



If you want to go fast, go alone.
If you want to go far, go *Pamoza*.



Baby on the Way

Junior, pictured above, was in a hurry to be born. The time was past midnight. His mother, Elteck, started experiencing labor pains. Realizing her baby was on the way, she did what most mothers in rural Malawi do - she looked for transportation to the nearest hospital which was 6 miles away!

Elteck had three options: walk, find someone with a bike, or find an ox-cart. The ox-cart was the most feasible option but there were none available.

Fortunately, Dr. Mike Mtika, Pamoza's founder, was in Zowe and he had a car.

So Elteck, 9 months pregnant and escorted by her mother-in-law and two other women, walked 1.5 miles to Dr. Mtika's house and banged on the windows. In the nick of time, Dr. Mtika was able to take Elteck to the hospital, and Junior was born safely.

This is not the case for other mothers who have to walk miles just to give birth.

You can do something about the distances people in rural Malawi have to walk to access basic necessities. Help us bring more services closer to home. Register for our Miles for Malawi virtual 5K at www.pamoza.org.

Did you know?

Pamoza became an official 501(c)3, non-profit organization in April 2011. That means **we just turned 10 years old!** Stay tuned for ways to celebrate!

Behind the Scenes

It takes many people to make Pamoza's work successful. Some of these people work diligently behind the scenes and never seek any recognition. This quarter, we want to highlight the work of **Melissa Nyoni** (pictured on left), Pamoza's co-founder, first Executive Director, current Board Chair, and "honorary Malawian". Find out what makes her special to us at www.pamoza.org/behind-the-scenes.

Exciting News!

Pamoza just received our very first grant! A **BIG thank you to the Tyndale Foundation** for supporting our CHIEF (Character, Health, Income, Education, and Food security) program. Their funding will help us better equip our Christian Outreach and Community Development Facilitators to create opportunities for spiritual and physical transformation of families.





Health Care

Malawi experienced spikes in COVID cases at the beginning of the year, but the number of new cases decreased substantially after the vaccine was introduced in March. The vaccine, and COVID testing, are primarily available in urban areas, so most of the rural families we serve do not have access to them. However, **Damaseko**, our Programs Manager (pictured above), was able to be vaccinated 40 miles away. We are happy to report that, for the most part, our communities have been spared but we are continuing to do prevention education, which is key for fighting not only COVID but other diseases as well.



Education

We continued providing school breakfast, enhancing crop production at community farms that support the school breakfast program, educating adult learners, and helping the families of our scholarship recipients engage in income-generating activities so they can afford to help with school fees for their children.

We have also formed caucuses (like the one pictured above) composed of local chiefs and village leaders in order to address community development needs, including promoting education for all children.

Education continued....

Our Skills Training Center, which was completed in 2019, is now operational. We provided six weeks of tailoring training to 15 women, many of them widows.

In an effort to inspire some of our high school students, we recruited three of our recent college graduates, **Ackson, Myness, and Chimango** (who is pictured below), to participate in motivation campaigns for young people.



Economic Empowerment

We have been encouraging members in our village savings and loans groups (like the group shown below) to join the **Pamoza Cooperative**. This new venture engages community members in growing cash crops and connects them to markets where they sell their commodities at competitive prices. This past growing season, Cooperative members obtained a loan for fertilizer to enhance their crop production.

To date, we have more than **200 shareholders in the Cooperative** and **900 members in our village savings and loans groups**, mostly women!



Christian Outreach

This past quarter, we reached **3,200 people with the Gospel**. Our work included:

- praying with people at the clinics
- facilitating weekly fellowship meetings in various communities
- supporting our 80 Bible study groups which meet in various villages
- hosting youth group meetings for 130 young people,
- engaging 27 couples in our marriage ministry,
- visiting with individual households to personally witness to families (like the family pictured above) and counseling them on their spiritual growth.

Our staff also hosts devotions twice a week and these are open to other members of the community.

Agriculture

Our work at the **Pamoza Farming Institute** looks promising despite some dry spells. We planted groundnuts, rice, beans, tomatoes, and banana seedlings (pictured here).



The crops we harvest will be used to earn revenue for Pamoza programs. The Pamoza Farming Institute is in its 4th year of demonstrating effective agricultural techniques to our community members who are all subsistence farmers so they have to grow enough food all year to survive.



Together transforming the lives of children and families in Malawi

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