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QUARTER 3
REPORT

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From the Executive Director

This quarter stands out for me this year. It is not because we are getting to the end of the year, though that is also exciting, but I met a young man who embodied my story. A God story.

In 2004, I enrolled at a university, having tuition for a single semester with no hope for the rest of the semesters! That is all I could afford. The only option to stay in school was to become a security guard (physically watching over the property at night) while studying. I had a bed, but I used it for naps.

I thought that was hard until I met Blessings, a program participant in our high school bursaries initiative. At age 14, he was the head of his family. He worked as a security guard. Blessings ran a small-scale business, cared for his siblings, and stayed in school.

Last week, we got the news that he aced 12th-grade examinations with impressive grades! A likely candidate for university! By the way, in Malawi, less than 6% of youths reach higher education.

You (our supporters) should be proud! Your support allows 1500 students access to our tutoring services. It enables us to train 5,000+ teachers – serving 277,332 students; it provides 300 high school scholarships to children from humble backgrounds like Blessings.

Please stay with me as I share other proud moments in this quarterly report.

God bless you!
WILLIE MPASUKA





ABOUT

Rays of Hope exists to transform Malawi by equipping teachers and educate children in public schools. Our program areas are teacher training, remedial lessons, provision of bursaries/scholarships, and we run an excellent high-school for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

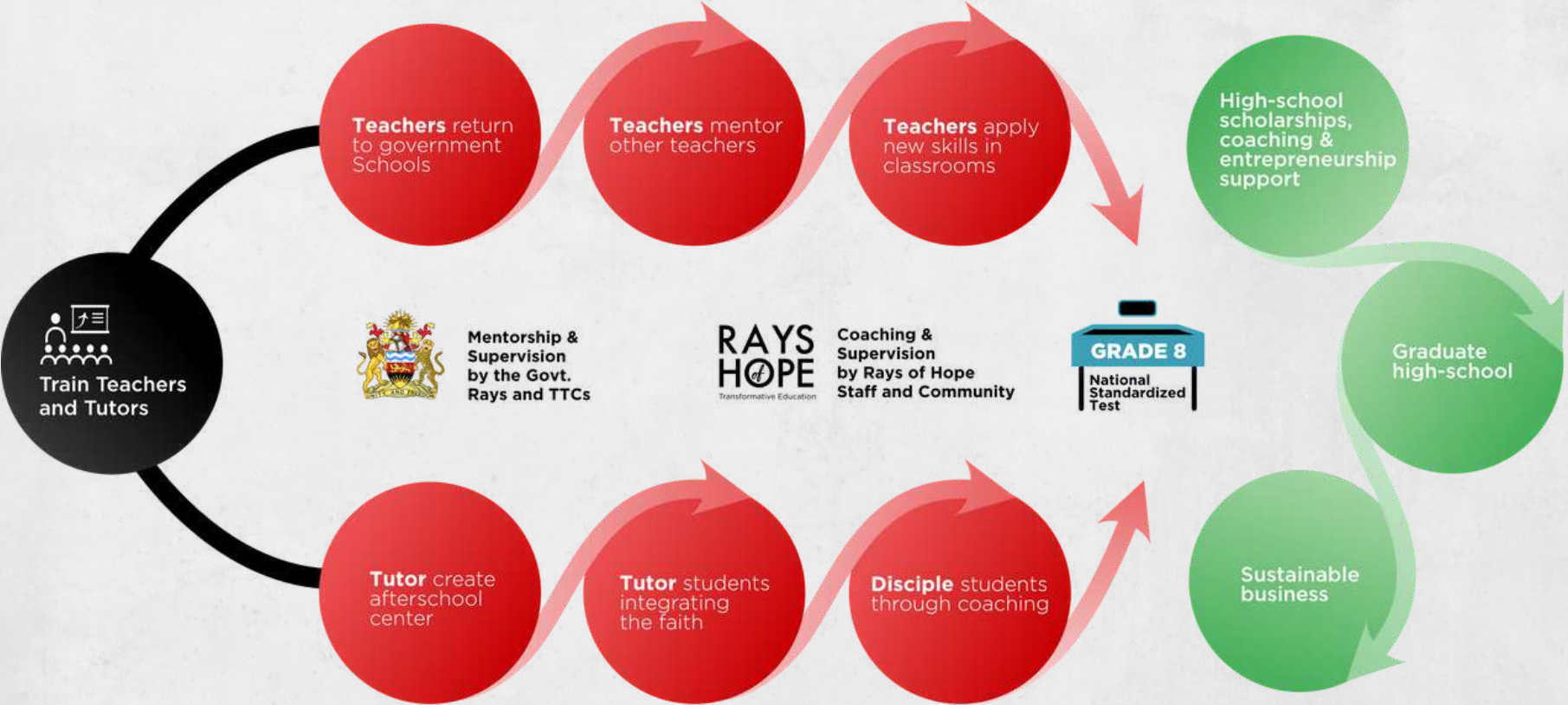
We strive to nurture children and youth and empower them with abilities essential for life management, academic excellence, spiritual development to become leaders in their society.

We use a transformative education model to build teachers' capacity, support learners, and provide financial inclusion solutions to youth for a productive life.

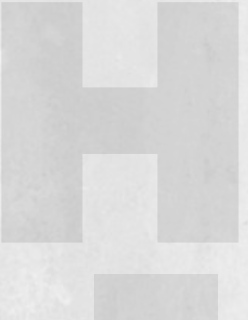
OUR VISION

EVERY CHILD AND YOUTH ACCESS
TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION





Our Model



APPROACH / GOALS

ACADEMIC INNOVATION

Train 8,000 teachers in 7 education districts to reduce teachers' technical gaps.

Run after-school programs across 12 primary schools in Blantyre district and work with 1500 children.

Maintain 95% primary school completion rate among the 12 targeted primary schools in Blantyre.

ACADEMIC INCLUSION

Provide 380 secondary scholarships to needy students

Run coaching and mentoring activities with 300 students

Achieve 90% pass rate at grades 10 and 12 national examinations

ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

Expose 200 youth to entrepreneurship opportunities

Provide capital to 10 innovative enterprise ideas from ideation to an actual business

Incubate 5 youth business groups

MILESTONES

What we have achieved



1,500

learners fed and tutored



300

Scholarships disbursed



6

Youth supported in tailoring and fashion design vocational skills



308

Primary schools reached through teacher training



183

coached and mentored



3

Groups serving the youth nurtured and reinforced through coaching.



53

Youths trained and mentored in entrepreneurship and business acumen



5538

teachers trained in various teaching methodologies for students' numeracy and literacy gains





ACADEMIC INNOVATION

THINKING DIFFERENTLY TO PROVIDE EDUCATION

- TUTORING
- TEACHER TRAINING



In the 2022-2022 academic year, we have achieved 100% pass-rate with 52% of our learner have been selected to public secondary schools.

420 New students Enrolled

GOAL TO INCREASE PRIMARY SCHOOL COMPLETION RATE



Tutoring

Our tutoring program is designed to enhance academic abilities and life skills, which are crucial determinants of success in achieving one's goals. In the previous quarter, our team offered continued support to prepare learners for their end-of-term exams. Over the summer break, we engaged our learners in various child developmental and spiritual growth activities to encourage well-rounded growth.

Tutoring Activities

In our tutoring journey, we celebrated amazing results! We know that our model works, but we were actually blown away by the levels of excellency we witnessed during the just released results of exams taken by our students. We got 100% pass rate!

Now, that may sound normal to others, but it is not to the communities we serve. First of all, we work with students that are dealing with economic and social vulnerability, which affects their learning. Second, our communities are under-resourced that translates into large number of students against few teachers. You may find a class that has 100 students with only one teacher! Third, and precisely, many of the students come from homes where the parents are illiterate, making the home a less favorable environment to support their children with schoolwork. Further, it sets up an unfair label for them to be called slow learners.

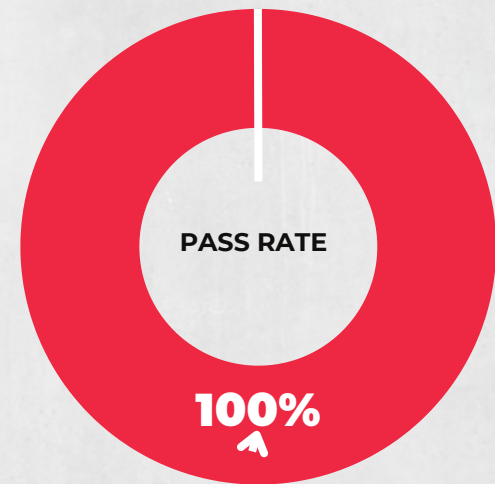
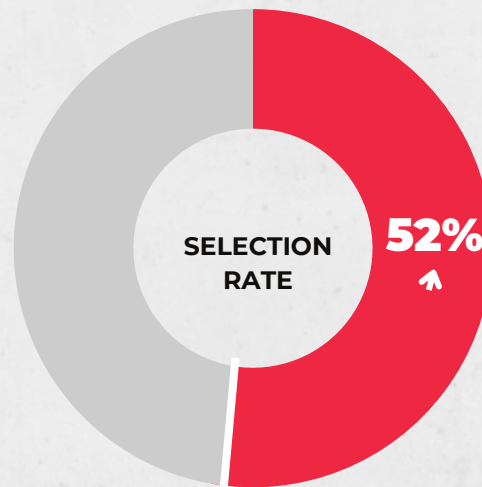
Now, to get all these students pass the national standardized examinations in their final grade is a big milestone for us. It is the reason that gets us up daily and work with them. We are so excited that we enrolled 420 new students for the current academic year! So far, we have had an average of 1430 learners in our tutoring initiative.

One essential aspect of our program is providing lunch meals to all our learners. We are so excited that our relationship with the J-Life Ministries continues and they gave us food stuff enough for the entire upcoming quarter. We are always grateful!

An exciting highlight of this quarter was our end-of-term meeting with parents and guardians. Over 500 parents attended the meeting, where they expressed their appreciation for our learners' performance in both the end-of-term and national exams. Further, they also attest to the importance of faith integration in our activities because it is shaping the character of their children.

Help us celebrate our success!

Rays of Hope Malawi's tutoring program has made a significant impact. We're proud to share a 100% pass rate, ensuring every student succeeds. Additionally, our program boasts a 100% completion rate, indicating the dedication of both students and tutors. Remarkably, 52% of our students have been selected to pursue further education in various secondary schools, highlighting the program's success in nurturing academic excellence.





The lifeline of our tutoring program apart from finances is the presence of tutors. These are youth who graduated from high school, but they are just sitting idle in their homes because there are no job opportunities, or they are figuring out their lives. They spend one year with us. In that year, they acquire basic computer skills, leadership competencies, business acumen, and grow in their spiritual lives through the biblical-based curriculum. We call them youth leaders.

TaRL

Teaching at the right level (TaRL) is an approach that aims to build foundational skills in math and reading for all children before exiting primary school.

Over 80% of Malawian 2nd graders struggle with reading, and Malawi has the lowest math scores in Africa.





Blantyre Urban Education district accepts to integrate TaRL into their schools during classes!

Late last year we launched Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) in Blantyre Rural Education district serving 398 students from two primary schools. Thanks to the anonymous funder who let us pilot this initiative. It is a simple approach where you tutor students by their numerical and letter levels and not by grade.

So far, 380 students graduated after going through all the four levels required by TaRL. Out of these students, 218 were from Chilala Primary School, and 162 were from Likulu Primary school. This incredible result caught the attention of the school leaders in the education district. In addition, teachers have started asking lots of questions especially that the majority of students they wrote-off turned around.

Those who graduated can now read paragraphs and answer questions with confidence, and in numeracy, they have mastered operations like division and multiplication. The success has drawn more students to us - we have just recruited 380 new learners into the program. We plan to reach 1000+ students this year.

Learners in each level are assessed 3 times and graduated to the upper level

Level 4 learners graduate from the program

Support them based on their literacy and numeracy levels.

How does it work?

Asses learners



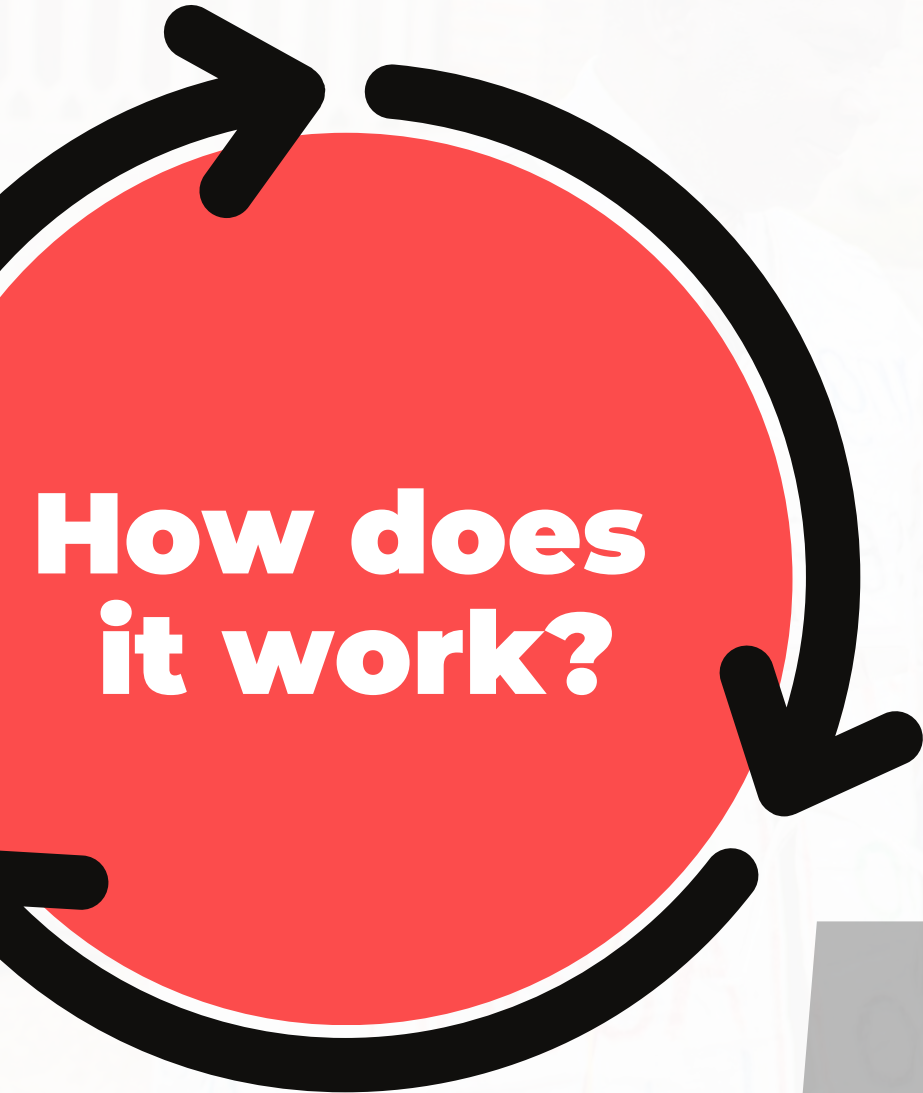
Teacher Training

The teacher skill strengthening program (TSSP) is being implemented in several districts. Altogether, we are serving 5000+ teachers with a \$2.50 cost per beneficiary. The initiative aims at reducing existing pedagogical gaps that teachers currently possess.

**Our
Special
Sauce**
**Communities of
Practice**

3

**We deploy
content through
the ToT approach**



4

**We use communities
of practice through
the peer learning
groups at school level**



ss teachers'

5

**We assess
teachers' skills
and students' learning**



Mentors-teachers serve teachers in Blantyre Rural, and Thyolo education districts.



Teacher Training Activities

In our ongoing quest to revolutionize education, We are excited to take you on a heartfelt journey through our teacher training program. It's a story of passion, dedication, and the real impact in the education sector.

First, we ventured into our impact areas to continue build stronger teacher networks. We inculcate peer-peer learning between teachers, which is the core piece in the teacher training design. These micro-grouping of teachers are collectively called networks at school, zone and district levels. It's all about teachers supporting teachers.

In this quarter, we witnessed the birth of three teacher groups, with 14 incredible Mentors stepping up to guide and support their fellow educators. A beautiful synergy unfolded as 45 hardworking and model teachers were paired with another 45 teachers who faced teaching challenges. We continued with weekly learning visits at each school, creating opportunities for teachers to learn from one another while being closely monitored and supervised. This is the future of in-service teacher training program - communities of practice that help teachers continually improve their skills.

Our journey didn't stop at strengthening the teacher networks. We also recognized the immense importance of easing the workload of our Primary Education Advisors and Headteachers. Therefore, we conducted training in lesson observation for Heads of Department at each primary school.

After this training, we gathered all teachers in their respective schools to ensure they all received the same knowledge and insights. The impact has been heartwarming. Many teachers who once entered classrooms without a lesson plan or teaching aids have undergone a remarkable transformation. They've become more engaged and focused, leading to improved content delivery and significantly boosting learners' performance.

On community engagement, School Management Committees, Mother Groups, and Parents and Teachers' Associations have been at the forefront of this movement. Through the Community Action Cycle (CAC) model, we've equipped these structures with the tools to actively participate in school development.



EXPERIENCES
- interaction about via
- our learners to know more
- about food safety
- we should know about
- food-safety
- we should know the details
of via

Peer Learning Group
- Thyolo



ACADEMIC INCLUSION

NO LEARNER IS LEFT BEHIND

- SCHOLARSHIPS
- COACHING



30% out of 131,849 highschoolers are vulnerable and the highest vulnerability (40%) is the lack of school fees, followed by lack of uniform (16%).

300

Students Supported

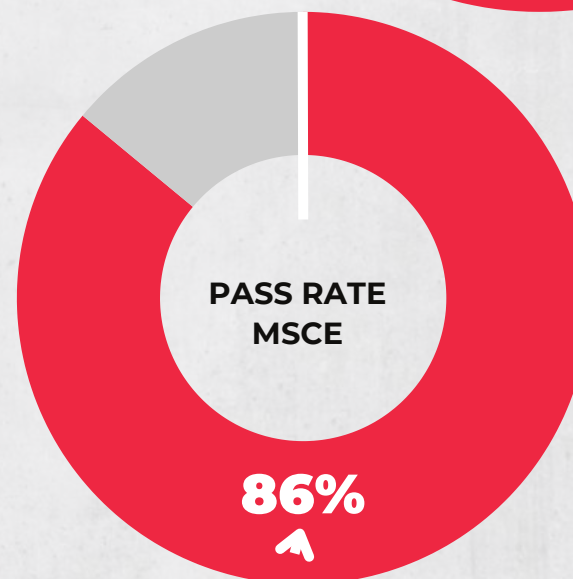
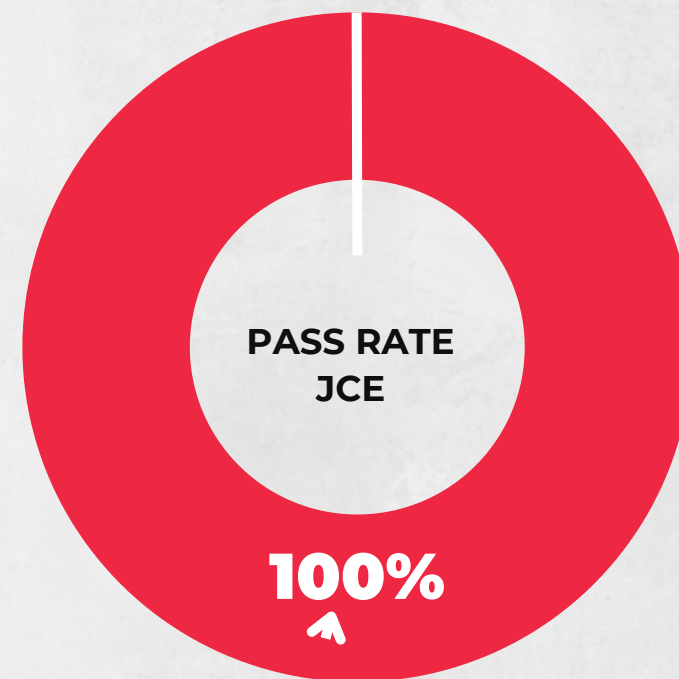
GOAL

TO INCREASE GRADUATION RATE

We are thrilled to share that 50 of our students took part in the 12th-grade national standardized exams. Of these, 43 students have excelled and passed their exams, resulting in an **86% pass rate**. It's worth noting that, while most students performed admirably, 25 students scored below 30 points, with the highest scoring at 13 points. These results showcase the hard work and dedication of our students. We await the University selection results which will be made known in March of next year.

Our students who took 10th grade national standardized examinations (Junior Certificate of Education (JCE)) have truly outdone themselves. All 96 students, consisting of 50 females and 46 males, have achieved outstanding results, resulting in a perfect **100% pass rate**. This remarkable achievement reflects the commitment and determination of our learners, and we're incredibly proud of their accomplishments.

One remarkable lesson we have gathered from the data collection of the student's grades is that the spiritual discipleship activities we take with these students go a long way. They demonstrate admirable characters with sincere curiosity to understand God's word. Their parents are also quite amazed at the transformation of their children. It has been a great year!





ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

FORMAL EDUCATION IS NOT THE ONLY WAY TO SUCCESS

- ENTREPRENEURSHIP & SOFT LOANS
- VOCATIONAL TRAINING



"130,000 youths enter the labour market each year, but the formal sector produce approximately 30,000 jobs."

\$30K Reserved for youth businesses

GOAL YOUTH BECOME ECONOMICALLY INDEPENDENT



Vocational Scholarship

In our unwavering commitment to fostering hope and transforming lives, we went on a journey to witness and appreciate the incredible progress made by our beneficiaries in the Economic Integration Program. Our journey took us to the training center, BeeHive, a number of our youths are pursuing various vocational disciplines. Several youth pursuing fashion design beamed with pride showed us some of their designs.

Our initiative is not only sowing the seeds of hope, but also paving the way for a brighter future for many lives. We are fully dedicated to continuing our support for these talented youth, providing mentorship and comprehensive business training to empower them to establish their enterprises. We aim to equip them with the tools they need to become self-reliant and thrive in the world of entrepreneurship.

The visit also took us to another group of youth pursuing computer science, quite an exciting course and a befitting one especially there is a digital divide between the rich and the poor. Their triumph in the face of adversity is a testament to their determination and resilience. We aspire to see these remarkable youths not only complete their studies but also become reliable routes away from the poverty cycles. We are definitely excited to see this unfolding in our faces.

We did not stop there, we proceeded to appreciate a number of youths who are in saving groups. This was an important exercise because we are aware of the economic challenges they confront. The resilience displayed by these youth groups during an often unforgiving economy is truly commendable. We emphasized the importance of accountability and transparency in their financial management and bookkeeping. The fruits of our previous financial training are becoming evident, with some groups already adopting modern financial tools like mobile banking and transfers in their operations.

These success stories culminated into the highlight of the day. A graduate of our beauty and hairdressing program, who once had the opportunity to work in a renowned beauty shop in Blantyre, has now opened her salon in her community. This is what we envisioned. It is remarkable sign of transformation, where a young person recognizes their potential and seizes the opportunity for change. Rays of Hope Malawi is committed to supporting her business until it breaks new ground, becoming an inspiration to other youth in our community.

Indeed, change may sometimes appear faint, but the transformed lives of our beneficiaries always stand out as beacons of hope and possibility. We are grateful to spiritual mentors and coaches who walk with these youth through the lenses of scriptures.

Adversity To Achievement

→ Impact Story

In the face of adversity, Blessings, a determined young man, juggled work and study to provide for his sister and himself. Despite the challenging educational landscape in 2022-23, he triumphed over the odds, scoring impressive 17 points in the Grade 12 National Standardized Test.

Blessings' success in our bursary program goes beyond academics; it's a testament to his resilience and unwavering spirit. His journey exemplifies the transformative power of education and hard work, showcasing the potential in every student, regardless of circumstances.

As we celebrate Blessings' remarkable achievement, we're reminded of the impact our bursary program can have on shaping brighter futures. Blessings' story inspires us all, and we take pride in being part of his incredible journey. We eagerly anticipate his continued success as he hopes for further education - with our support, of course. We thank God for the provisions!

Blessings
Msanzuze





ADVOCACY & PARTNERSHIP

WE BELIEVE IN COLLABORATION



Cyclone Freddy

Relief Efforts

In the 3rd quarter, Rays of Hope continued its unwavering support for families recovering from Cyclone Freddy. Collaborating with valued partners, we mobilized essential food resources to aid affected families in Chilomoni, Machinjiri, and Lunzu, where we are implementing the Teaching at the Right Level program.

Our relief efforts impacted 3000 children from 200 families, providing vital supplies of rice, beans, and groundnuts, and addressing immediate nutritional needs. We also extended emotional support, fostering resilience within the affected communities.

Furthermore, our team encouraged parents to prioritize their children's education in the face of disaster.

Acknowledgment

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated partners **GGEM, SAS-P, and Partners for Equity** for their pivotal role in helping those affected by Cyclone Freddy.



Ongoing

Road Safety Education

Formation of Road Safety Clubs:

Our ongoing road safety advocacy initiative has made significant strides in enhancing road safety awareness among 15 public primary schools in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, the Blantyre City Council, and the Road Traffic Police Department.

The team initiated the advocacy by conducting comprehensive training sessions on road safety issues for both teachers and students in each of the 15 public primary schools. These sessions aimed to equip educators and learners with essential knowledge and practical strategies for staying safe on the roads.

A pivotal outcome of our advocacy effort has been the establishment of road safety clubs in each school. These clubs, consisting of approximately 40 students, are led by dedicated matrons and patrons from within the school community. They serve as a platform for promoting road safety awareness among students and fostering a culture of responsible road use.

Infrastructure Improvements:

Our advocacy also involved gathering road safety concerns from the school communities. This feedback has allowed us to address specific safety issues and work collaboratively with local authorities to find solutions. It underscores the importance of community involvement in road safety initiatives.

One of the most tangible results of our engagement has been the consideration and implementation of road safety measures around school premises. Local authorities have initiated the creation of additional zebra crossing points, the installation of traffic control road bumps, and the placement of road safety signposts. These developments enhance the safety of students and pedestrians in the vicinity of the schools.



QUARTELY HIGHLIGHTS

OUR WORK IN ACTION



VIA Road Safety campaign
- HHI Blantyre



Teacher training
- Thyolo



Afterschool program
- Chilomoni Blantyre



Child driven clubs
- Thyolo



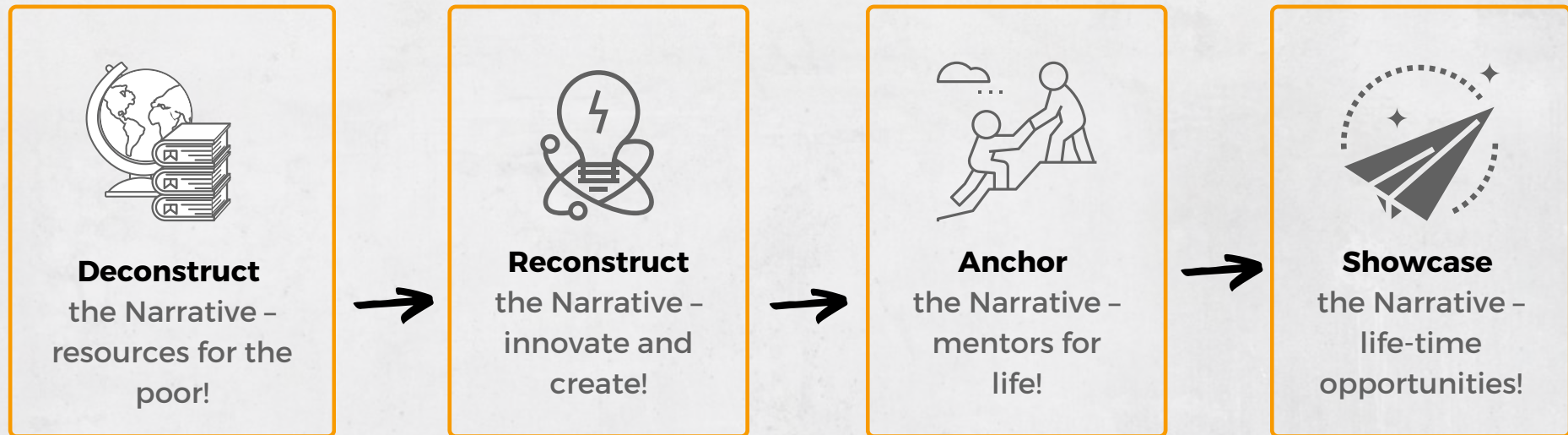
monitoring and evaluation exercise -
Thyolo



RAYS OF HOPE ACADEMY

BRIGHT MINDS BRIGHT FUTURE

The model



ABOUT

Rays of Hope Academy is a fee-paying secondary school that enables income generation for Rays of Hope Ministries. Our Academy is posed to nurture young and raw talent through an education that is built on meaningful innovation and sincere integrity.

QUARTERLY GOALS

Register grade 10 and
grade 12 for 2023-24
Malawi National
Examinations

Implement Targeted Academic
Support for 10/12 graders in
preparation for national
examination

Maintain 100%
passrate in all classes

The story of our Academy unfolds with a tapestry of achievements, a commitment to holistic education and the inculcation of spiritual principles. The model of our school helps us to serve both the 'haves' and 'have nots' to groom responsible citizens.

Amidst common challenges, our school still stands, and successfully attracted new students for 10th and 12th grades. This marks not just an administrative milestone but a collective stride towards academic excellence.

At Rays of Hope Academy, we extend our education services beyond textbooks, but build character. Extracurricular activities become canvases for self-expression, from sports fields to art studios. Meanwhile, life skills and music workshops equipped our students with the tools needed to navigate life's challenges, transcending the traditional boundaries of education.

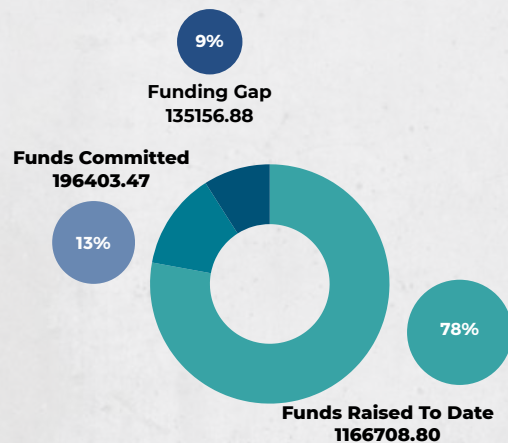
We are intentional in making communities to be part of running the Academy, which is a common administrative practice. The team conducted parent-teacher meetings that serves as a dialogue for collective progress. These interactions, woven into the fabric of our story, continue to keep a cordial relationship with the entire community.

Beyond academic achievement, we hoped our programming would nurture students' personal and social skills. , instilled discipline, perseverance, and effective study habits, empowering students with valuable life skills that extend beyond the realm of examinations.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

BUDGET UPDATE

This year, our budget is **US\$ 1,498,269.15** with a funding gap of **9%**.



INCOME & EXPENDITURE

INCOME	MWK	USD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Foundations and Individuals 	1,251,878,542	1,166,708.80
⊖	1,251,878,542	1,166,708.80
EXPENSES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program Administrative and Personnel 	682,623,404.03	636,182.11
	186,870,503.92	174,157.04
⊖	869,493,907.95	810,339.15
ASSETS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furniture Equipment 	17,898,113.00	17,017.34
	21,419,343.00	20,149.17
⊖	39,317,456.00	37,166.51

Connect with us

VISION Every Child and Youth
Access Transformative
Education



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