



# LOVE SUPPORT UNITE FEBRUARY REPORT 2026



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**This February, we proudly began partnering with Unite Support Malawi, a newly formed organisation continuing the vital work of African Vision Malawi.**

**They provide direct, consistent support to vulnerable families across Malawi - including orphans, child-headed households, single mothers, adults and children living with disabilities, and those facing serious medical needs.**





# UNITE SUPPORT

MALAWI

Currently, **14 households** are benefiting from this programme, receiving food and health assistance every quarter, with some families having been supported for a number of years and others newly welcomed into the fold.

With just a little reliable support each quarter, these resilient individuals and families are able to live with greater stability, dignity and hope.

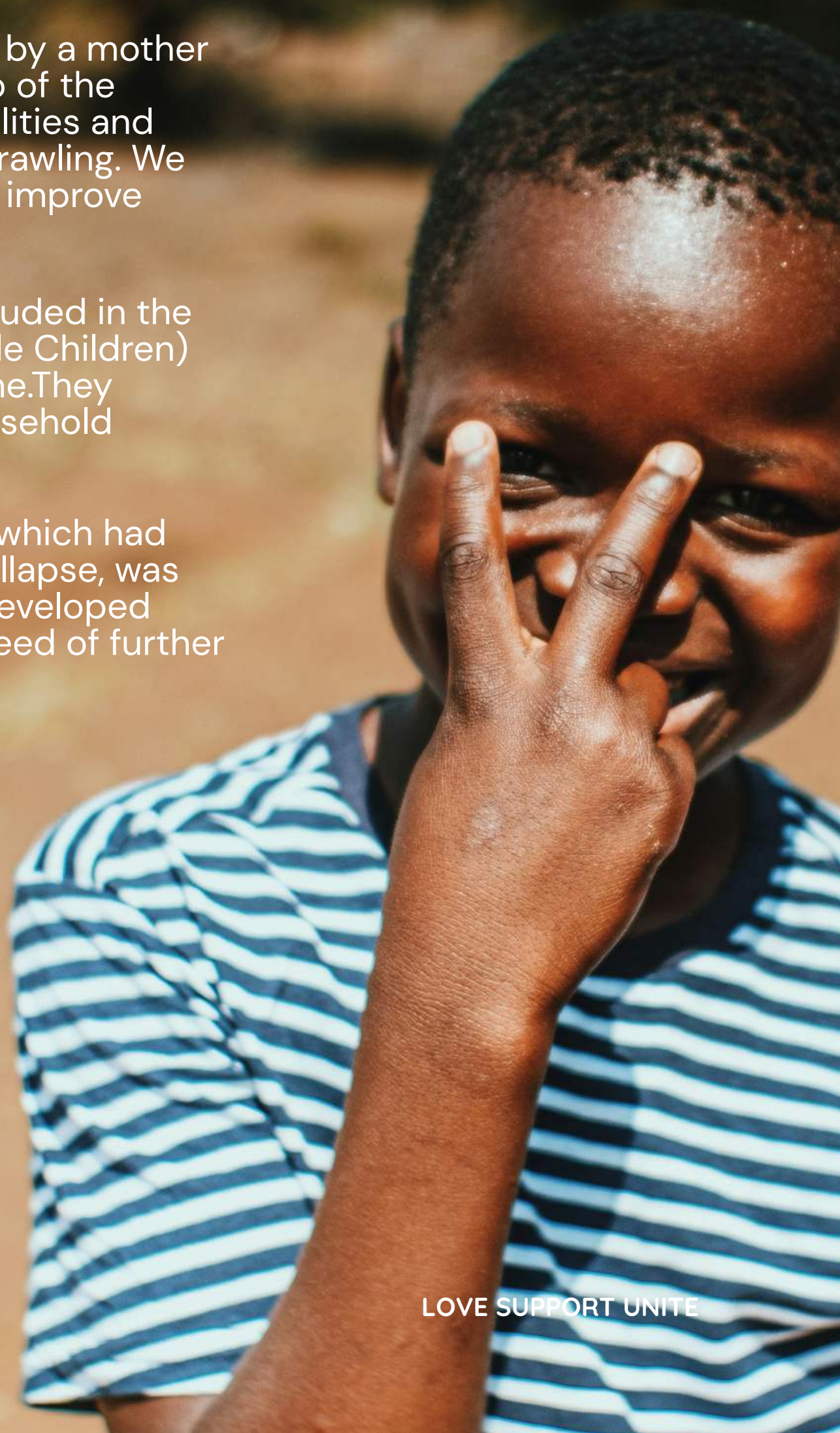
That support takes the form of food, housing repairs, medical care, clothing and education support.

# 1. Samson Family in Mbewa Village

Single-parent household led by a mother caring for three children. Two of the children have physical disabilities and cannot walk; they move by crawling. We provided two wheelchairs to improve their mobility.

The family was therefore included in the OVC (Orphans and Vulnerable Children) and adult support programme. They receive regular food and household support.

Three years ago their home, which had been leaking and close to collapse, was renovated, but it has since developed significant cracks and is in need of further repair.



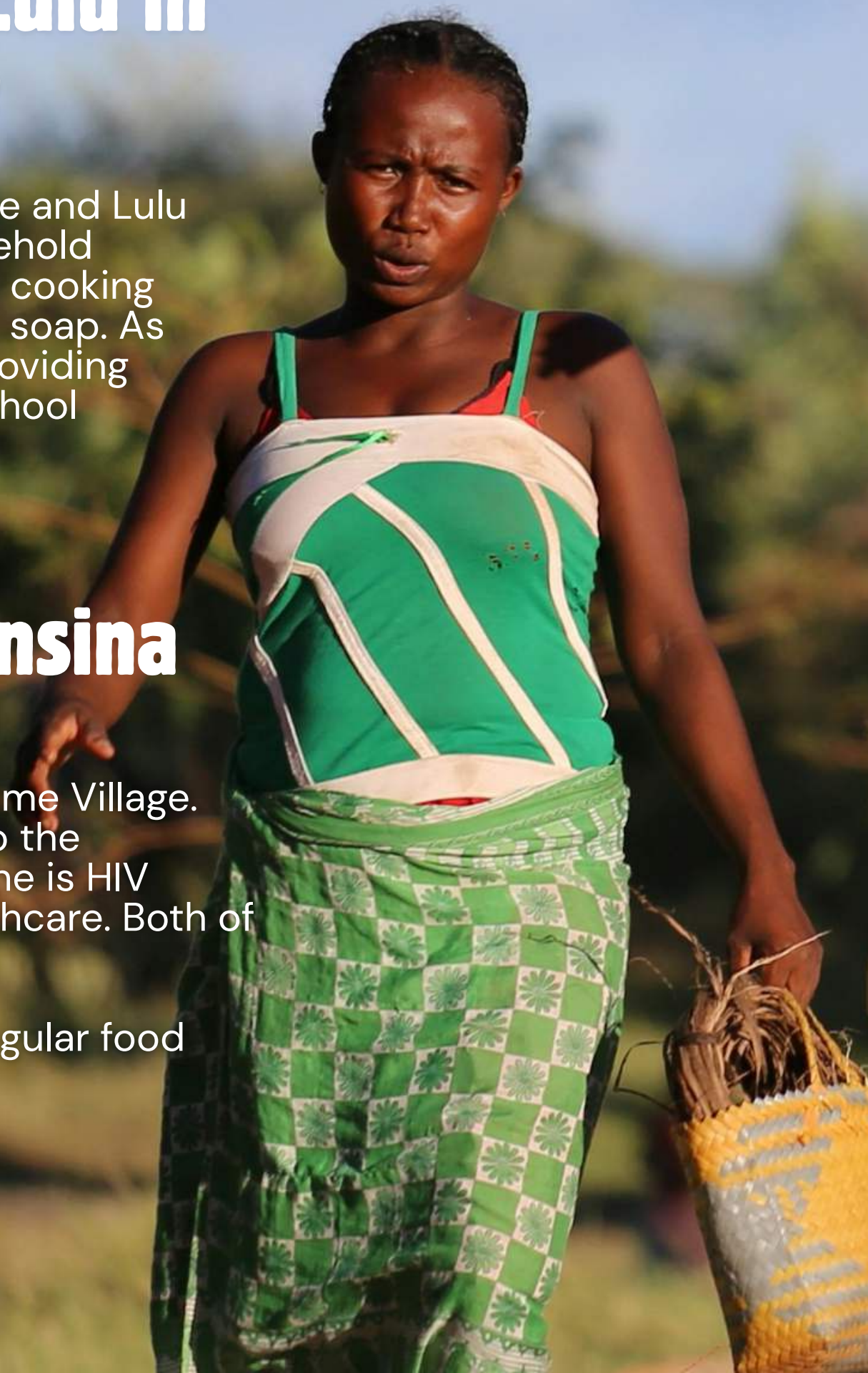
## 2. Lawrence and Lulu in Chikamba Village

Two orphaned siblings, Lawrence and Lulu receive essential food and household supplies, including maize, beans, cooking oil, salt, and bathing and laundry soap. As well as education support, by providing items such as notebooks and school uniforms.

## 3. Triphonia/ Rifonsina

She lives with her sister in Mbalame Village. Born in 2010. She was referred to the organisation for support since she is HIV positive and lacked proper healthcare. Both of her parents died of AIDS.

She is supported by receiving regular food and also education support.



## 4. Phalles

Phalles, born in 1973 developed cerebral malaria as an infant. Living in Chigothi Village with her elderly parents, the eldest of seven siblings. As well as receiving regular food, the organisation supports Phalles by providing the family with two piglets to help generate income through small-scale livestock farming.

Sadly one piglet died, but the other went on to produce two more piglets before contracting East Coast fever. The pig was eventually sold for K350,000, providing the family with meaningful financial support.

## 5. Chisomo & Chimwemwe

Twin siblings living with their grandmother in Chiyenda Village, Lombwa Centre. Born in 2021, their mother passed away shortly after giving birth.

Referred to the organisation for urgent support and care following their mother's death. Now growing and receiving regular food support.



A woman is walking barefoot on a dirt path, carrying a large bundle of sticks on her head. She is wearing a light-colored, patterned wrap around her waist. In the background, a young child is walking, also barefoot, wearing a green shirt and dark shorts. The scene is set outdoors with trees and a clear sky in the background.

## 6.Fenita

Fenita was born in 2008 and lives in Nkhanamba Village. She is the fourth of five children and was born with congenital abnormalities. Her mother, who is divorced, supports the family alone through casual work.

Fenita was enrolled in the programme in 2023 due to food shortages the family was experiencing. The family receives regular support.

## 7.Lazaro Family

This single-parent household in Mumbi Village, is headed by a mother raising five children.

Following the death of their father, the mother has been solely responsible for the family's welfare, and the household was enrolled in the OVC programme in 2021 as a result.

The family receives regular food support and education materials.

## 8. Francis

Francis is a 17-year-old boy living in Samalani Village, with his father and stepmother. He tested HIV positive in 2019 and was struggling to attend school regularly, while also lacking basic necessities such as food and clothing at home. As a result, he was enrolled in the OVC programme.

Francis is currently in Standard 4 at Mkunkhu Primary School and continues to receive food and clothing support through the programme.

## 9. Zozo

Zozo is an elderly man originally from M'bang'ombe who, after his family became unable to support him, was relocated to Sam's Village.

He was identified and enrolled in the OVC programme a number of years ago and continues to receive regular support including maize, cooking oil, salt, beans, Colgate, Vaseline, bathing soap and laundry soap.



# 10.Leticia

Leticia is a girl born in 2017. She was enrolled in the programme to support her ongoing medical care for hyperactivity disorder, which she receives treatment for at St John of God Hospital. Her mother, who is divorced, was struggling to provide food for her children, making the family's need for support all the greater.

Leticia receives regular food support. She has an upcoming appointment at St John of God Hospital in March.

# 11.Chikumbutso

Chikumbutso is a young boy born in September 2023, now aged 2, living with his grandparents in Malande Village. His mother passed away shortly after giving birth, and he was enrolled in the programme following his discharge from Bwaila Hospital.

In his earliest months he was supported with baby formula (Lactogen) and Likuni Phala to ensure proper nutrition. Now that he is growing, the family receives ongoing support.

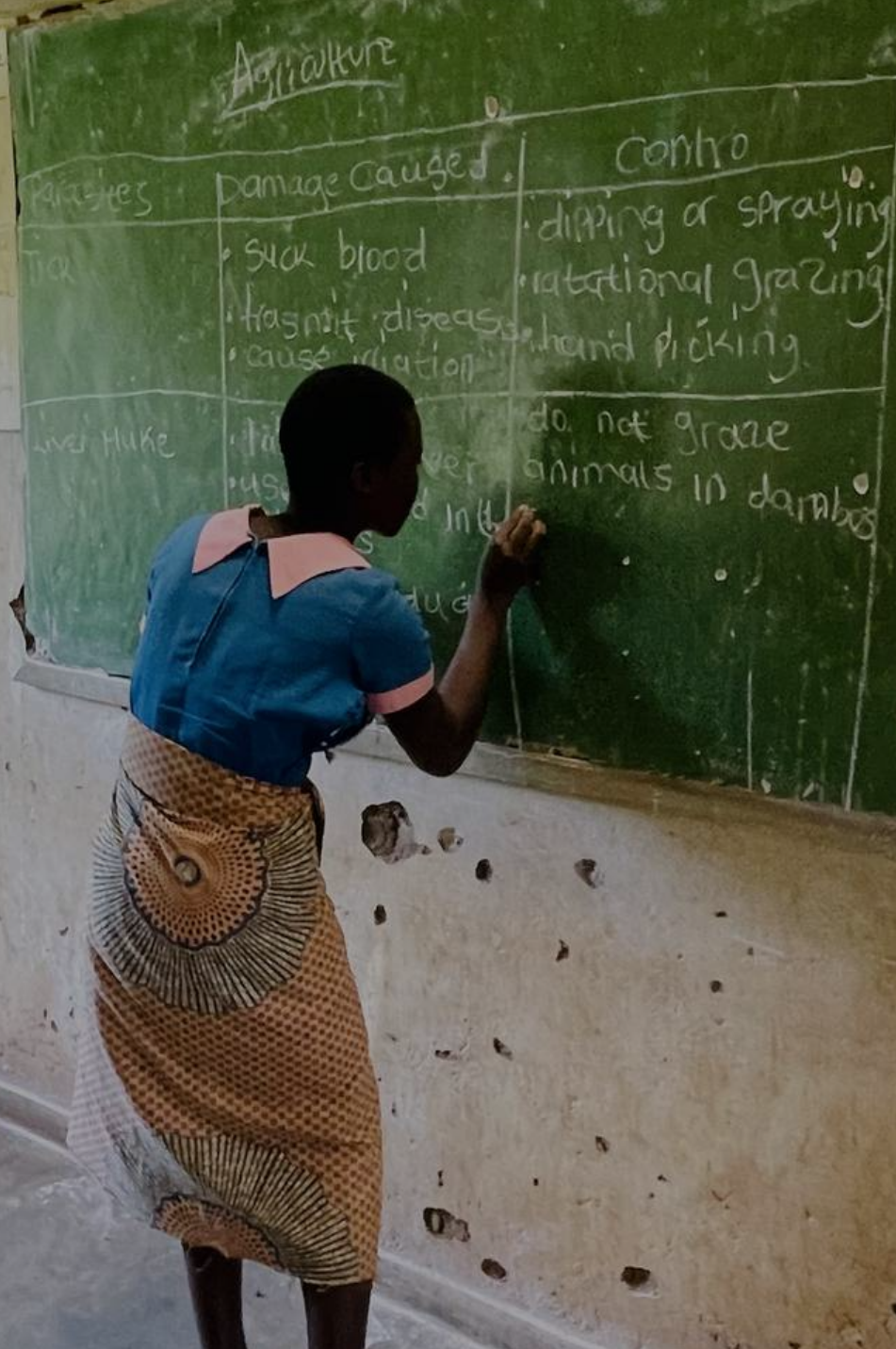
# 12. Doreen

Doreen, 17, lives in Thyolonjo Village, Chitukula, with her mother and three siblings. She has a physical disability requiring constant care, which prevents her mother from working or finding food. Since her father left the family, they have been living in poverty.

Doreen was enrolled in the programme to support the family with food access and has been provided with a wheelchair. She currently sleeps on a small sack on the floor, and a mattress would make a meaningful difference to her daily comfort.

# 13. Alex

Alex is almost 2 years old. His mother passed away shortly after his birth, and his father was unable to provide him with baby formula. He was taken in by his grandparents, who also had no means of supporting him and came to Sam's Village seeking help. He was enrolled in the programme at that point, though delivering support initially proved difficult as heavy rainfall had made the roads to their home impassable. Alex now receives regular support.





## 14. Blessings

Blessings was born in 2002 and is now 23, living in Mgwizi Village with a physical disability. His mother also struggles with a significant visual impairment, leaving the household without the means to meet their basic needs.

The family was enrolled in the programme for a period of support while also being linked to the organisation's Sustainable Feeding Program (SFP), an agricultural initiative aimed at building longer-term food security.

Blessings and his mother receive regular support including maize, beans, cooking oil, salt, bathing soap and laundry soap.

# SEND Clinic Sandi Thandiza

Sandi Thandiza provided physiotherapy, speech and occupational therapy, client referrals, and support group services. Key activities included early identification assessments, new client assessments, and hospital referrals.

## Clients Seen

- **2 new children** assessed both diagnosed with cerebral palsy
- **46 babies** assessed – 6 born with birth asphyxia.
- **1 referral** made for a trans-femoral amputee requiring prosthetic repair

# Achievements

- **3 children** have attained independent sitting
- **2 children** are now crawling
- Improved support group participation and peer connections
- Most parents are now carrying out home exercise programmes
- Some fathers are actively encouraging clinic attendance for their children



# Key Challenges

- Social stigma and exclusion around childhood disability in the community
- Limited family and community support for children with disabilities
- Financial pressure on families, increasing malnutrition risk
- Reduced clinic attendance during the farming season
- Parents struggling to balance caregiving with personal responsibilities

# Birth Asphyxia Concerns

Notable cases linked to delayed/prolonged labour, teenage and older-age pregnancies, use of traditional medicines to speed delivery, maternal health issues, and inadequate facility equipment.

## Recommendations

- Expand group therapy sessions to build community and peer support
- Train community volunteers in disability awareness to support community-based rehabilitation
- Schedule regular sessions focused on mobility, strength and coordination

**Thank you for supporting  
us and our new partner  
Unite Support Malawi.**

**February showed us,  
again, that together  
we are stronger.**

**THANK YOU!**