Malawi

Habitat for Humanity in Malawi

HFH Malawi is a registered non-profit Christian housing organization affiliated to Habitat for Humanity International. HFH Malawi seeks to provide shelter as one way of eliminating poverty and improving the lives of orphans and other groups of people; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) to improve the sanitation status and well-being of slum dwellers and Disaster Risk Reduction and Response to improve access to better and safer shelter for families living in areas prone to disasters.

The housing need in Malawi

In Malawi, poverty is prevalent and about 4 out of 5 families live in substandard homes with little hope of ever being able to afford a decent house. A typical village hut is built of mud bricks with a dirty floor and glass thatched roof, which requires frequent repair. The conditions put the families at high risk of all kinds of diseases with leaky roofs making the house damp and mud floors attracting insects. There are about 1.4 million orphans and vulnerable children in Malawi out of a population of 17.3 million and approximately 21,000 new units are needed every year for the next 10 years to meet housing demand – this far exceeds supply. Malawi has a high rural to urban migration - 5.3% per annum which is one of the highest in Africa. People are migrating to urban areas to look for economic opportunities. This trend has led to the rapid increase of Slums in the cities. 76% of the population in Lilongwe, the capital city leaves in Slums and with an average of 5 people per household and an average of 6 families per latrine results into quick fill up.

How Habitat addresses the need in Malawi

HFH Malawi provides new homes that are fully subsidized for Orphans and other vulnerable groups of people. The houses are two, three or four roomed according to the family size. HFH Malawi provides Housing Support Services (HSS) to low income people in partnership with housing microfinance institutions.
Mumderanji has two children, 8-year old Jeffrey and 11-year old Modestar. She lost her husband in 2011. Mumderanji is also taking care of her four younger siblings, following the death of her mother. She used to live in a small, dilapidated house and could not maintain it as she was often sick and therefore unable to earn income. The house later collapsed and Mumderanji has been staying in her sister’s house. She explains: “It was raining heavily that night. We woke up and stood in the corner of the house when we heard a loud bang. One of the corners of the house fell in. We ran outside and in a few minutes, the whole house collapsed. We lost everything. The new house comes at a time we need it most. We thank Habitat from the bottom of our hearts.”

Meet a Habitat family

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What you can do

You can help Malawian families improve their living conditions by taking one or more of the following actions:

**DONATE**

Go to habitat.org/donate and designate your gift to Habitat Malawi.

**VOLUNTEER**

Join one of the scheduled Global Village trips to Malawi or lead your own. For more information go to: habitat.org/gv

**TITHE**

Establish a strong and rewarding tithe partnership to help build houses globally! Quote 863800, MALAWI on your checks sent to: Habitat for Humanity International, Attn: Affiliate Tithe, 121 Habitat St., Americus, GA 31709

To learn more about Habitat projects in Malawi, please contact us.

**CONTACT**

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