



# May 2022 Featured Project

Meeting the Needs of Young Mothers and Ending  
Childhood Poverty in Mangochi, Malawi



TOGETHER WOMEN RISE

# Introducing Yamba Malawi

## Meeting the Needs of Young Mothers and Ending Childhood Poverty in Mangochi, Malawi

- Primary beneficiaries are Malawian children under 5 years old
- Caregivers live in extreme poverty
- Caregivers struggle to provide nutrition, healthcare, and protection that children need during early, critical years



# About Malawi

- Population more than 20 million
- Ranks among the world's least developed countries
- Economy is predominately agricultural
- About 80 percent of people live in rural areas
- Poor infrastructure, rampant corruption, high population growth, poor health and education outcomes



# Life challenges for women in Malawi

- One of the highest rates of extreme poverty in the world; women and children are disproportionately affected
- One of the highest global birth rates
- Nearly twice the rate of HIV prevalence compared to men
- Health impacted by poor access to clean water and reliance on wood for cooking and heating
- Poor education outcomes, high instances of child labor, extremely high rates of child marriage



# The Project

- Integrated package of training, coaching, and resources around three pillars – **Childhood Wellbeing, Sustainable Business, and Financial Inclusion** – empowers vulnerable children’s caregivers to build pathways out of extreme poverty and meet young children’s multifaceted needs.
- Unique project utilizes a two-level poverty graduation model for both community-wide and household-level support; strengthens Early Childhood Development care for children at pre-primary school and at home

**DIRECT IMPACT: 250 WOMEN AND 1,000 CHILDREN (INCLUDING 500 GIRLS)**

**INDIRECT IMPACT: 6,000 CHILDREN (INCLUDING 3,000 GIRLS)**

# The Project

- **Childhood Wellbeing:** Focus on early child development that uplifts existing cultural childcare practices; services in nutrition, health, education
- **Sustainable Business:** Training and coaching in entrepreneurship and transfer of seed capital for households
- **Financial Inclusion:** Training and coaching in financial literacy, connections to financial services like mobile banking, and supporting the formation of Village Savings and Loan Associations to provide access to savings and credit



# Budget

Item	Description	Cost
Salaries and Benefits	Includes a portion of salary and benefits costs for a District Coordinator, Office Assistant, two Program Officers, and six Field Facilitators in Mangochi	\$21,260
Direct Implementation	Consumption support to help meet basic needs for 250 household participants while in training	\$18,000
	Asset transfer for household participants	\$9,372
Indirect Costs	5% of administrative and project costs	\$1,368
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$50,000</b>

# About Yamba Malawi

- Founded in 2006 by Melissa Kushner, who was working with the UN Fund for International Partnerships in Malawi
- Initially, collected and distributed donated goods like clothes and school supplies
- In 2011, pivoted service model away from donation distribution and began to launch sustainable local businesses to provide local funding for Community Based Organizations (CBOs)
- In 2017, launched the Childhoods & Livelihoods Program to address poverty at household level
- Committed to decolonizing international development

# Share your thoughts

1. How do you think the inclusion of Savings and Loan Associations can increase women's opportunities for financial and entrepreneurial success?
2. Compare the roles of community programming and household-level support. How do they work together to help overcome barriers to success?
3. What do you think are the possible long-term outcomes from strengthening early childhood development programs?



