

Fondation Eagle

Report Form

Fondation Eagle reference: FF 606

Name of charity: **Mary's Meals**

Date grant accepted: **24th September 2021**

Amount: **CHF 50,530**

Period of project: **12 months: 1st October 2021- 31st September 2022**

Introduction:

Fondation Eagle is financing the total of CHF50,530 for the school feeding programme for one year for the pupils at primary schools in Balaka District, Southern Malawi, namely Nsaluzawana Primary School and Chiyendausiku Primary School. School feeding will be delivered under this project from 1st October 2021 to 31st September 2022 and reach 2,477 children.

Details of the project:

Mary's Meals is incredibly thankful for the ongoing support of the Fondation Eagle. Your generous donation of CHF 50,530 has ensured we were able to provide our life-changing meals to 2,477 children in Malawi for an entire school year, bringing them hope during challenging times. Your support has helped us strengthen and realise our vision that every child should receive a nutritious meal in their place of education every single school day, giving them a chance at a brighter future.

The current context:

The world is in the grip of a catastrophic hunger crisis putting millions at risk of imminent starvation. The global hunger crisis has been caused by the deadly combination of conflict as the biggest driver, exacerbated by the war in Ukraine, climactic shocks destroying crops and undermining people's ability to feed themselves, Covid-19 and the subsequent economic fallout and costs being at an all-time high. As many as 828 million people across the globe are going to bed hungry every night, with the number of people facing acute insecurity rising by hundreds of millions since pre-pandemic¹. Most disturbingly, a total of 50 million people in 45 countries are on the edge of famine².



The poorest and most vulnerable children at the unwitting casualties of this crisis. Children in developing countries were already suffering from food insecurity, and the threat of millions more hungry children being unable to gain an education is a very real reality. When families are hungry, children are increasingly called upon to care for younger siblings so parents can work or seek food. All too often, they are forced to miss or drop out of school, damaging their future prospects and any change of breaking inter-generational cycles of poverty.

Mary's Meals knows the task ahead of us, but we are determined to ensure that we mitigate the devastating effects of this global food crisis and continue to reach the forgotten children who were already struggling before this crisis. Despite the challenges that lay ahead, we hold close our vision that in a world where there is a still enough food for everyone, there is no good reason why every child cannot receive a daily meal in their place of education.

Unless Mary's Meals acts now, lost lives and the reversal of hard-earned development gains will be the price that the poorest and most vulnerable pay. The need for school feeding programmes is more important than ever to ensure that children continue to enroll in education with the promise of a daily

¹ WFP, *A Global food crisis*, 2022. (<https://www.wfp.org/global-hunger-crisis>)

² Ibid

meal, as well as incentivising parents to send their children to school as they struggle to provide enough nutritious food.

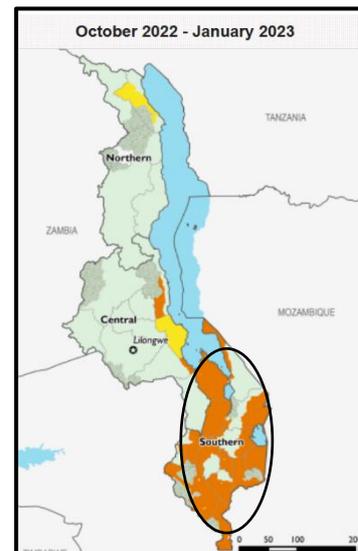
The context in Malawi

Since our last report, the need for our work in Malawi has continued to grow as families and children in the country are struggling to cope with the ongoing effects of the pandemic, as well as the current food security crisis. Both these crises feed into each other and create a vicious loop, and combined with unpredictable and extreme weather patterns, have caused a 'perfect storm' which could have disastrous consequences for many of Malawi's poorest and most marginalised communities - many of which we work with.

Malawi, just like many other countries, is now facing increasingly alarming food shortages due to ongoing world affairs and unpredictable weather patterns. Food prices continue to soar in the country, and as a result many families are unable to feed themselves. Presently, in the Southern region of Malawi, 19.3 % of the population have insufficient food consumption and 45.67% have crisis or above crisis food consumption³ (see map right).

Children are particularly affected in situations of food insecurity, with more than one third of children under the age of 5 suffering from chronic malnutrition⁴. The situation is already extremely challenging and shows no sign of improving in the coming months. This highlights the importance of our school feeding programme in the Southern Region of Malawi- which is one of worst affected areas- as our meals provide thousands of children with a constant source of nutritional intake, supporting them as they grow and do their best to learn.

Today, with your support, Mary's Meals is feeding 1,072,884 children across 1,044 places of education every single school day in Malawi. Foundation Eagle is supporting hundreds of children in Malawi by removing the barrier of hunger from education and ensure they can come to school where they will be met with a hot bowl of phala to help them as they continue their educational journey. Our meals are helping fuel each child's day of learning so they can work hard in class to improve their future prospects.



Now more than ever, education is proving to be a crucial tool to mitigate chronic poverty as children and communities around the global south are facing increasingly harsh realities and are having to adapt their ways of living to survive. Your generous donation has supported children in schools in Southern Malawi and provided a social safety net to communities during very challenging times. This is an incredible gift of which the benefits will be seen in years to come when these children grow into educated adults who are capable of enacting positive change for themselves, their communities, and countries.

The Amazing Impact of Mary's Meals

Malnutrition is a one of the leading causes of mortality for children aged under 5, this is particularly prevalent in resource constrained environments such as in developing countries⁵. Research has shown that school feeding programmes are a safety net for young vulnerable children and help to ensure children attend school where they can learn by effectively eliminating classroom hunger⁶. We work tirelessly in Malawi, as well as across our global programme countries, to ensure children can gain a valuable education by removing the barrier of hunger. We conducted research across our pre-schools in Zambia and Kenya to gauge the impact our meals are



³ WFP, *HungerMap LIVE*. October 2021. (<https://hungersmap.wfp.org>)

⁴ Hungersmap.wfp.org. 2022. *HungerMap LIVE*. (<https://hungersmap.wfp.org>)

⁵ Chabite, Garrine, Ferao and Fernandes, 2022. Malnutrition and School Feeding Programmes. *Nutritional Health & Food Engineering*, (<https://medcraveonline.com/JNHFE/malnutrition-and-school-feeding-programmes.html>)

⁶ Ibid.

making in the lives of the youngest children enrolled in our programme. The results speak for themselves, and after just one year, here are some of the incredible findings:

- Over **90%** of children reported **being full** after eating Mary's Meals
- **90.16%** of children reported **feeling happy** after receiving our meals, compared to only 11.40% before
- **78.26%** of headteachers reported a decrease in children dropping out school since the introduction of Mary's Meals
- **62.72%** of households reported **improved health and wellness**, and fewer illnesses
- **71.61%** of households reported **wider benefits** of school feeding programme including less worry about hunger, children motivated to attend school, communities understand the importance of children's education.

For more on our impact please [click here](#).

Project beneficiaries:

School name	Enrolment (October 2022)		
	Girls	Boys	Total
Nsaluzawana Primary School	532	528	1,060
Chiyendausiku Primary School	567	618	1,185
Rivirivi Primary School	116	116	232
	1,215	1,262	2,477

The support from Fondation Eagle is allowing Mary's Meals to deliver our feeding programme at Nsaluzawana and Chiyendausiku Primary Schools in Balaka district, reaching thousands of vulnerable children suffering from food insecurity and poverty. Enrolment has increased by 101 learners since our mid-year report, 48 learners at Nsaluzawana Primary School and 53 at Chiyendausiku Primary School. As the hunger months approach, we hope that even more children will continue to enrol and attend school each day. Fondation Eagle continues to support all children enrolled at both schools with consistent delivery of school feeding. To ensure all funds are spent in line with the file form, Fondation Eagle is also supporting children at Rivirivi Primary school. In total, Fondation Eagle is supporting 2,477 vulnerable children in Balaka at a time of great need.

Expenditure summary:

School Name	District	Baseline September 2021 enrolment	Mid-year Enrolment April 2022	Current Enrolment October 2022	Difference since mid-year	Cost per school (CHF)	Cost per school (MWK)*
Nsaluzawana Primary School	Balaka	1,140	1,012	1,060	48	21,624.00	19,924,625.92
Chiyendausiku Primary School	Balaka	1,337	1,132	1,185	53	24,174.00	22,274,228.03
Rivirivi Primary School	Balaka	n/a	333**	232	-101	4,732.80	4,360,861.52
Totals		2,477	2,477		2,477	50,530.80	46,559,715.46
Spend at end of project						50,530.80	46,559,715.46

*Exchange rate:

GBP:CHF 1.207

GBP:MWK 1112.145

**232 children fed with the support of Fondation Eagle between April and October. Mary's Meals ensures all children enrolled in Rivirivi Primary School receive school feeding as part of our wider programme in Malawi.

Results:

School name	Baseline enrolment (September 2021)	Enrolment (April 2022)	Enrolment (October 2022)	Difference from mid-year	Change in enrolment since mid-year
	Total	Total	Total	Total	
Nsaluzawana Primary School	1,140	1,012	1,060	48	5%
Chiyendausiku Primary School	1,337	1,132	1,185	53	5%
Sub-total	2,477	2,144	2,245	101	5%
Rivirivi Primary School	0	333	232	-101	
Total	2,477	2,477	2,477		0%

Throughout the grant period, your support has ensured 2,477 children in Balaka received a daily school meal.

Case studies:

In order to understand the impact Fondation Eagle is having on the children enrolled in the programme, we visited Chiyendausiku Primary School so you can hear directly from the communities you are supporting.



One of the children benefiting from your support is Hawa, who is 13 years old and in Standard 5, pictured left. She spoke to us about her hopes and dreams, and how Mary's Meals is helping her work towards this every day: *"I work hard because I have a dream to become a bank manager. Thanks to Mary's Meals for giving us phala."*

With your support, Mary's Meals makes a long-term promise to each child enrolled in our programme, improving their wellbeing and educational outcomes, giving them hope. Hala tells us: *"I am proud to be part of over 2 million learners that are being fed every school day."* Our commitment to the communities we serve helps us grow together as a global family, and work together to ensure our programmes is delivered consistently and effectively each day.

During our visit we spoke to Shawn, pictured right, who is 8 years old and in Standard 3. He told us of this excitement to come to school each day to receive porridge and how this helps him in class: *"I understand the lessons when I eat phala. Therefore, I come very early to school to receive a cup of phala."* Your support his helping young children like Shawn and his classmates concentrate and participate in class, making the most of their time in school.



Teacher, Fanny Monawe tells us how school feeding is benefitting her class and the education sector as a whole. School feeding is helping strengthen future generations and supporting them through primary education. Fanny tells us: *"The school feeding program gives fuel to the education sector. The more energy learners get, the higher the level of concentration in their respective classes."*

Principal, Gusto Maikolo, goes on to tell us: *"The enrolment and attendance rate for the school has risen due to the school feeding program"*. This is encouraging as communities continue to recover from the effects of the pandemic when schools were closed for such a long period, with children missing out on school-based education. In light of the ongoing hunger and cost of living crisis, our school feeding programme is providing a crucial social safety net.

Community ownership is the cornerstone of Mary's Meals, empowering communities to own to programme delivery at the school level and promote the importance of school feeding and education for all. During this time of hunger crisis, community ownership is even more important as the ongoing support for our programme -despite challenges in everyday living- inspires us all to work together to give children hope. Ethel, pictured right is a volunteer at Chiyendausiku Primary School. She explains: *"Food and quality education go together, you will realize that food is scarce here in Balaka, most of the families eat once a day. I, therefore, joined Mary's Meals voluntary work to assist the learners that sleep without eating supper and still run to school every morning to get food."* Mary's Meals is meeting the immediate hunger needs of children, improving their physical and mental wellbeing and encouraging them to learn and play in school, giving them a sense of normalcy in an ever challenging world.



Foundation Eagle has played a crucial role in supporting 2,477 children and their communities in Balaka, Malawi. As world continues to face increasing uncertainty around food security, climate change, and economic shocks, this support is more important than ever, to ensure that children do not have to miss out on an education because of hunger. Below are some pictures of children at Chiyendausiku Primary School receiving porridge, thanks to your support.



Conclusion:

The project has achieved its objective outlined in the file form, feeding all children at both Nsaluzawana and Chiyendausiku Primary Schools. The project has also been able to support children at Rivirivi Primary School during the period to utilise all funds. As a result of your support to our school feeding program, children in Balaka, Malawi have received nutritious meals in of CSB fortified with vitamins and minerals at school for an entire year. This has had a significant impact on the lives of these vulnerable children and their communities in a time of great need, particularly as the hunger crisis continues and the economic situation in Malawi deteriorates. Your support has been a source of hope and you support our vision that every child needs enough to eat and deserves to have an education.



On behalf of all the children supported in your programme in Balaka, Malawi, thank you.

Signature and date:



October 2022
