Tel: (265) 1 758 940 ext 112/0111735880 Fax: (265) 1 758 941 Cell: (265) 8 88 892 523

Email: samphiri@lighthouse.org.mw

Kamuzu Central Hospital (Area 33) P.O. Box 106 Lilongwe Malawi

26th February, 2015

To: All Partners and Contributors
Friends of Lighthouse - Malawi

Dear all.

## 2014 vote of thanks for continued support

On behalf the Lighthouse Trustees, Management, Staff and beneficiaries of the Lighthouse Trust in Lilongwe, Malawi, I would like to convey our heartfelt vote of thanks to you all our esteemed partners and contributors to the Friends of Lighthouse Malawi. 2014 has been a successful year for the Lighthouse and your individual and institutional contributions have fostered a platform for this success.

The Lighthouse is a registered Public Trust that contributes to Malawi's national response to HIV as a model in providing a continuum of high quality care and building capacity in the health sector. Lighthouse implements its programs at Kamuzu Central Hospital and Bwaila Hospital which are the main referral Hospitals in the central region of Malawi. The main purpose of the Lighthouse Trust is to provide improved quality treatment, care and support services for People Living with HIV in Malawi.

The expected outputs of the program are as follows:

- 1. Expanded, high quality HIV and AIDS treatment care and support services provided through Lighthouse; (Service delivery to scale)
- 2. Innovative approaches for HIV treatment, care and support developed, piloted, evaluated and disseminated in Malawi; (Service delivery as model intervention and operations research)
- 3. Capacity for HIV and AIDS treatment, care and support in Malawi strengthened; (Capacity building)

The first two outputs are achieved through the Lighthouse three functional arms (HIV Testing and Counselling, Clinic and Community Home Based Care, while the third output is achieved through the Lighthouse Training Unit. As we were completing the year 2014, Lighthouse was managing over 27, 000 patients of whom over about 25, 000 were alive on antiretroviral therapy and

2, 500 TB patients. We have established as an integrated family centred clinic including sexual and reproductive health.

The Lighthouse enjoys a pool of highly motivated staff totaling around 170 of whom 40 are supporting HIV testing and Counseling in 25 rural health centres in Lilongwe District which is the capital city of Malawi. Infrastructure, human resources and health commodity supply chain management continues to be a challenge in Malawi. It is gratifying that your individual and institutional contributions are very meaningful towards addressing these challenges. It is towards this background that we have earmarked the direct contributions of the Friends of Lighthouse accumulated by end of 2014 for the an infrastructure extension of our clinic blood sample drawing area to accommodate enough space for appropriate nursing care including an integrated sexual and reproductive health suite.

Once again, although belated I would like to wish all of you a successful new year of 2015 which is full of promising initiatives at the Lighthouse which I am confident you would will continue to be part of. Of note, we have started incorporating screening and management of non-communicable diseases starting with Hypertension and Cervical cancer screening.

Thank you all for your contributions and all the best from the "Warm Heart" of Africa – Malawi.

Prof. Sam Phiri, PhD (UK), MSc (UK), DCM (MW)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

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