

Donor Name: Fondation Eagle

Name of Charity: Mary's Meals

Fondation Eagle Reference Number: FF 757

Date of Grant Accepted: 10th April 2025

Amount granted and number of beneficiaries: 49,637 CHF to provide school meals to 2,026 children

Name and exact location of the project: School feeding in Malawi at 2 primary schools located in Balaka district, Southern Region, Malawi.

Period of project: 1 year

Details of progress of the project, achievements, challenges, changes, differences etc, including photographs.

Please include any other information relevant to the progress/completion of the project.

We are extremely grateful for your commitment to our school feeding programme and are happy to share this report demonstrating the remarkable change made possible in 2025/26 by **Fondation Eagle**. This past year, your donation of **49,637 CHF** has served an amazing **2,026 children from the Balaka District in Malawi** with a daily school meal. We are pleased to share this final report, demonstrating the life-changing impact your support has had in 2025/26. Thank you for your generosity and partnership, which has made an incredibly meaningful difference in the lives of these children and their wider communities.

Supporting children's growth in a time of rising hunger

Global food insecurity and poverty continue to rise, leaving millions of families without reliable access to nutritious food. In 2024, an estimated **673 million people - around 8.2% of the world's population** - experienced hunger, with the burden increasing sharply across regions such as Africa and western Asia. As the world moves toward a projected **512 million people facing chronic undernourishment by 2030**, the persistence of hunger threatens to deepen global inequalities and undermine long-term development efforts.¹

For children, these conditions have particularly severe consequences. Nearly a quarter of all children under five - **150.2 million - are currently stunted**, reflecting long-term chronic undernutrition that limits both physical growth and cognitive development.² At the same time, approximately **78 million primary-aged children remain out of school**, meaning many are missing the educational opportunities and stability that school environments provide. Hunger directly affects children's ability to learn, concentrate, and thrive, creating barriers that can last a lifetime.³

Within this context, school feeding programmes play a critical role. They help bring children into the classroom and keep them learning throughout the day. These meals also provide a crucial safety net for families, ensuring children receive at least one nutritious meal each school day. Our programmes reach more than **3 million children across 16 countries**, protecting them from the immediate effects of food insecurity while supporting their learning, health, and long-term wellbeing.

¹ [Global Hunger, WHO \(2025\)](#)

² [The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World, UNICEF \(2025\)](#)

³ [Global Education Monitoring Report, UNESCO \(2024\)](#)

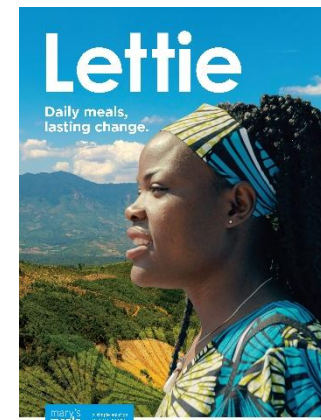
Lettie: How a School Meal Can Change a Family's Future

Witness the profound impact a daily school meal can have – transforming the life of a child while also shaping the future of an entire family.

We are delighted to announce that our new film, *Lettie*, is now live on the Mary's Meals International YouTube channel. This powerful film revisits the story of a girl who featured in our 2012 award-winning documentary *Child 31*, and whose experience of hunger left a lasting impression on audiences.

When Mary's Meals first met Leticia (Lettie) in 2012, she was just 11 years old. Following the death of her parents, she was out of school and caring for her younger brothers while facing severe hunger herself. More than a decade later, we return to her story to show where her life has taken her.

Lettie is just one example of the power of school meals. Her story illustrates that **education, nutrition, and the kindness of ordinary people** can be the catalyst for lasting change that not only transforms one child's life but impacts the lives of future generations. Click [here](#) to watch.



Our work in Malawi

Despite Malawi's continued efforts to improve food security, hunger and undernutrition remain widespread, with children bearing the greatest burden. Child undernutrition remains deeply entrenched, **with 33% of children under the age of five stunted**, reflecting long-term deprivation that limits physical growth and cognitive development, and **2.8% of children under five wasted**, a dangerous form of acute malnutrition that significantly increases the risk of illness and death⁴. These impacts of malnutrition on children sit within a broader, protracted national food crisis.

According to the Global Report on Food Crises, Malawi remains in its **ninth consecutive year of food crisis**, driven by climate extremes (droughts, dry spells, cyclones), economic instability, and limited livelihood opportunities⁵. Currently, **nearly 2.5 million people need food assistance in Malawi - around 12% of the population**. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are predicted to continue throughout 2026, particularly among the urban poor and low-income rural populations who are unable to produce sufficient food and rely heavily on markets.

In Malawi, Mary's Meals has been providing daily school meals for more than 20 years. Following recent major expansions, we are now reaching an additional 275,000 children across the country. What began in 2002 as a small programme serving just 200 students has grown into one of our largest and most established operations. Today, **we are delivering daily meals to more than 1,315,000 children**, helping to keep them in the classroom and giving them the energy to learn and thrive.

Data collected from our programmes in Malawi demonstrates the direct impact of our work on the children we serve together.

- Before the school meal was introduced, **nearly two-thirds of children (65%) reported feeling “hungry” or “very hungry” during the school day**. After receiving the meal, that figure dropped to just **1%**.
- The programme also supports sustained attendance: **97% of children reported that they rarely or never leave school early due to hunger**.

⁴ [Global Hunger Index](#)

⁵ [FSIN – GRFC2025](#)

- The positive effects of Mary’s Meals extend beyond hunger alleviation and are strongly felt in the classroom. Almost all teachers (99%) reported that the school feeding programme positively impacted the quality of education this year, citing **increased attendance, improved concentration and participation in class activities, and reduced absenteeism**.
- Students’ experiences reinforce this perspective. Before the meal, only 31% of children said they could concentrate “well” or “very well” on lessons; after receiving their daily meal, this increased to **100% for both boys and girls**, underscoring the powerful role that school feeding plays in enabling children to learn, engage, and thrive.

Your impact in Malawi

Fondation Eagle’s generosity provides support to children like 11-year-old Lexa, a determined Grade 7 learner who has been attending Chiyendausiku Primary School since Grade 1. Lexa lives with both her parents, and she is the second-born in a family of three children. Her older brother is now in secondary school, while her younger brother, Lovemore, is in Grade 4 at the same school.

Her father, Wilson, works as a Health Surveillance Assistant at the community health center, serving families across the area. Her mother, Chikumbutso, supports the household through a small-scale business selling street food at the local market. While both parents work hard to provide for their children, household income is limited, and providing a consistent morning meal is not always guaranteed.

For Lexa, the daily porridge at school makes a tangible difference in her ability to learn and concentrate. **“Sometimes I leave home without eating breakfast, so the porridge I receive here at school helps me to thrive academically. I do not grumble about hunger, and I understand what the teachers are teaching me”** she shares.



In many households surrounding Chiyendausiku, resources are stretched. When there is no food prepared before school, children often face the long school day on an empty stomach, but thanks to Mary’s Meals school feeding programme, this burden is reduced. Lexa explains that without the porridge, she would struggle to focus during lessons as it is her only source of energy during school hours.

“The porridge keeps me full and energetic throughout the day. I do not miss school because I look forward to eating porridge each day. I hope to become a doctor, and the school feeding programme will help me fulfil this dream because I attend school regularly and pass with good grades” Lexa explains enthusiastically. Her dream of becoming a doctor is rooted in the desire to serve her community. Inspired in part by her father’s work in public health, Lexa understands the importance of education in achieving her ambitions. For her, porridge is not just a meal, it is fuel for her future.

Lexa’s father, Wilson, speaks openly about the realities faced by many families in their community. Despite being employed, the cost of living and the responsibility of supporting a family mean that financial pressures are constant. **“As parents, it is not every day that we manage to provide a morning meal for our children. But our children are still able to go to school. Because of the porridge, they have the assurance that they will eat at school”** he explains.



This assurance reduces stress within the household and gives parents confidence that their children will not sit in class distracted by hunger. Wilson has seen the benefits over time. His eldest child also attended Chiyendausiku Primary School and received porridge during the final years of primary school before progressing to secondary school.

“Because of the feeding programme, the performance of my children is very encouraging. My eldest son also had porridge when he was at Chiyendausiku, and now he is in secondary school. Lexa and Lovemore are performing very well because they attend school and learn on a full stomach” Wilson adds.

From the classroom perspective, the impact of the school feeding programme is equally visible. Lexa’s teacher, Tiyanjane, has observed improvements in learners’ attendance, participation, and overall performance. **“The school feeding programme is a very good initiative. Learners are eager to learn, they are always active, and the pass rate is outstanding. We are very thankful to the supporters of the programme for the commendable work they are doing”** shares Tiyanjane.

According to Tiyanjane, the morning porridge sets a positive tone for the day. Learners settle more quickly into lessons and are better able to concentrate. She describes Lexa as polite, disciplined, and hardworking, consistently performing at the top of her class.

Tiyanjane explains, **“With hunger reduced as a barrier to learning, learners are more confident in answering questions, participating in group work, and completing assignments. Improved attention and energy levels translate into improved outcomes”**.

The impact of the school feeding programme at Chiyendausiku Primary School, made possible by the support of Fondation Eagle, extends beyond individual learners. It supports families, strengthens attendance rates, and contributes to improved academic results across the school.



Updates from your supported schools:

District	School name	Total Enrolment Boys	Total Enrolment Girls	Total Enrolment
Balaka	Chiyendausiku	655	599	1,254
Balaka	Mchima	418	451	869
Total		1,073	1,050	2,123

We are pleased to share that enrolment at Chiyendausiku Primary School has risen over the past 6 months. This positive trend means we are now able to reach even more children through our school feeding programme.

At Mchima, enrolment has remained relatively stable in the last 6 months, with an increase in the number of girls enrolled. This stability is positive as it demonstrates sustained access to education, ensures that our school feeding programme continues to support children's learning and wellbeing over time.

Total enrolment across both schools has increased to 2,123 students, with Fondation Eagle directly supporting 2,026 children and Mary's Meals covering the remaining costs to ensure that every student at Mchima and Chiyendausiku receives a daily meal. In the context of the considerable pressures facing communities in Malawi, sustaining these trends is a significant achievement that reflects the importance of your continued support.



Budget update:

Our low cost delivery model means that it only costs a remarkable **24.50 CHF** to provide a child with a school meal every school day for a year. Your support is allowing us to serve school meals to **2,026 children**, with Mary's Meals International covering the cost related to the children newly enrolled at Chiyendausiku and Mchima Primary Schools to ensure that all children receive their meal at school.

School Name	Current Enrolment	Yearly Cost per School (CHF)
Chiyendausiku	1,254	30,723.00
Mchima	869	21,290.00
Total	2,123	52,013.00
Fondation Eagle		49,637.00
MM contribution		2,376.00

Thank you

We are deeply grateful for Fondation Eagle's support: your generosity has provided not only school meals but hope to 2,026 children in Malawi. **Thank you** for standing with us, for believing in the power of education and nourishment, and for helping us build a brighter future for millions of children. We look forward to continuing this journey with you, bringing hope and opportunity to those who need it most.

Signature and date:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeanne Zola", written over a horizontal line.

April 2026