What We Do...

Love Support Unite empowers communities to become self-sufficient, with a leg-up rather than a hand-out.

We create self-sufficiency and food security through funding integrated community-based projects around education, nutrition, enterprise and healthcare. Working alongside African Vision Malawi, Mphatso Children's Foundation and Stepping Stones within Malawi.
Monthly Update

Each month we send a small update on each project so you can follow the benefits of our work, which are enabled with your support.

These reflect the previous month as data needs to be collected in Malawi and reports written.

Please circulate our report with people who have supported your fundraising for us.
WE'RE TRYING SOMETHING NEW...

To make our reports more digestible, as let's face it, they haven't exactly been short... We're going to be focussing on less areas each month.

Last month we focused on Medical. This month, we'll focus on an introduction to our Education projects and the Tilinanu home visits and updates.

Next month, we'll focus Early Childhood Development.
In the Education sector we have five programmes namely; ECD (Early Childhood Development), Scholarships, Her Education Matters, School partnerships and Adult Literacy. LSU directly funds three of these:

- **ECD**
- **Scholarships**
- **Adult Literacy**

**ECD:** We support and work with 13 centres where there are 44 Caregivers/Teachers. We support the ECD by; providing training, teaching and learning materials, a feeding programme and developing infrastructure when funds are available.

**Scholarships:** This programme is divided into two categories AVM and Tilinanu scholarships, whereby we support the students with tuition fees, school materials, transport, stationery, uniforms, school shoes and upkeep for primary and secondary. For tertiary students we support them with tuition, and accommodation fees, transport, upkeep, school materials. [Currently we have 12 students in 3 primary schools, 46 students in 21 secondary schools and 21 university students in 8 institutions.](#)

**Adult Literacy:** we have 5 centres, which provide English (level 2) and Chichewa (level 1) lessons and we have 11 trained teachers and an average of 263 learners.
Our Education programmes with African Vision Malawi aim to:

- Help well deserving orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs). ‘Well deserving' in terms of; high academic performance, good behaviour, clear vision, a goal in life and are self-motivated, despite challenging home circumstances, to become self-dependent and develop their families and communities.

- Support existing 3-5 year olds from our catchment area and provide them with quality Early Childhood Development (ECD) support leading to improved health, easy transition to Primary School, increased performance and life chances.

- Enable girls to stay in schools by reducing dropouts, early marriages, early pregnancies, absenteeism of girls during their menstrual days.

- Promote literacy levels among the elderly from the age of 18 and above, who failed to get education by providing them with basic literacy lessons.
August Updates

In August, we completed the following activities:

- Early Childhood Development Sustainable Feeding Programme training and updates from; Mteza, Funsani and Mseteza.
- Scholarships (Government exam results and University selection)
- Tilinanu home visits
- Adult literacy (monitoring visits and attendance).
- All children that wrote Primary School Leaving Certificate Exams (PSLCE’s) - passed!
We have 5 centres which provide English (Level 2) and Chichewa (Level 1) lessons, and we have 11 trained teachers and an average of 263 learners.

We will reduce illiteracy levels among adults ranging in age from 16 to 60 years in the community, enabling them to support their children’s learning, run businesses, read warnings on medicines and integrate more fully into society. For example, being able to fill out paperwork and bank forms.
### Adult Literacy Updates:

109 learners received their lessons in the month of August.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CHICHEWA</th>
<th>ENGLISH</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learners</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHALASA</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIGOTHI</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This was our major activity in the month of August. It was completed over 3 weeks and we visited 19 girls; 4 primary, 13 secondary and 2 college students, thus 3 from North, 3 South and 13 from the Central Region. The purpose of the exercise was as follows:

- Assess the living status of the girls (welfare) in their respective homes
- Get feedback from the guardians about the academic performance and behaviour of the girls
- Get academic feedback from the girls
- A full detailed report will be shared separately but in brief, the exercise was successful as we managed to visit all of the girls, apart from 2 who were having their holidays far from their home villages.
Tilinanu Updates - Home status

Some of the following information may be hard to read, but we feel it is necessary and relevant to be honest.

75% of the girls’ guardians’ are living in extreme poverty. This is why the girls are educated at local level boarding schools - to prevent them living in these conditions, however, we are strategising relief programmes for when the girls go home during the school holidays.

From our home visits budget, we had extra funds of about 214,000MK (£200). We used these funds to help the families, which had little or no food. We gave them between 15,000MK to 30,000MK (£15-£30) depending on the number of family members. They were given cash and each recipient was signing a local purchase voucher which has been submitted to the account’s office.
Guardian feedback:
As expected, due to the majority of the guardians not receiving any form of education, at all, even at a primary level. Many guardians are unable to follow the performance of their wards at school. None were able to describe their performance. They were encouraged to follow up on the performance of their children through the teachers (over the phone) because most of them were complaining that they don’t attend PTA (parent teacher association) meetings, which makes it hard to follow.

All guardians reported positively that the girls were behaving well; helping them with household chores. They said that the girls have learned how to complete housework such as farming and cleaning the house, and they are becoming more responsible.

Angella’s uncle said “I am very proud that I can go with Angella to the garden and work together. She helps us do house chores and taking care of her little cousin. Am happy with the woman she is becoming and am told she is also performing well at school which is also another good thing”.

Top: Angella and her Uncle and Donata after receiving Gandy’s rucksack and a school bag
Feedback from the girls about school was positive, they said everything was going well.

Glory said that she is enjoying the course she is studying at SOS and she believes she will pass very well. She only mentioned that their teachers use soft copies when giving them notes or assignments and since she doesn’t have a laptop she struggles to get assignments done. She uses an internet café to write assignments and sometimes to read, which is expensive, so she was asking for a laptop. This was also the issue with Brenda, she also requested a laptop for studies.

Donata and Joyce complained that the food (Nsima) that they were given towards the end of term was bitter. When I checked with the Matron, she explained that the school was affected by cyclone Freddy, so much so, the store's room was corrupted and everything in it washed away by water. The school was stuck with the food they had and the government was unable to reach them because roads were impassable. They got a donation of maize from the Mozambique government, which the students were complaining about as bitter. She said at first the school thought of sending the students back home but again looking at how bad the roads were, they opted to keep at the school since the hostel and classrooms were safe and they continued teaching.
Tilinanu Sponsorship

We are looking for new sponsors to help support our Tilinanu education programme.

Can you or a group of friends/family join forces to gift a child's education?

To find out how YOU could become a sponsor please email: alice@lovesupportunite.org
Can you or a group of your friends and family join forces to gift a child's education?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRIMARY SCHOOL</th>
<th>SECONDARY SCHOOL</th>
<th>COLLEGE</th>
<th>MONTHLY DONATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£42 PER MONTH</td>
<td>£75 PER MONTH</td>
<td>£100 PER MONTH</td>
<td>ANY AMOUNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£500 PER YEAR</td>
<td>£900 PER YEAR</td>
<td>£1200 PER YEAR</td>
<td>£5/£10/£15/£20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Love Specs at festivals

We’ve had a fantastic festival season this year. We’ve raised over £25,000!

Thank you to all of the amazing, kind souls that have helped us spread awareness and share the love! We love you Love Pixies!!

A huge thank you to all of our festival partners this year. YOU ARE AMAZING!

Keep up to date: @love_specs
SIGN UP TO SUPPORT

We are always looking for new sponsors to help support our programmes.

Could you spare £5, £10, £20 a month?

Please donate via JustGiving or email hello@lovesupportunite.org for more information.
LOVE AND THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS