



# Pamoza News

## July - Oct. 2013



### Mission Trip 2013

Pamoza partnered with Springton Lake Presbyterian Church (SLPC) to send a team of 20 people to Malawi from July 11—26. While in Malawi, the team:

- Visited the Kahelere community shop that the Church funded
- Distributed **600 Tumbuka Bibles** to community households
- Provided computer and accounting training to Pamoza staff



- Facilitated day **camps for 900 students** at three different schools
- Hosted a free medical clinic, diagnosing and treating **600 patients in 4 days**
- Donated over 500 pounds of medicine and school supplies.

Not only did the trip have a lasting impact on the communities we serve, it also transformed the mission team members. *“Going to Malawi gave me a better view of the bigger picture, an appreciation for simple luxuries, a heart for service, and a desire to give”* -Julia Swieson, 17

### Emergency Food Relief

Eighty percent of Malawians depend on subsistence agriculture and this year was a particularly challenging one for the harvest. Dry spells led to meager crop production and 40% of the households Pamoza serves are at risk of severe hunger beginning in December. With generous support from our donors, we raised \$13,000 for emergency



Pamoza is helping food insecure households like this one.

food relief. However, there is a need for long-term sustainable solutions that will help people for years to come. In November, Pamoza will launch the Double -the-Blessings Challenge, an effort to raise money for three innovative approaches to food security. Check your mail & our website for more information.

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## School Partnership Program



When English Language Learner instructor Janet Daly (pictured on the left) visited Malawi, she was struck by the conditions of the schools in the rural areas. Her observations soon turned into action when she returned to the U.S. Janet connected with Kim Polonsky, Guidance Counselor at Russell Elementary School, and soon the pair received the backing of the principal to start Mission for Malawi, a year-

long service-learning project that benefits Zowe Primary School.

Students at Russell are learning about Malawi while simultaneously taking action on improving education there. Their first mission: raise money for the Zowe school breakfast program by selling popcorn. Russell students learned that corn is a staple in Malawi and this year, the Zowe school farm did not produce enough for the breakfast program. **Russell students**

**raised \$1,000 in two weeks** and they are still going! The school even **made local news**. Read more about the amazing work of Russell students on our website:

[www.pamoza.org](http://www.pamoza.org)



Russell students pose around a banner they made to signify their partnership with Zowe School

## Program Updates

### Christian Outreach

We have continued to host prayer meetings and Bible studies for community members and also facilitated **evangelism training** and **vacation Bible school** during the 2013 Mission Trip.

### Entrepreneurship

The three community shops started by Pamoza continue to do well and one (in Kahelere) received new solar lights this summer. The People Living with AIDS (PWLA) group in Mchingasanya will also be **starting a poultry business**. They received a loan from Pamoza to purchase 200 chickens & are very excited to begin their business.

### School Breakfast Program

All three breakfast programs resumed in September with the start of school. The program, which is 100% community-run, **serves nearly 1,300 students** who do not have any food during the hours they are at school.



Students eagerly await school breakfast, which is facilitated by community volunteers.

### Medical Services

Pamoza continues to partner with the Malawi government to bring a doctor to our communities. The doctor sees an average of 50-60 people per week and treated 300 people this period. Additionally, two hundred children received immunizations from the Health Surveillance Assistant who resides in the community.

### Welcome New Staff

Pamoza is pleased to welcome three new staff to our Malawi office: Michael Galimoto Mtika, Assistant Coordinator; Emmanuel Maida, Field Accountant; and Timothy Gondwe, Christian Activities Facilitator.