

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



Thoko*, aged ten, and his five-year-old brother, Benn*, have had a tough start to their lives. Their father sadly passed away and their mother stays in Lilongwe searching for piecework. The two brothers stay with their grandmother who does her best to care for the children. The grandmother supports the family through piecework and farming, but with the rising costs of fertiliser, the harvest has not been good. Finding enough food to feed the family has been a big challenge. Care Worker Laina is a neighbour to Thoko. Seeing the family's vulnerability, Laina shared their story with her fellow Care Workers. Following an assessment, Thoko and Benn were invited to join the CBO in 2021. They receive a hot, healthy meal at the Care Point every day and experience the love of Christ through the Care Workers, who are committed to the holistic care of this family.

Community Update

The Mphunzi CBO has grown in strength and resilience, with the Care Workers really taking ownership of the vision for the work. The Care Workers are united and hold regular Relationship Groups to support each other through their challenges and share the word of God together. A programme to care for the 0-5s has been launched this year, and is going very well. One of the big challenges in Mphunzi is early marriage and pregnancy. Local services such as social welfare and the local authorities were invited to the Care Point for a day to help address some of these issues. Discussions were held on why these practices are harmful and how important it is to keep children in school. This day-long event was a great opportunity for relationship building between the organisations in attendance.



Activities and Projects



This year, a new Life Centre building was built in Mphunzi. It includes a children's shelter, kitchen (pictured left), storeroom and toilet. We thank God for this new structure that provides a safe space for the children to play, eat and meet together. It also enables Care Workers to provide holistic care to some of the most vulnerable children in the community. A container was recently purchased for the storage of non-perishable food items for the six CBOs in Dedza. Pillars were also built around the container so that it is secure and protected from moisture. The local Hands at Work office team completed a bulk purchase of maize, rice, beans, peanuts and other items that will last up to next year and be kept secure in the container. This is helpful as food prices continue to rise in Malawi.