

Thirteen dedicated local volunteer Care Workers, coordinated by Chitsanzo, support the most vulnerable children in the community of Mpata. The love and care they provide ensure that each child is physically, emotionally and spiritually cared for.



Twelve-year-old Fredah* stays with her mother and two siblings, aged eight and 15 years. Their parents divorced, leaving their mother to care for the children on her own. Two older siblings, who are themselves vulnerable, left to get married and so are unable to help support their mother. The family has been struggling to put food on the table and buy clothes or basic items.

Fredah and her siblings became part of the CBO in 2019 when they were discovered by Care Workers in the community who realised their vulnerability. Fredah is now able to embrace being a child and enjoys coming to the Care Point where she plays netball with her friends. The children receive a hot, nutritious meal every day, which significantly lightens the family's burden. Fredah is currently in grade 4 at school and her favourite lessons are maths and Chichewa. One day she would like to become a doctor.

Community Update

Economic challenges in Malawi continue to have an impact. High fertiliser prices have affected harvests over the last two years, making day-to-day life in communities such as Mpata extremely difficult. Despite this, the Mpata Care Point is a thriving and happy environment for children and Care Workers alike. Additional

Care Workers have joined the CBO, and all participate in regular Relationship Groups, sharing the word of God and encouraging one another. The local church leaders are involved with and supportive of the Care Point. Early marriage remains an issue within the community.

The local Hands at Work office team and Care Workers prayerfully spend time with the Primary Caregivers and the children to explain the importance of staying in school, and help them to find different paths for their lives. Bible studies are an important time of sharing about the Jesus we know.



Activities and Projects

There have been a lot of activities taking place in Mpata. The children have all had deworming medication and have received second-hand clothes, blankets, shoes and sleeping mats. Their school fees have been paid and the children have received school uniforms (pictured left) and stationery. The local Hands at Work office team has also recently completed a bulk purchase of maize, rice, beans, peanuts and other items for all of the CBOs that will last up to next year and be kept secure in a new storage container. This is especially helpful as food prices continue to rise in Malawi. There are a lot of 0-5s coming to the Care Point now but there isn't a designated space for them to use in order to get their routines going well. As such, the CBO is making plans to build a new kitchen and convert the existing one into a space for the 0-5 programme.

