

# Lifeline Malawi

260, 1015 4th Street SW • Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2R 1J4

[www.lifelinemalawi.com](http://www.lifelinemalawi.com)

Spring, 2004

## Meet Lifeline Malawi's Ngodzi Staff



*Sister Violet Pota brings her warm and friendly presence to the Ngodzi clinic.*



*Sister Mary Jumali was willing to give up the familiar for this exciting new opportunity at Lifeline Malawi.*



*Pastor Watson Khanunkatonde has a background in agriculture and ministry.*



*Moses Thom (right) motivates our workers with youthful enthusiasm and good "preaching".*

Since spring is recognized as a season for new beginnings, there is no better time than the present to profile our new staff members at the Ngodzi medical centre.

Our first full time and highly qualified nurse, **Sister Violet Pota**, was trained at a hospital that was established in David Livingstone's time. By complimenting her training with additional maternity and public health expertise and a degree in theology from Nairobi, Kenya, she brings a very knowledgeable, delightful, warm and friendly presence to work every day. It is no wonder that our patients love her. By the way, "God must surely love me!" she was noted to say, when she was recently presented with a guitar.

**Sister Mary Jumali**, who happens to be Violet's aunt, is our second well trained and very qualified full time nurse. Before joining us in November, she was a matron of a mission hospital in central Malawi. We are encouraged by this widow, mother and grandmother who was willing to give up what was familiar to embrace something new with Lifeline Malawi in Ngodzi. Don't be fooled by her quiet and contented personality. Her colleagues know that underneath is a lady who exercises her full authority when leadership is required.

A long time partner and friend in the start-up of the Ngodzi Clinic is **Pastor Watson Khanunkatonde**. He had a background in agriculture before receiving his Bible school training. This happy, Godly and intelligent man, who speaks excellent English, has often been called upon to translate for us. Even though he must allocate his time between his wife Elizabeth and his 7 children, he was more than willing to step up to the challenge of taking on more responsibilities and fulfilling the role of our Site Administrator.

Given that Lifeline Malawi has been without a Project manager since March 2003, we are very blessed to have **Moses Thom** as our Foreman. As Chris says, "We have another good preacher to lead our staff devotions with his workers every morning". Although, a young man, with a wife and daughter, he is committed to learning more. Given our future plans for expansion on the Ngodzi site, Moses may change his mind!

### Pharmaceutical News

Without the assistance of volunteers, Lifeline Malawi would not have achieved all the goals that we desired to accomplish during this past year. Our gratitude is extended to **Christina Lynam**, one of our friends from Ireland, who graciously offered her services on the field this spring. She contributed her pharmaceutical expertise to create our pharmaceutical data base and inventory management system. As well as allowing us to effectively and efficiently track our usage of medicines, we will also know when we need to approach our suppliers for reorders. Of important note, Lifeline Malawi received approximately \$230,000 worth of donated medicines in 2003, most of which was contributed by HPIC. Other contributions were made by Novapharm, Apotek and IDA.



Dr. Chris Brooks making a "Hut call".



The new maize mill is ready to go as soon as we get electricity to the site.



One of the two newly completed nurse's homes.



Fresh water is always available at the clinic site for the Ngodzi villagers.



Please help! Your contributions work hard to better the lives for thousands of people.

### Ngodzi Baseline Health Study

In order to generate data that can be useful in demonstrating the effectiveness of our Medical Clinic, a Baseline Study of the Ngodzi community was conducted on our behalf by foCi in October 2003. The main goal of the survey was to assess and prioritize the health needs of the people in Ngodzi. Key health related gaps which were identified and will continue to be our major focus includes: improving the water and sanitation facilities, offering family planning services, effective delivery of under-five immunizations, increasing the availability of Health Surveillance Assistants, providing access to affordable maternity services and increasing the community's awareness and access to affordable curative and preventative services.

### Maize Mill Ready to Go

Thanks to the generous donations of AIDS Interfaith Alliance, The Besom and other Lifeline Malawi supporters, we were able to construct a maize mill within our medical complex that will provide a direct economic benefit to the community. The mill (building) houses a maize grinder and a maize shelter, both of which are critical machines required for the grinding of the community's maize (corn) into flour.

### Nurses Residences Completed

Another thanks goes to the Canada Fund Malawi, whose grant of CDN \$24,500 provided approximately 2/3 funding for the completion of our two (2) nurses residences. Each of these 900 sq. ft., three (3) bedroom bungalows will allow sufficient living space for a nurse and her extended family members. With only the landscaping and some finishing touches of paint, these homes were ready for occupancy last fall.

### Other Projects

During the last six months, we have also seen the completion of our Bore Hole and water tower, the installation of an incinerator, as well as the construction of a gravel road into and through our complex. Besides having the luxury of indoor plumbing, we will soon enjoy the benefits of electricity. Many of our construction staff have been busy preparing all our buildings for the immanent arrival of electricity.

### New Web Site Up and Running

Extra! Extra! Read all about it! No longer do you need to wait for the printed material to obtain updates on what is happening in the world of Lifeline Malawi. Take a moment and log onto to www.lifelinemalawi.com. As well as being reminded of our organizations vision and mission statement, you will be able to access such topics as Our history, Our future, Short Term Missions Opportunities, Newsletters, Video clips, Medical data, plus Contact and Financial information. In addition, you can use this web site as an easy method of giving to a worthy cause.

### Please Help!

Without the regular contributions of our 100 Club, we would not be able to sustain our ongoing operations at Ngodzi, Malawi. Please consider joining our organization today. By completing the information located on our web site at www.lifelinemalawi.com, you can begin to contribute financially on a regular basis. You can start as low as \$25.00 per month. Or you may wish to make a one time contribution towards one for the projects that have yet to be completed:

- Laboratory Equipment      \$5,000
- Septic System Upgrade      \$10,000
- Maternity Ward                \$50,000