

# HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA

## FOSA COMMUNITY

### MALWI | LOBI REGION

Within the Fosa community in the Maonde area, life is challenging. In order to survive, many people farm, but without sufficient fertiliser and seeds, producing a good harvest is a struggle. Additionally, the community’s rural nature makes accessing formal employment difficult, leaving people to rely on finding piecework in the community.

In 2008, Jonathan, a local pastor, saw the need to support his community and invited people to join him in answering God’s call to care for the most vulnerable.

In 2011, Jonathan met Hands at Work in Africa and together, they encouraged and challenged seven local churches to play an active role in supporting their community. Through their mobilisation of the local church, the Chisomo Community Based Organisation (CBO) was born in 2013. Hands at Work provided training for the Chisomo volunteers and assisted them in building up the CBO.

For many years within Maonde, two Life Centres were operating under the umbrella of the Chisomo CBO. The purpose of having multiple Life Centres was to limit the distance the children travel between their homes and the Life Centre. Fosa was one of these Life Centres.

In April 2022, the local Hands at Work team in Dedza, after seeing the ever-growing need in the Fosa community, decided to make Fosa its own independent Life Centre and CBO – with its own leadership and team of Care Workers. This change gives the Fosa CBO an even greater capacity to serve the most vulnerable children.

A ‘Foundations’ training was run in Fosa, where the Dedza team shared with the Care Workers the foundation of Hands at Work and the importance of Holy Home Visits and Relationship Groups.



**Children Currently Supported** 100

**Number of Care Workers** 14

**Coordinator Name** Besta

**Basic Services Started In** 2022