

**TIYENDE PAMODZI** *Let's Walk Together*  
**GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL MALAWI**  
P.O. Box 80, Dedza, Malawi



From: Tiyende Pamodzi Girls Secondary School, Malawi  
Nazareth Foundation Malawi, the Netherlands  
GF Goeldner Foundation, Germany

To: Donors of Tiyende Pamodzi Girls Secondary School

Date: July 2023

**SUBJECT: update July 2023  
TIYENDE PAMODZI GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL**



Dear all,

We are approaching the end of the third Academic Year of Tiyende Pamodzi Girls Secondary School! Who would have thought five years ago, when we started this project, it would be so successful! We have a team of wonderful teachers who are running the school under the guidance of the management of a dedicated headteacher and deputy head teacher. We have three classes of determined young girls and women working hard to get good results. We have a Parents/Teacher Association and a Board of Governors who are interested and supportive. The community feels involved as well. A visit of all the 15 chiefs with the Group Village Headman showed us their support and gratitude.

**Visitors**

IN the past few months we were blessed with many visitors at Tiyende Pamodzi. The teachers of Mua School for the Deaf came to see the school they had heard about so much. They interacted with the teachers of Tiyende Pamodzi to exchange experiences. We had visitors from Europe and from co-funding organisations, members of Rotary Lilongwe and Germany, the Board of Governors, the local chiefs and interested visitors from the guesthouse at Nazareth. We are always happy to show them around and meet the team of teachers, management and the students. For the students it's always a small happening when they can interact with all these interested parties.



**Construction**

Construction of necessary infrastructure is continuing. We still need more staff houses. Without enough staff houses the government does not want to send us the necessary amount of teachers. The government pays the salaries of the teachers, but the school has to provide acceptable housing. Block 3 of 2 staff houses will be finished soon. We have also started construction of a "junior house". This is a block of 2 houses with 2 bedrooms each for single teachers. We hope to finish construction of these houses before the opening of the next Academic Year in September 2023. By then we will have houses for 6 teachers who have a family and housing for 4 single teachers or 2 small families.

**Block 3 of 2 staff houses: 2 teachers with a family each**



**Junior house: 4 single teachers or 2 small families**



**Girls' Hostel**

We are constructing the first hostel for girls who live too far away to travel to school on a daily basis. This is a very important development. These girls are self-boarding in the villages now. This is not safe for the girls in the age of 13 to 18 years old. At the school grounds, overseen by a matron, they will be protected and will be able to concentrate on their studies. A German organisation is trying to organise a separate solar system for the hostels. The first hostel should be ready at the start of the Academic Year in September 2023.

**Girls' Hostel beginning of June (below) and end of June (on the right):**



**Consultation regarding several options for continuation of Tiyende Pamodzi Girls Secondary School**

The education at Tiyende Pamodzi has come to a point to make decisions on the way forward. A discussion paper with several options was discussed by the Board of Governors, the School Management (taking into account the wishes of the staff and learners through the Parents-Teachers-Association) and the leading donor organisations (Nazareth Foundation Malawi and the GF Goeldner Foundation). The question before us was: how can we achieve our mission (quality education with a focus on Vocational Training for as many girls/women from Mganja and other near, rural areas as possible) within our current resources in the best possible way? During a final meeting with the Board of Governors the following was decided.

Based on our mission, the present enrolment of pupils at the Mganja Primary School and the difficulties to find good housing for teachers, Tiyende Pamodzi will, at present, stay a single stream school. This means every Form will have 1

class of 50 girls. At the same time 2 vocational training subjects will be taken up as official examination subjects, taught by a qualified teacher (sent and paid by the government) who teaches the government curriculum from Form 1 until examination in Form 4. These additional vocational subjects are Home Economics and Design & Textile. This means these subjects are no longer extra-curricular but full subjects with a government certificate. Teaching these subjects structurally will help our learners to learn necessary skills with a view on a better future.

We have also discussed the possibility of having an Open Secondary School at Tiyende Pamodzi during afternoon hours. In Malawi this is an officially recognised way of teaching students who have not been selected to day-schools. There is high demand for such schools<sup>1</sup>, also from boys and adults. However, Tiyende Pamodzi was founded only for girls. This has been the official Vision and Mission. To be able to open Open Secondary School, also for boys, the Vision would need to be changed. This can only be done after consulting and in accordance with the wishes of our donor organisations. This process will have to be gone through before a decision of allowing Open Secondary School at the premises of Tiyende Pamodzi can be made.

### Fundraising

The current situation of infrastructure at Tiyende Pamodzi is visible in the map on the right hand side. The green structures are ready and being used: administration block, 8 classrooms, 4 staff houses, nursery school and blocks of toilets. Two blocks of houses and one hostel are under construction (pink) and should be finished by September 2023.

At present we are fundraising for another block of 2 staff houses for 2 more teachers with a family and for another hostel.

### Rotary Global Grant

Members of the Rotary Club Lilongwe came to see the school and meet the Board of Governors and the chiefs. They needed to assess the situation for an application for a Rotary Global Grant for Tiyende Pamodzi. Rotary Hamburg-Harvestehude is working together with them and two other German Rotary Clubs to apply for this Global Grant. If they succeed the grant will be used for furnishing of the hostels, books, tablet computers, furnishing of science lab and home economics lab and other necessary items.

### Bicycles

We received for the second time funding to buy bicycles for our students. For them this is really life changing! It makes it possible for girls who live far away to reach school in time instead of having to walk for an hour or more coming and going back home again. Now they are able to put their time and energy more into their studies.



### Educational visit

One of our teachers organised an educational trip for Form 3 students to the lakeshore. It was very well organised and well received. The students visited the National Heritage Site Otter Point, National Park at Cape McClear, Malawi Lake Service Company and were allowed to enter one of the ships. They got an educational talk at Marine College and went

<sup>1</sup>An Open Secondary School is: "a school providing secondary school courses housed in a government, parastatal or private institution approved to provide secondary education and training through open and distance mode". The objectives for Open Secondary Schools are

- a) to provide formal education to school-going-age children who failed to secure places in the conventional system due to limited places;
- b) to provide a second chance to adults who missed formal education during their youth.

to see Goshen City. The subjects that were touched upon during the trip were history, biology, geography, education and tourism. We hope to be able to organise these kind of trips for all Forms in the future.



It is so wonderful to see our students, village girls, who did not have any opportunity for further education until now, turning into educated, beautiful and autonomous women!

You are most welcome to come and visit them!

We thank you whole-heartedly for your continued interest and support!

Kind regards,

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