



Report on

Kawaza Community, Malawi

October 2018

HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA *in partnership with*
Kirchenkreis Winsen



KAWAZA COMMUNITY
BASED ORGANISATION

Snapshot OF THE COMMUNITY

Children currently supported: **50**

Number of Care Workers: **13**

Coordinator Name: **Julianna**

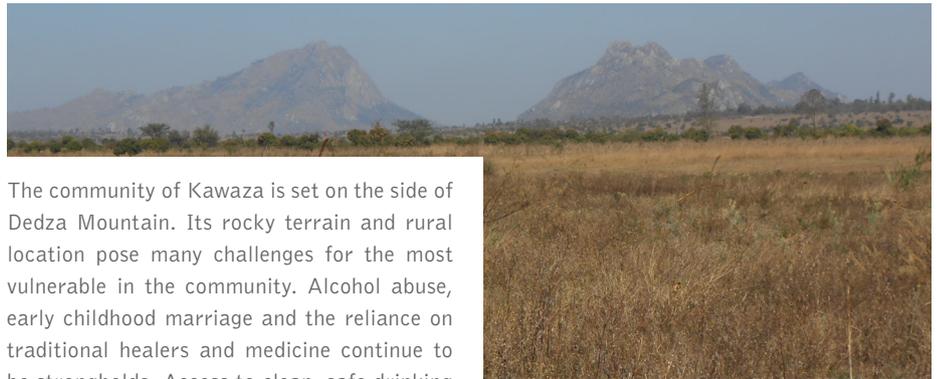
Distance from Service Center: **35km**

Basic services started in: **2018**

Hands at Work in Africa has always focused on keeping Africa's most vulnerable children alive and reducing their extreme vulnerability by providing access to food, basic health care and education through the local African church. Through Christian volunteers, children and those who support them are being cared for holistically in the poorest communities. As these children are healed from past trauma, they become a catalyst for transformation, spurring their communities towards growth and maturity.

“ On July 1st, Kawaza Community Based Organisation (CBO) began a new chapter as an independent CBO from Mcheneke. This new start has allowed dedicated Care Workers to provide the best physical, emotional and spiritual care possible to the local children they serve, like Joana* (pictured right).

handsatwork.org



The community of Kawaza is set on the side of Dedza Mountain. Its rocky terrain and rural location pose many challenges for the most vulnerable in the community. Alcohol abuse, early childhood marriage and the reliance on traditional healers and medicine continue to be strongholds. Access to clean, safe drinking water is a challenge and often people have to walk long distances to access wells and boreholes. Care Workers are committed to understanding the challenges faced by their community and, through regular Holy Home Visits and time with the children at the Life Centre, support and care for them in every way they can.

Julianna leads a group of 13 Care Workers in the community. Five Care Workers transitioned from Mcheneke CBO and eight new Care Workers have joined the team. Care Worker Annie shared, "I saw that many children in the community are facing challenges. When I heard from my church that more Care Workers were needed, I responded right away. It is our community. No one can care for it like we can." The Hands at Work local office team in Dedza is walking closely with the new Care Workers to model how to care well for the children they serve. A Foundational Training is planned for September to further share the heart and vision of caring for the most vulnerable.

Kawaza Life Centre began on a piece of land that had no structure. Taking ownership for their CBO, Care Workers began making plans to build a simple structure. Members of the community reached out to support by providing labour and materials like poles and thatching to complete the structure. The community involvement is an encouragement to the Care Workers as they continue to support the most vulnerable in their community.

“Learn to do good. Seek justice
Help the oppressed. Defend the
cause of orphans. Fight for the
rights of widows.” – Isaiah 1:17 (NLT)

Joana* is in grade 6 and faithfully attends school each day. Mathematics, English and Science are some of her favourite subjects. She looks forward to the opportunities she has to play with her friends at school at the Kawaza Life Centre. Joana had been attending Mcheneke CBO since 2013 until this year when Kawaza became an independent CBO. She then transitioned to be under their care as it is closer to her home.



*name has been changed