

CHRISTMAS DAY offering



INFORMATION SHEET

AIM

To generate financial gifts for the Malawi Health and Dignity Project.

INTRO

Throughout December we are again collaborating with The Salvation Army International Development (SAID) to support their work overseas. This year we are supporting a Health and Dignity Project in Malawi, Africa to build eight toilet blocks connected to health centres. There will be considerable internal media around this appeal as well as three emails and SMS communications, and videos featuring our Australian Territorial Commander, Commissioner Miriam Gluyas.

The appeal will culminate in the Christmas Day Offering.

THE HEALTH AND DIGNITY PROJECT

Imagine going to a health centre for one illness and catching another one due to unhygienic facilities. Or being pregnant and avoiding your check-ups because you're afraid of being attacked by a wild animal or dangerous person because your only option is relieving yourself in the open.

The Malawi Health and Dignity Project is aiming to change that situation for thousands of women, men, boys and girls across four health centres. This project will improve access to clean water, hygiene facilities and health education. There will be increased privacy and security, particularly for women and girls, and facilities will be suitably designed for people living with disabilities.

The impact of this project will also have a ripple effect — providing employment opportunities for local construction workers, increasing the property value of the health centres and positively impacting the environment with reduced water contamination.

In summary, through the building of eight toilet blocks at four health centres, this project will enhance the entire community's health, wellbeing and sense of dignity.

WHY MALAWI?

Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world. Over half the population lives in poverty, and one-fifth in extreme poverty. As a result, access to clean water, sanitation and health care remain significant challenges for many Malawians, especially in rural areas.¹

This Christmas, we can give a gift of dignity to more than 25,000 people, who access four health centres. They can safely use clean facilities, reduce their risk of disease and experience an improvement in their overall health. And, non tax-deductible giving towards evangelical mission support will help and encourage Salvos officers on the ground.

We seek your support of this critical project. Here's how you can help:

1. Distribute the envelopes that were sent to you in the mail
2. Provide an opportunity for soldiers, friends and visitors to your corps/mission expression to give an offering at your Christmas Day (or Christmas Eve) service
3. Promote this special offering in your public worship and via other media platforms using the resources, including videos, available in the MySalvos Toolkit from 25 November
4. Importantly, pray — please make this Christmas Day Offering a matter of prayer

NB: If the project is oversubscribed, funds may be directed to related projects.

FOOTNOTE: 1. <https://actiononpoverty.org/our-impact/where-we-work/malawi/#:~:text=Malawi%20is%20one%20of%20the,one%20fifth%20in%20extreme%20poverty>