

Twenty-nine dedicated local volunteer Care Workers, coordinated by Joyce Muleya, support the most vulnerable children in the community of Malakota. The love and care they provide ensure that each child is physically, emotionally and spiritually cared for.



Seven-year-old Lavenda\* and her siblings have been receiving care from the Malakota CBO for the past four years. When their Care Worker, David\*, first visited the family, they would often go to bed without eating that day. He recognized their dire situation and the children were quickly included in the programme at the Care Point. Two years ago, Lavenda's parents passed away and her grandmother, Ethel\*, stepped in to care for her grandchildren. They have no maize harvest and little food at their home. Other family members don't offer help. Thankfully David, the other Care Workers, and the Care Point are rays of light and hope amid these difficult circumstances. Lavenda is shy but she enjoys coming to the Care Point where she feels loved and accepted. She dreams of being a teacher and helping other children.

### Community Update

The Malakota CBO has had a successful year with full of growth. The Care Workers continue to work well together and they have built an effective management team. Everyday, they all show up to not only feed the children but also to play sports with them. The Care Workers also organise a sports day every few months with all the children from each of the feeding points in Malakota. The Care Worker garden is flourishing and the Care Workers regularly sell the vegetables they harvest back to the Malakota CBO, which are then used to feed the children. Water remains a challenge in the community. There was a very poor harvest this past year because of the lack of rain and fertilizer. The situation is critical, and Hands at Work is attempting to assist with planting resources for next year's crops. Please pray for good rains and that God will provide for our struggling families.



### Activities and Projects

This year, pastors from the area participated in a Bible School led by George Snyman at Kachele, the Hands at Work base in Zambia, which helped them further understand the Biblical mandate to care for orphans and widows. Follow-up meetings were held in the office of the local Hands at Work team in Kabwe. A Medical Team with a nurse from the UK visited the community this year to complete a health assessment of the children and provide some basic first aid training. The purpose of the team was to gain an overview of the health of the children and build stronger relationships with healthcare providers in the area. Quarterly, the children were dewormed to ensure that they receive the proper nutrients from their daily meal. Blankets and winter clothes were also handed out, helping to ensure that the children stay warm during the winter months (pictured left).

