not been identified.

A wheelchair means that Ikirah can resume his schooling and friendships, some compensation for this tragic loss of mobility in one so young and active.

Shaibu is 13 years old and lives at Malingaliro Village, Mponda in Balaka district.

He has Cerebral Palsy Spastic Quadriplegia and developmental delays. There are signs of slight improvement in some of the consequences of his condition but mobility will open up many more opportunities for the boy both educationally and socially.



12year old **Chrissy** comes from Yohane Village, Kadewere in Chiladzulu district.

Chrissy has Cerebral Palsy Spastic Quadriplegia a result of Cerebral Malaria when she was a week old. She has delayed developmental milestones and behavioural problems.

It is hoped that now being mobile and able to enrol in school will help her development.

Titus is 7 years old who lives with his mum in Sogoja Village, Mwambo in Zomba district.

He has Cerebral Palsy secondary to Jaundice at birth. He has delayed developmental milestones. He is also epileptic for which he receives medication.

Mobility would mean schooling and socialization for the boy and release to work for the mother who struggles to provide for the family with an absent father.



Vitumbiko is 6 years old and lives with her parents and siblings at Kanjeza Village, Kapeni in Blantyre.

She has many health problems emanating from her Cerebral Palsy Quadriplegia. She had Cerebral Malaria as a baby.

A wheelchair will open up many opportunities for her quality of life to improve and for her development.

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Name: Christina

Date of Birth: 29th August 2019

Address: Chama Village, Nchilamwera, Thyolo district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy Quadriplegia.





Name: Patrick

Date of Birth: 3rd July 2020

Address: Nkumba Village, Nkumba,
Phalombe district.

Diagnosis: Hydrocephalus.

Name: Timothy

Date of Birth: 10th January 2021

Address: Kalilombe Village, Chilamwera,
Thyolo district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy Quadriplegia
secondary to Birth Microcephaly.



Name: Triza

Date of Birth: 20th September 2022

Address: Mungoni Village, Bvumbwe,
Thyolo district.

Diagnosis: Hydrocephalus



Name: Alefa

Date of Birth: 09th June 2022

Address: Gowelo Village, Makhuwira,
Nsanje district.

Diagnosis: Hydrocephalus



Name: Blessings

Date of Birth: 7th January 2018

Address: Chiswe Village, Machinjiri,
Blantyre district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy Quadriplegia

Name: Faith

Date of Birth: 15th January 2021

Address: Katerere Village, Malemia,
Blantyre district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy





Name: Linot

Date of Birth: 31st March 2019

Address: Thunga Village, Bvumbwe, Thyolo district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy Quadriplegia

Name: Catherine

Date of Birth: 11th August 2016

Address: Fikira Village, Nkalo, Chiradzulu district.

Diagnosis: Spastic Cerebral Palsy



Name: Yohane

Date of Birth: 02nd December 2018

Address: Zungu Village, Bvumbwe, Thyolo district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy Athetoid



Name: Alicia

Date of Birth: 07th August 2022

Address: Samuli Village, Boidi, Thyolo district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy Quadriplegia



Name: Sillah

Date of Birth: 01st March 2021

Address: Chipanda Village, Machinjiri, Blantyre district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy Quadriplegia

Name: Leah

Date of Birth: 13th February 2019

Address: Tayali Village, Bvumbwe, Thyolo district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy





*The picture was taken without a lap tray because of the stitches on the tummy obtained from recent surgery.

Name: Chisomo

Date of Birth: 06th October 2022

Address: Mlambala Village, Fatima, Nsanje district.

Diagnosis: Hydrocephalus

Name: Chrissie

Date of Birth: 13th January 2021

Address: Mpiyama Village, Nchiramwera, / Thyolo district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy
Quadriplegia secondary to Birth Asphyxia



Name: Isha

Date of Birth: 03rd July 2023

Address: Chemussa Village, Kapeni, Blantyre district.

Diagnosis: Spastic Quadriplegia Cerebral Palsy secondary to Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy



Name: Jamilla

Date of Birth: 01st July 2022

Address: Lifa Village, Chigalu, Blantyre district.

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy secondary to Birth Asphyxia



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Name: Enelesi

Date of Birth: 06th August 2017

Address: Ntenjera Village, Kapeni, Chiradzulu

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy Quadriplegia

Appliance: Bilateral Ankle Foot Orthoses

Name: Prisca

Date of Birth: 13th July 2019

Address: Chabweza Village, Kandulu, Mwanza

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy

Appliance: Bilateral Ankle Foot Orthoses





Name: Bernadetta

Date of Birth: 15th September 2015

Address: Mtalimanja Village,
Mponda, Mangochi

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy Diplegia

Appliance: Bilateral Ankle Foot
Orthoses.

Name: Bizweck

Date of Birth: 23rd September 2017

Address: Tenda Village, Mposa, Machinga

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy.

Appliance: Bilateral Ankle Foot Orthoses.



Name: Papiyasi

Date of Birth: 25th May 2017.

Address: Nkhwani 5 Village, Mposa,
Machinga

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy.



Name: Collin

Date of Birth: 28th May 2016

Address: Jekete Village, Mpama, Chiradzulu

Diagnosis: Congenital Talipes Equinovarus

Appliance: Bilateral Ankle Foot Orthoses



Name: Jonasi

Date of Birth: 07th April 2019

Address: Makata Village, Kapeni, Blantyre

Diagnosis: Drop foot

Appliance: Left Ankle Foot Orthosis

FAMILY REACTIONS

Surprised, overwhelmed, tearful, but very, very grateful were the typical reactions of the families when told that their children would be fitted and supplied with wheelchairs funded through the generosity of the donors.

Immobility and Children 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.

For children in Malawi with severe mobility and posture problems and who are still too small for a wheelchair, home chairs for tots mean that they are not condemned to life lying on the ground or the floor. With a home chair for tots they can now watch 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 chair back to allow for each child's particular posture needs. The chairs come with a detachable lap tray that serves many useful purposes.

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

The Malawi Government does not provide aids such as wheelchairs or these home chairs for tots so the Workshop is totally dependent upon charitable donations.