

# 2021 Aid Africa Stats...

During 2021 we:

- Provided over 100,000 meals
- Helped 1,650 households with food
- Gave out over 1,500 bars of soap
- Built our first public toilet!
- Replaced 20 new roofs for the frail
- Had 68 students on our Education Programme
- Repaired 10 borehole pumps, restoring safe water to 5,000 people
- We produced hundreds of litres of goats' milk for vulnerable babies
- Grew and distributed thousands of tree seedlings
- Prepared 4 more villages to grow moringa for community nutrition
- Helped resolve 57 emergency situations
- Gave out hundreds of metres of plastic sheeting for roofing ....



## Education

We had 68 students on our books through 2021, but despite interruptions by covid all our Form 2's passed their exams. However, as the new academic year approached, we were overwhelmed with applications from many young people, desperate for education, but whose families couldn't afford to send them to Secondary School. Selection onto our Programme was difficult, our resources limited, so we decided to help those who were facing hefty final exam fees, unaffordable by many, to give them the best chance of success.

## Livestock

For over a decade we've been carefully breeding dairy goats, initially to provide milk for babies orphaned by the AIDS pandemic, or where mums failed to produce milk due to malnutrition. But times have moved on—ARV meds have changed Malawi's society from dying with AIDS to living with HIV, and so babies are healthier.

For several years we've been contemplating closing our herd as the need is less urgent and positive outcomes more difficult to achieve. So we decided to disperse the goats into local homes or group care as a "pass-on" project—goat kids are passed on to other vulnerable homes for community benefit. Accomplishing this took many months of careful planning, assessment, and training, as our requirements for good homes and best care were demanding. However, by the end of November all the goats were rehomed, and monitored in good health.

## Care in the Community

Often we can help in unexpected, crisis situations. It may be funding an urgent ambulance journey, providing formula for a frail baby living too far away to collect our milk, replacing school uniforms or household goods lost in a fire, emergency medical or dental treatment, or even transporting a body back for family burial... it all helps!

## UK Update .....

Coronavirus stripped resources—but we're still standing!  
**You can help**—donations, Standing Orders, donate Nectar points, buy on "Smile Amazon" & "Give as You Live"- check our website ...

Help us help them

Donate monthly by  
**Standing Order**  
 (Please ask for info)

If you're able to,  
 please **PRAY** for the  
 work of AID AFRICA

Support the  
**AID AFRICA  
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**Make a Donation**  
 by cheque or internet

**Fundraise for us**

Use "Smile Amazon"  
 or "Give as You Live"  
 to buy online

Leave us a legacy in  
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### AID AFRICA

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**Thank you!**  
 for your  
**support**

Pure and genuine religion ...  
 means caring for orphans  
 and widows in their distress  
 JAS 1:27

Dec 2021



**Aid Africa**  
 the amazing work goes on ...



## Coronavirus..... 2021

The pandemic continued to affect travel through border closures and "red-lists", but our work in Malawi progressed effectively at speed, matching need, workforce and resources .....

## Hunger ....



In July—volunteers in Zomba  
 prepare the maize for storage



In December—hundreds of delighted families collect  
 food and soap from our Centre in Chiringa ...

Earlier in the year we bought in 26,500 kgs of maize—enough for the basis of over 100,000 meals to be distributed at the end of the year in two districts.

Hunger has been an ongoing challenge, so we increased access to our monthly cash-for-work scheme through to the next maize harvest in April 2022, along with Food Tokens enabling 50 vulnerable households (98% elderly), 30 extra meals a month.

It was a logistical challenge, but on Christmas Eve 2021, 260 families received maize, dried soya meals and soap from our Centre in Chiringa as the first part of our 3-month Food Programme—so they wouldn't be hungry on Christmas Day. Just the day before, 50 miles away, a further 60 families received the same in a rural area of Zomba, handled by William and his team of volunteers, supervised by our staff.

## Nutrition - Moringa Groves

Moringa is a locally growing tree with delicious leaves packed with nutrients. Earlier this year we trained volunteers from 3 villages, empowering them to plant out groves, protected from livestock damage by bamboo modular fencing panels. The results proved so successful that we're extending 2 of them to include vegetables as well.

So the next step was to invite another 4 villages to join the programme with the aim of improving the health of the area by providing this source of high-grade nutrition, plus veg.

In October we trained to produce quality compost, ready to plant out the moringa after the rains. We sowed seeds in our tree nursery both moringa and glycidia (a nitrate-dropping bush that we're planting as green manure and a living fence around the groves), and had the 85 fencing panels made. The full training & planting happens in January....

**Moringa leaves contain**  
 vitamins A,B,C,E & K,  
 calcium, protein, potassium,  
 iron, copper, zinc,  
 all 9 essential amino acids  
 and 46 antioxidants.

Family enjoying moringa—  
 and nsima, the maize staple diet.



## WATER -Borehole Pump Repair



We partnered with other international NGO's to help promote and empower a scheme to keep the water points operational. Pooling knowledge and experience we began training villagers to recognise the need for regular maintenance of the pumps, funding the work themselves by calculating small monthly tariffs, though the ultra-vulnerable villagers were excluded from the need to pay.

However, to begin the programme, the pumps needed to be in prime condition as it would take the villagers a while to build up enough financial reserves to provide funds for the major repairs needed to ensure local water supply.



So once the scheme was fully operational we repaired the first 3 pumps in August — in Liphala, Chitawo and Ethiru Villages, restoring clean safe water back to over 1,000 people. As climate change appears to be increasing the incidence of flooding, we've also raised the cement aprons to maintain hygiene and reduce risk of water-borne disease



### Chitawo Village Pump (125 households—about 550 people)



All the households in this area faced a major problem—at the end of 2020, during the coronavirus pandemic, thieves stole parts which rendered this pump useless.

*Left:  
The Area Mechanic  
repairs Chitawo's  
pump*

*Right:  
Fully working again!*

This meant using potentially polluted water from open wells, or walk long distances to other pumps—not possible for the frail or sick. So the villagers were delighted to join the water scheme and have safe water locally again.



### Liphala Village Pump (120 households—about 525 people)

This is a heavily-used borehole, but was barely working, causing frustration and congestion during covid when social distancing was one of the few weapons against the virus, and people struggled to find enough clean water.

This area's prone to flooding, so when we repaired the pump, the cement apron was raised by 0.5m to prevent contamination that might threaten the health of the young & frail.

The whole community welcomed the new scheme, recognising a great opportunity to secure their own water future, and celebrated their new working pump!



## WATER -Borehole Pump Repair



### Ethiru Village Pump (24 households—over 100 people)



Ethiru is a remote village, with just one water source which was near breakdown. So, if this pump had failed completely, all the women would have had to walk a long distance to find safe water, despite their health or mobility challenges.

Poor, slow supply also affected the children in this area, often making them late for school as their families struggled to source enough water in time each morning.

*Right: The happy result!*



After successful repair, each pump was fitted with a security cage to protect it from theft and vandalism—while still giving access for regular maintenance.

We then turned to another 9 villages, inviting them for training in the new water strategy, empowering them to take responsibility for their own supply. After discussion, they all agreed enthusiastically, began collecting tariffs, and by the end of the year plans were in place to repair all 9 pumps, restoring safe water back to another 3,650 people.

## Sanitation



Memory is a lady in her 40's, blind, and AIDS-affected, so, particularly vulnerable. Back in 2018 we built her a small house near her elderly mother—her main carer—who is also disabled. The next year a cyclone devastated the area so we added a toilet as one of the national award-winning 60 we replaced at that time, in the aftermath of the storms.

However, during subsequent years, many local people, with little alternative to open fields when their own units collapsed, used the toilet too, so the simple structure, only designed for a single lady, was overwhelmed.



*Pit being dug and brick-lined  
(you might be able to see heads  
of those digging inside the hole!)*



So to meet the challenge we constructed a sturdy brick-built public facility with two compartments—one a "long-drop" toilet, and the other a washroom, both under a secure metal roof.

It's just a simple facility, but life transforming, and will be used by about 60 people without personal sanitation, from 2 villages. It's expected to be in use for around 15 years, as the hand-dug pit beneath is extra-deep—4m, and 2m wide—and brick-lined for stability and safety.

Memory's family are proud to provide the water, cleaning and oversight, and caring for it gives Memory a valuable task in the community.