

PROJECT UPDATE

As the date of the trip approaches, the exact nature of our project work is beginning to unfold. We have had ongoing correspondence with Mr Winasi Boma (Hospital Administrator), Mr Nelson Mwale (Head Teacher) and the Revd Dyson Chombo (priest at the Church of the Ascension, Malosa), who are delighted - and excited - that we are able to respond so positively. Out of their list of needs, we are likely to be working on the following areas:

St Luke's Hospital

The major need here is refurbishment of the outpatient department, particularly the antenatal department, and the department for health and nutrition of under 5s. Mr Boma has provided us with detailed lists of the materials and resources required, ranging from nails, wire and paint, to cement, timber and iron sheets.

Nurseries

An ongoing goal of the health teams is to get more community-based projects off the ground, such as talks to provide awareness on nutrition and health of young children. This includes encouraging volunteers from villages to grow and maintain their own vegetable plots.



Malosa Secondary School

There is a chronic shortage of desks and chairs at the school, with many teenagers having to sit on the floor for their lessons, or crowd around a small table. We have therefore been asked to contribute money to help alleviate this. There is also a need for basic stationery, which is very expensive in Malawi.

Other areas

In addition to these areas, we will reserve some unallocated funds, to use as we see fit whilst in Malawi. In 2014, for example, some of the rice cookers at the secondary school became unusable, meaning that many children went unfed. This was something we felt we had to respond to.

Looking to the future...

Whilst planning our current trip, it came to our attention that the hospital is in dire need of an ambulance. The area which falls under their remit has increased since our last visit, meaning that there are many people that they simply cannot get to. The cost of this will be £45,000. Whilst outside the scope of our current appeal, we hope that we might be able to make a modest contribution now and a larger donation in the future.

