

# Pamoza News

Summer 2020

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go pamoza." [www.pamoza.org](http://www.pamoza.org)

When COVID-19 hit Malawi in April, we hit the ground preventing its spread. You responded by helping us raise \$16,000 to support our initiative. With that support we hired 5 prevention facilitators to educate families about COVID, and they have **already reached more than 1,100 households**. We also built six handwashing stations, sewed 2,000 face masks at our Skills Center, purchased a vehicle for mobile outreach, distributed soap and face masks, and facilitated community trainings.



Our COVID-19 Prevention Facilitators

## Our Amazing Team



This year has been tough but our staff have risen to the challenge, working harder than ever before to come up with creative solutions. Well done!

## Did You Know?

85% of the support Pamoza receives is from individuals. That's why we appreciate YOU!

## A Wife at Fourteen



We have continued our efforts to prevent child marriages and encourage young girls to return to school. Mwayi (pictured on the left with her father), dropped out of school and got married at fourteen

because she figured it was her only way out of poverty. Now she is back home with her family and plans to return to school.

## Water Conservation

Water is a precious resource and essential to growing enough food. However, in Malawi, rain patterns have become unpredictable, making it difficult for farmers to grow enough food during the rainy season (November - April). One way to counter this problem is to conserve water during the rainy season and use it during the dry season (May - October). To demonstrate this, Pamoza is



constructing a dam at our Farming Institute. The dam (being dug on the left) is almost completed and will act as a reservoir so that crops can be grown easier during dry season.

## Behind the Scenes

Meet Brandon and Karissa Forino, two of our most committed volunteers. We were so excited when they got married in 2019!



We knew that together, they would be a great force for change. This couple volunteers for Pamoza by helping us enhance our financial processes, supporting our mission team, participating in our 5K, traveling to Malawi, and building corporate sponsors. More at [www.pamoza.org/behind-the-scenes](http://www.pamoza.org/behind-the-scenes).

# Christian Outreach

Schools closed because of COVID-19 so we were not able to conduct our weekly visits to 20 partner schools where we share Bible stories and sing worship songs with kids. That's roughly 12,000 kids we were unable to reach, but we continue to connect with their families through small village bible study groups. **We also prayed with and counseled patients at nearby clinics and reached more than 4,000 people this way!**



## Education

September is around the corner. That means it's time for Pamoza scholarship applications for high school, which is not free in Malawi. The average cost of high school for our scholars is \$200 a year but before we grant a scholarship, we visit each family to assess parent commitment, student commitment, and the contributions the family will make towards the education. **Engaging the whole family in this process ensures that they are invested in the success of the student.**



## Health Care



We ran our clinic twice a week and **saw an average of 600 people per month.** More than 50% were suffering from malaria. The other 50 % had ailments ranging from respiratory issues to muscle aches. Our clinic is always full. but we lack the resources to treat major illnesses and to test for COVID. However, we are thankful to have a nurse on staff and to be able to purchase medicine locally for common diseases.

## Agriculture



It's harvest time in rural Malawi. Those who have done well will harvest enough food to last them the entire year. One of

our highest performing farmers was Mr. Gondwe (pictured above). As a participant in our CHIEF program, he received agricultural training and other supports. He applied everything he learned and has harvested above what he needs and **now his farm will be a demonstration to others so they can also harvest abundantly.**

## Economic Empowerment

Great news! Pamoza staff and villagers were trained by the Ministry of Trade and Industry and we now have a



cooperative business. The **Pamoza Cooperative Society Limited** will assist with agribusiness ventures allowing anyone to buy shares and benefit from the profits. Each share costs \$7 and **one community member has already purchased 60 shares!** Please pray for the cooperative's success.

*Together  
transforming the  
lives of children and  
families in Malawi*



PAMOZA

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