

Telling stories of God's love invading hearts & meeting needs...



LOVE BOLD IN 21

2021 SAFE/GOGO REPORT

Student reads from Bible during classroom Why Wait? life skills discussion.





"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." — 2 Timothy 1:7

was our call to action in 2021! In amazement we watched how nothing could stop your BOLD LOVE from making a way to meet needs and impact lives for Jesus Christ in Malawi—not school or church closures... not cancelled flights... not storms!

To you and our SAFE staff, these events were not barriers, but opportunities to move forward. LOVE BOLD led to more prayer, love and action—both here and in Malawi!

Thank you for helping make the stories and impacts in this report possible!



In His love for the least,
Leslie Lewis
Leslie Lewis
U.S. Coordinator for SAFE Africa and Gogo Grandmothers

Our SAFE staff team in Malawi

"None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful!" —Mother Theresa

Bold stories of loving in four impact areas...



SAFE (Sub-Saharan Africa Family Enrichment) serves in Malawi, one of the poorest countries in the world. Malawi is often called the "Warm Heart of Africa". Our supporters partner with SAFE to enable these core ministries:

1. Support for the gogos (grandmothers) caring for Malawi's orphans
2. Early Childhood Development through village preschools (CBCCs)
3. Education & Youth Development (including the **Why Wait?** Life Skills Curriculum) in schools
4. Evangelism and Discipleship, the vital holistic core in each of these ministries

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Mavis Mtambalika's Story

"My parents died and left me to care for my 4 siblings. I've worked as a caregiver (preschool teacher) in Simiyoni CBCC since 2005. SAFE's support has enabled me to pay my siblings' school fees and meet our daily needs. In 2015 my house fell down due to heavy rains. SAFE rebuilt my home along with others. Presently, I am the Coordinator of SAFE's activities in Simiyoni village. I love my work and will be working until God calls me home to rest."



Early Childhood Development



God gave SAFE a vision to create a special place that would provide "good roots" for vulnerable young children. This year in 20 villages, CBCCs (Community Based Childcare Centers) enrolled 2,568 children throughout Malawi's 3 regions.

An assessment of the children showed huge improvement in their literacy and numeracy because of SAFE's new BUILD curriculum (Building Understanding In Literacy Development). At left, BUILD is explained to Malawi's President.

Gogos who had been given fertilizer and seed donated hundreds of 50kg bags of maize from their 2021 harvest to help feed the children in their local village CBCCs.

- **IMPACT:** 1. 14,509 children have passed through SAFE's CBCCs, and 709 graduated this year. They left knowing about Jesus' love for them and were measurably more successful academically in primary school.
- 2. SAFE's BUILD methodology is being included in Malawi's National Revised Early Childhood Development Curriculum.
- 3. Two CBCCs were completed and opened to accept additional children.
- **OPPORTUNITY:** 1. Help fund the production of Chichewa Bible storybooks for preschoolers so they can be introduced to literacy and the Bible in their own language.
- 2. Help fund a CBCC playground made from local materials.



Meet Tereza and Mkhalaria

We are husband and wife and village Headmen (chiefs) in Kachindamoto. Our granddaughter lives with us. One night, heavy rains and wind tore off our roof and collapsed walls. The morning light found 17 gogos homeless and 15 homes, like ours, needing repairs. SAFE immediately partnered to begin rebuilding these homes. Every brick had to be made by hand so this took time. We are all grateful to be in new homes, and we give thanks to God and to SAFE!



Gogo Grandmothers

... Bearing fruit in old age



The poor in Malawi who carry extra burdens are the gogos (elderly grandparents). Those who have lost their adult children also have their orphaned grandchildren to love raise, feed, and educate. In 2021, SAFE ministered spiritually and practically to 2,506 registered gogos from 13 SAFE sponsored village communities.

These gogos grew stronger spiritually through Bible studies, prayer walks and service to others.

- **IMPACT:** 1. 17 gogo houses were rebuilt and 15 gogo houses were repaired after a storm in December 2021.
- 2. 52,469 gogos received treated mosquito nets to protect them from malaria.
- 3. 2,469 gogos were given seed and fertilizer support for a harvest in 2022.
- **OPPORTUNITY:** Sponsor a gogo in a village for a gift of \$30 or \$15 a month.

Hear Mercy's Story

I am Mercy, and as an orphan without parental guidance, I became pregnant. Life was so tough. My friends teased me and I wanted to drop out of school. I was so discouraged. But a Why Wait? teacher saw I needed help and encouraged me to stay in school. She taught me Why Wait? lessons. They changed me and I am a testimony today. This is why I chose to be a Why Wait? teacher myself, because that secondary teacher inspired me!

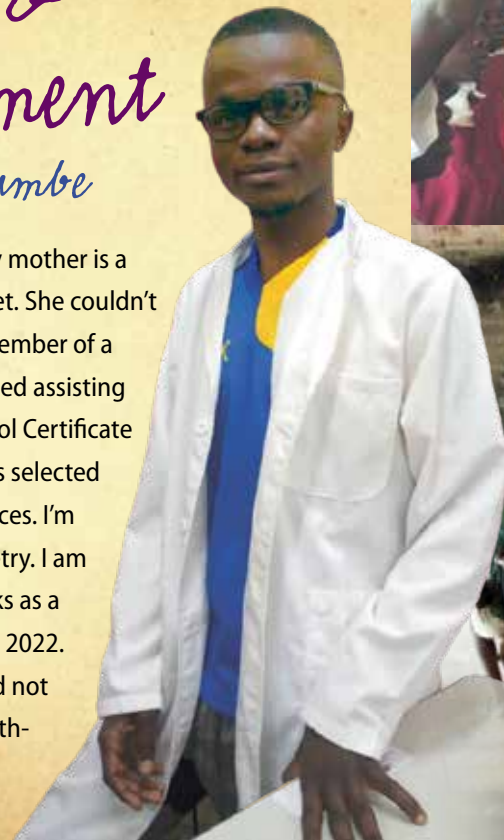


66% of Malawi's population is under 24 years of age.
God wants to give them a future and a hope.

Education & Youth Development

Meet Boniface Mikumbe

I am the third born of 7 children. My mother is a widow and sells fritters in the market. She couldn't afford my school fees, but I was a member of a SAFE-Life Youth Club and SAFE started assisting me. When I passed my Malawi School Certificate of Education with a high score, I was selected to Lilongwe School for Health Sciences. I'm now in my third year doing Optometry. I am able to live with my uncle who works as a guard near my school. I will finish in 2022. Without the support of SAFE, I could not have come this far! They also strengthened my walk with the Lord.



SAFE's Why Wait? Truth for Youth Life Skills Curriculum teaches students a Christian worldview so they can make healthy, biblical and moral choices regarding their futures. Approved by the government, it can be taught in both primary and secondary schools. Lives of both students and teachers are transformed.

School Fees for Needy Students

67 orphaned grandchildren were given school fees for secondary school (high school). 5 who graduated have gone on to college or to a technical, nursing or agricultural school.

- **IMPACT: 1.** Why Wait? taught students a Christian worldview and brought many to faith in Christ. Pregnancies and early marriages were reduced and test scores rose dramatically.
- 2.** WW? Curriculum was reviewed and 800 student books and 200 teacher guides were printed and distributed as well as 264 additional Bibles.
- 3.** 90 SAFE-Life Youth Club members were trained in peer education.
- **OPPORTUNITY:** Help provide a school with Why Wait? Life Skills training for 5 teachers (\$190), curriculum books (\$6.50 ea.) or a Chichewa Bible (\$10.50).

Evangelism & Discipleship

Elina Jafali's Story

"I have 7 brothers and 1 sister. Even though a Muslim, I was invited to attend the SAFE's Evangelism and Discipleship training in my village. There I heard and understood the truth of the Word of God unlike anything I had heard at my Mosque. After accepting Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, I witnessed to my mum using the Four Spiritual Laws. She also accepted Christ. Now we always do a study using our small Bible and the follow-up materials. Every day mum takes the Bible and those materials by her side when she wants to sleep."



Boldly sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and helping people grow in their faith are at the heart all SAFE programs. Some focus completely on raising up disciples equipped to share the love of Jesus in their villages, schools and prisons.



Evangelism and Discipleship Team Trainings

175 village leaders of all ages, in all 3 regions, were trained in Evangelism and Discipleship. They share person-to-person and in gatherings using "Talking Bibles", *The Jesus Film* and the *Walking With Jesus* films.

After-School Bible Clubs

During school closures due to Covid, 35 teachers from 18 primary schools attended SAFE's 5-day training on leading after-school Bible Clubs. One teacher shared how humbled she felt helping the children come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and seeing their grades improve.

Prisons

Prisons remained closed to visitors last year, but God continued His work inside. 313 inmates from 3 prisons were involved in listening to the "Talking Bibles", and 60 inmates were involved in a Bible course taught by 3 SAFE-trained prison officers.

818 prisoners received soap and face masks.

→ **IMPACT:** Trained Evangelism and Discipleship Teams in all SAFE sponsored communities are carrying out the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus and seeing many people saved and growing in Christ.

→ **OPPORTUNITY:** Provide a "Talking Bible" for use with groups of new Christians who gather to grow in their faith. \$50 provides the player and study materials.

SAFE Haven

Yvonne's Story

"I started coming to SAFE Haven when I was in primary school.

Now I'm waiting for results after taking my form 4 Malawi School Certificate Exams (high school graduation). The Lord has transformed me both academically and spiritually. It's a great joy to lead devotions and mentor others because of the mentorship I received at SAFE Haven.



I am **Innocent**: I love board games, especially Battleship



I am **Memory**: I love devotions, discussing the Word of God and taking education trips.



I am **Jana**. I love baking lessons and learning to forgive and love others.



I am **Judith** and I love playing netball!

SAFE Haven is a suburban Zomba City outreach program from a remodeled shipping container and refurbished playground. Hundreds of junior and senior kids' lives are being positively impacted through devotions, tutoring, Bible study, sports, sewing, drama, dance, counseling and art.



→ **IMPACT:** 6,505 kids participated in SAFE Haven activities. 150 textbooks were loaned to students that greatly impacted their school performance. 10 SAFE Haven Children's Radio Devotional programs were aired during Covid-19 to reach out to kids in the community. Also, adults benefit from a 50 member parenting group helping families.

→ **OPPORTUNITY:** Pray that the city will grant SAFE Haven a long-term property lease so a better sports field, classroom and library can be added.

Support at Home!

Along with faithful donors, 10 Gogo Groups in the U.S. and one in Australia fueled the work of prayer and financial support for the ministries of SAFE in Malawi! Some groups are part of a church family. Others are community based. Thank you for giving your time, talent and treasure in 2021!



Knowing the need, groups got creative with a LOVE BOLD Malawi Walkabout, tailgate sales, fashion show, Grandparent's day, Wine and Cheese event, Cash for Corn and the Gogo Bargain Sale.

Along with individual donors and sponsors, the raised funds built gogo homes, provided fertilizer, seed and mosquito nets, projector equipment, BUILD and evangelism training, and supported CBCCs and SAFE Haven.

→ **OPPORTUNITY:** Explore adopting a village with a group of friends by beginning a small SAFE/Gogo Group. Email leslie@gogo-grandmothers.com with your questions.

Jesus commanded us to go make disciples and care for the poor – especially widows and orphans! That is what a SAFE/Gogo Group does!





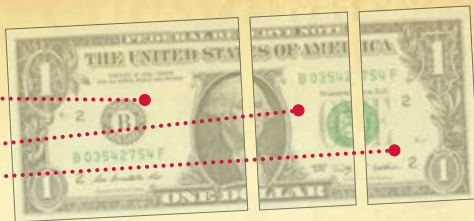
By the Numbers in 2021

Here's how your donation dollar is used in Malawi:

Gogos & Early Childhood Development Programs

Education, Youth Development & Evangelism Programs

Administration & Operations in Malawi



Gogo Grandmothers

- 2,506** Registered gogos from 13 communities
- 17** Gogo houses rebuilt and **15** gogo houses repaired
- 2,469** Gogos received seed and fertilizer from 12 communities
- 2,469** Gogos received mosquito nets from 12 communities

Early Childhood Development

- 2,568** Children enrolled in 20 CBCCs
- 106** Caregivers, Coordinators and Story tellers trained in BUILD
- 709** Children graduated to Primary Schools from the 20 CBCCs.
- 2** CBCCs (preschools) finished construction

Education and Youth Development

- 94** Why Wait? teachers & classrooms monitored
- 31** Schools implemented WW? during Covid-19 challenges
- 7,108** Students reached with Why Wait? lessons
- 90** SAFE Life Youth trained as peer educators
- 9** SAFE Parenting groups
- 67** Orphans received secondary school fees
- 13** Teachers volunteered to mentor orphaned students
- 5** Advanced education students supported

SAFE Haven



- 6,505** Kid's participated in SAFE Haven activities
- 50** Active parenting group members
- 25** SAFE Life Youth Club members
- 150** Textbooks bought & loaned

Evangelism and Discipleship

- 175** Village leaders trained in evangelism and discipleship
- 35** Teachers trained to lead **18** after-school Bible Clubs
- 4,227** Attended *The Jesus Film* showings
- 1,974** Gogos involved in Bible Studies and Prayer Walks
- 313** Prison inmates listened to the "Talking Bible"
- 60** Prison inmates took a Bible course

Looking Ahead

Growth in these 4 programs are among SAFE's goals in 2022. We invite your prayers and support.

- 1. WHY WAIT?...** Train more teachers to deliver our Why Wait? Truth for Youth Life Skills Curriculum in 30 more primary and secondary schools and reach 10,000 more students. Monitor the 31 schools now implementing Why Wait? and further train those teachers to counsel and mentor students. 
- 2. SAFE HAVEN...** With city approval, begin to develop the park property with a small library, classroom and sports field. This will greatly expand SAFE Haven's ministry, and more kids will have access to discipleship, tutoring, sports, art and mentoring.
- 3. BAMBOO...** A pilot project to grow a special bamboo is beginning in Makungula Village. Due to its fast growth and renewability, this bamboo can provide cooking fuel for families and preschools. If all goes well, it will be expanded to many more villages in 2022. 
- 4. SAFE/GOGO GROUPS...** Praying God will raise up additional supporting SAFE/Gogo Groups this year to sponsor a village in Malawi. Let us know if your church or community would like to start one. You don't have to be a gogo (grandmother) to help a gogo!



Get more involved!

Visit GogoGrandmothers.com to learn more & become a donor.

Call **760-500-4311**, or write:
SAFE/Gogo Grandmothers
3460 Marron Road, Suite 103-476
Oceanside, CA 92056





Rooted in its spiritual mission, SAFE's ministry programs focus in these areas

GogoGrandmothers.com

SAFE.mw

"I have worked with a variety of ministries, but when I saw the active work taking place through SAFE/Gogos in Malawi, I could not help but get involved. I knew it would be an investment with huge returns!" - Stacy Meyer