

The Landirani Trust

Supporting orphan and vulnerable people in Malawi.

Registered charity 1113786

Landirani Community Based Childcare Centres (CBCCs)



A CBCC is a building with a multiple use. The main motivation for Landirani in setting up these CBCCs is that we know the most vulnerable age of a child is 0 – 5 years. In Malawi, children are particularly badly affected by malnourishment: the Malawi Demographic Health Survey (MDHS) 2000, shows that, in Malawi, 49% of the children are stunted, 25% are underweight and 6% are wasted. Most children in rural areas also do not have access to early learning opportunities through pre-schools and are ill-prepared when they start school. Research shows that 80% of brain development occurs in the first two years of a child's life (Malawi National Strategic Plan for Early Childhood Development 2009) – and yet most children in Malawi are not given the stimulation they need to develop healthy brains. This manifests itself later in life – with high drop-out rates at school and low enrolment in secondary schools. Only 23% of primary pupils complete the full 8 years of primary school. If we can support Early Childhood Development through educational, physical, social and emotional provision; we can give the children in our area a much better foundation for future life. Already we have seen the impact that the CBCCs are having on our community.

The building is used for:

- **A pre-school 3 – 5 years** which is run by trained Care Givers who are all volunteers. We show appreciation and encourage them by providing them with soap to keep them smart and clean, which is donated by a local manufacturing company
- **A feeding station for 3 – 5 years** providing a nutritional porridge 5 times a week. The weight and height of children is monitored on a monthly basis, and all pre-school volunteers have been trained in how to do this. Food is provided by Feed the Children, Malawi.
- **A 'Children's Corner'** which is a Saturday Club held specifically for orphans from 6 to 18 years, catering for their psycho-social support and HIV/AIDS education. All Children's Corners are also supported by fully trained trained volunteers. Training for both Children's Corner volunteers and pre-school caregivers is funded by UNICEF.

In the future, CBCCs will also be used in the afternoons (when pre-schools and feeding programmes are finished) for Adult Education. Parenting courses will be provided to mothers and fathers from pregnancy through to 3 yrs old focusing on Early Childhood Development. There will also be adult literacy and numeracy classes and civic education, empowering communities to take action when services are not provided and giving them the skills to feel confident when challenging authority. Our ultimate goal is to build a self-sufficient community.

