



# IN MALAWI SAFE/GOGO 2022



**SAFE**

# REPORT

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*“... let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.” – 1 John 3:18*



was our theme in 2022! It describes this year’s impacts as your love for Christ met the needs of people in Malawi Africa!

**“The place God calls you to is that place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hungers meet.”** -- Fredrick Buechner

Listen as our SAFE staff share in their own words how God turned enormous challenges into opportunities and life-changing realities!

Your prayers, efforts and giving resulted in these stories and thousands more. Enjoy and thank you!

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

**SAFE Malawi Team**  
 Front: Cathy, Sydney, Timaleni, Brenda and Mary  
 Back: Aaron, Lameck, Precious and Ben.  
 Not pictured: Michael & Gloria



**Why I love serving on the SAFE staff team...**

“God could have given me a position in another organization, but he placed me with SAFE for a reason... so my work could be part of “THE GREAT COMMISSION”.

Working for SAFE does not require a separate schedule for spreading God’s love and the gospel. I get to work with people of all ages in the villages and schools with SAFE’s programs for children, youth, adults and the elderly gogos. I feel like I have been called to a ministry that leaves no one behind, regardless of their age group.

I am also thankful to be part of a great team that endlessly puts in the effort to meet the various physical needs of people in SAFE communities—putting smiles on their faces—but most importantly, winning these souls to Jesus who loves us and calls us!”

**Gloria Gama**

SAFE’s Community Supervisor in Malawi’s Northern Region



**The four vital program areas of SAFE:**

*(Sub-Saharan Africa Family Enrichment)*

1. **Support for gogos** (grandmothers) caring for orphans and vulnerable children
2. **Early Childhood Development** through village preschools
3. **Education & Youth Development** (8-year Why Wait? Life Skills Curriculum in schools and at SAFE Haven Youth Center)
4. **Evangelism and Discipleship** throughout in villages, schools and prisons



# EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

## The most important thing...

"I have loved my work with SAFE, ever since it began in 2001 under a mango tree, helping teach SAFE's first group of preschool children. It was there I learned the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, 'Let the children come to me'. I love seeing children come to our preschools (CBCCs) to be prepared for success in primary school — but most importantly to 'come to Jesus!'"

**Brenda Lisimba**

SAFE's Community Supervisor - Zomba

**In SAFE's 22 CBCCs (preschools), 2,308 precious children were fed, prepared for primary school and learned they were loved by God!**



Brenda reads SAFE's first Chichewa preschool book, *God Gives Us Maize*.



Their first Chichewa book



Alick didn't know about Jesus before coming to the CBCC



This gogo is so proud. Her Admire is one of many students excelling at school because of the great start they got at her SAFE CBCC.



**IMPACT:** ■ Outstanding training and support of caregivers (preschool teachers).  
 ■ Daily feeding program made sustainable because of SAFE's fertilizer program for the gogos, who then give maize from their harvest to help feed the children.  
 ■ SAFE's BUILD literacy program has measurably improved the children's success in primary school for 650 CBCC graduates.

**OPPORTUNITY:** ■ Help fund the production of Chichewa Christian preschool books.  
 ■ Help fund the additional food ingredients needed for the childrens' feeding program.





## GOGO GRANDMOTHERS

### What I have learned...

Watching the gogos and children be so grateful for the small gifts given to them is a big lesson to me. I have learned over the years to be thankful to God that I can be a channel of hope and good news to people in despair."

**Mary Phiri**

Director of Early Childhood Development and Gogo Grandmothers



Building a fuel efficient stove



Composted fertilizer made by the gogos for their gardens



**IMPACT:** ■ A new, more sustainable fertilizing method for their gardens was taught. ■ Gogos gave the CBCCs maize to help make porridge for the children. ■ The pilot bamboo project (to grow future fuel for cooking) was successful. ■ 100 fuel-efficient stoves were made for the gogos in 3 village areas. ■ 3,867 gogos attended *The Jesus Film & Walking with Jesus* films.

### OPPORTUNITY:

- Sponsor a gogo in a village for a gift of \$15 or \$30 a month.
- Provide 2 bamboo plants \$20.
- Provide funds for a fuel-efficient stove \$10.

**52% of Malawians live in poverty. The gogos (elderly grandparents) are the poorest of the poor and they often have the care of orphaned children. SAFE had the joy of spiritually and practically ministering to 2,341 registered gogos from 13 SAFE sponsored village communities in 2022**



Regular prayers when gogos gather together



Hopeful this new fertilizer mixture will help bring a good harvest



Making a new kind of fertilizer/compost for growing their maize





# EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## What working with SAFE means to me...

"I love working with SAFE because it is a ministry where I get to witness transformation in the character of youth and parents. God has given me a noble task that humbles me."

**Cathy Cheonga**

SAFE's Regional Education Coordinator



During training, government officials said, "We are on a God-given assignment!"

**50% of Malawi's 20 million people are under 15 years of age. Because of school dropout, only 52% complete primary school—16% go on to secondary school—and only 1/4 of those finish.**

**In 45 schools where SAFE's 8-year Why Wait? Life Skills Curriculum was implemented this year, dropout rates plummeted, and test scores rose!**



Reading the Bible in class



Why Wait? lesson prep



"I am Abigail Gondwe (13 years old). I learned in Why Wait? that *I am special* and don't have to drop out of school and enter an early marriage like my 2 sisters and brother. I took the Why Wait? message to heart. Now I am doing well in school and hope to become a teacher."



Wait for "God's time for sex" in order to be a productive citizen -- the world is waiting for you!

Experiencing the power of discussion and interactive learning



The positive research documenting Why Wait's impact is guiding a task force, working with government policy makers, to launch a Why Wait? movement in Malawi's schools beginning in 2023!



- IMPACT:**
- 228 Why Wait? trained teachers are reaching 13,320 students.
  - 30 government ministry officials were trained to be Why Wait? Trainers of Teachers.
  - 32 students are receiving secondary school fees and 2 for advanced education.
  - 13 teachers volunteered to mentor orphaned students.

- OPPORTUNITY:**
- Provide Why Wait? training for 5 school teachers - \$190.
  - Provide curriculum books - \$8.00 ea.
  - Provide Bibles - \$10 ea.

## Why I am thankful to work with SAFE...

"Thank you Jesus! I see you transforming school children, saving inmates in the prisons, strengthening the weary lives of Gogos and giving hope to the hopeless. And as I do this work, I see my life being transformed as well."

Lameck Kananji, Jesus File Coordinator



## EVANGELISM & DISCIPLESHIP



Bibles for the Evangelism teams

My name is Silifa. I am an Evangelism and Discipleship Team member. One day I went door-to-door to share the Good News of Jesus. After talking with a woman, I went back home. The next morning, in my absence, the children of that woman came to my home and beat my children, threw bricks at my home, and broke my basin. I found my children crying.

In the evening the Muslim woman came with the broken basin in her hand and apologized and asked for forgiveness. I told her, "No, don't worry, I have already forgiven you and your children. But you need to know that I am a Christian and I will not turn back."



The joy of learning to personally share the gospel



Feeding together on God's Word

The heart of SAFE programs is to lovingly & boldly share the gospel of Jesus Christ and to disciple those who respond.

These three SAFE programs; share the love of Jesus and raise up mature disciples.

1. Village Evangelism & Discipleship Teams
2. After-School Bible Clubs
3. Prison Evangelism & Discipleship



After-School Bible Club



In prison — a transformed life and how to pass it on

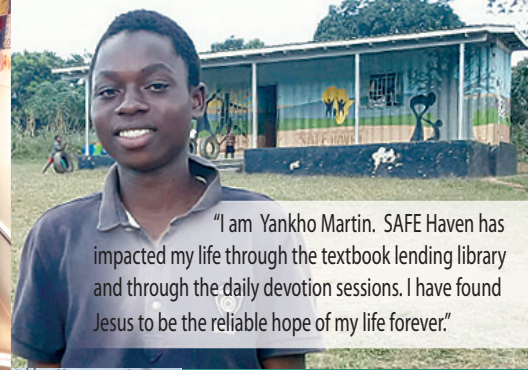
**IMPACT:** ■ 270 people trained in Evangelism and Discipleship. ■ 9,001 people attended *The Jesus Film & Walking with Jesus films*. ■ Many are receiving Christ Jesus to be their Lord and Savior. ■ 60 teachers trained to lead 18 after-school Bible Clubs for 2,966 children. ■ 3 prison officers & 60 inmates were trained in Evangelism & Discipleship. ■ Pardoned inmates are now pastors leading fellowships in their communities.

### OPPORTUNITY:

■ Provide a "Talking Bible" for groups of new Christians gathering to grow in their faith. \$50 provides the digital, solar player and study materials. ■ Provide a Chichewa Bible for \$10.



SAFE HAVEN



"I am Yankho Martin. SAFE Haven has impacted my life through the textbook lending library and through the daily devotion sessions. I have found Jesus to be the reliable hope of my life forever."

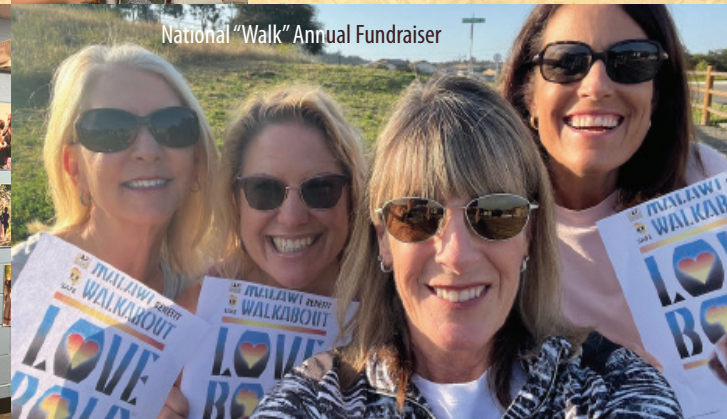
"I love hearing the stories... love that the staff is 100% Malawian... love telling others about Gogos. And I love that I can serve the gogos in our village from right here at home."



Night in Malawi dessert



National "Walk" Annual Fundraiser



Big "Cash for Corn" fundraiser

Spring Gogo Leaders Retreat



"Tailgate Sale" fundraiser crew

Donors along with 10 Gogo Groups in the U.S. and 1 in Australia provide sustaining prayer and financial support for SAFE ministries in Malawi.

Thank you for giving your time, talent and treasure in 2022—including over 10,000 volunteer hours and 21 fundraising events.



Making "BUILD" learning resources



Why I am thankful to work with SAFE...

"I like watching the kids learn to love the word of God and some senior kids lead our daily devotions. I remember the days they couldn't manage a word of prayer. Secondly, I like putting a smile on a sad kid's face!"

Aaron Gondwe  
SAFE Haven Supervisor

This year SAFE Haven experienced 12,726 participations in SAFE Haven youth activities that included devotions, tutoring, art, sports, games, educational trips, general cleaning, cooking and knitting.



Iman, 7 years-old, came to show Aaron his good test scores!



Tuesday sports day



IMPACT: ■ Older SAFE Haven kids returned to teach the younger children. ■ Kids who take part in SAFE Haven tutoring & activities are doing well in school. ■ Children's love for the word of God is growing.

OPPORTUNITY: ■ Pray for the City of Zomba to approve a long lease on the property where SAFE Haven is located, so that better sports fields, a classroom and library can be added.



"Gogo Bargain Sale" crew



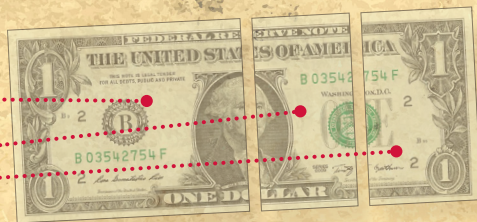
# BY THE NUMBERS in 2022

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

- 2,341 Registered gogos from 13 communities
- 2,341 Gogos received training and materials for fertilizer composting
- 100 Fuel-efficient stoves made for gogos

## Early Childhood Development

- 2,308 Children enrolled in 20 CBCCs (preschools)
- 88 Preschool teachers
- 44 Cooks
- 88 Story tellers
- 650 Children graduated to Primary Schools from the 20 CBCCs

## Education and Youth Development

- 30 Trainers of Teachers trained in WHY Wait?
- 228 Why Wait? teachers trained & classrooms monitored
- 45 Schools presently implementing Why Wait?
- 13,320 Students reached with Why Wait? lessons
- 1,000 WW? books distributed
- 32 Students receiving secondary school fees
- 2 Students receiving advanced education tuition
- 13 Teachers volunteered to mentor orphaned students



## SAFE Haven

- 12,726 Youth Center activity events participated in
- 50 Active members of a parenting group
- 25 SAFE Life Youth Club members
- 150 Textbooks bought & loaned

## Evangelism and Discipleship

- 270 People trained in Evangelism and Discipleship
- 5,134 Attended *The Jesus Film* outreach showings
- 3,867 Gogos attended *The Jesus Film* & *Walking With Jesus*
- 60 Teachers trained to lead 18 after-school Bible Clubs for 2,966 children
- 3 Prison officers & 60 inmates trained in Evangelism & Discipleship
- 1,013 Inmates & officers watched *Walking With Jesus* film

# LOOKING AHEAD



Growth in these 4 programs are among SAFE's goals in 2023. We invite your prayers and support.

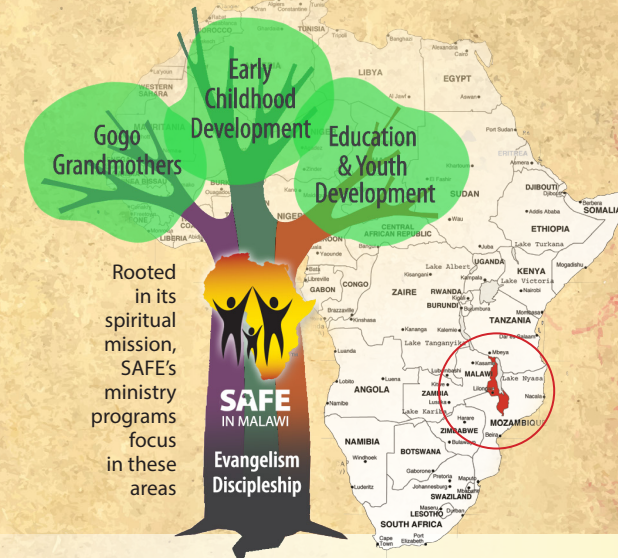
**1 WHY WAIT?...** Continue the expansion of Why Wait? teacher trainings in schools, so that tens of thousands of students will have a chance to form a biblical worldview—become wise in their decisions and relationships—and become servant leaders in their communities.



**2 SAFE HAVEN...** It has come to light that many kids in Zomba are becoming drunkards and drug addicts. Many of these kids could be saved if SAFE Haven could expand. Upon agreement between the city council and SAFE, this could be the year a classroom, small library, and sports field are built so more kids have access to discipleship, tutoring, sports, art and mentoring.

**3 BAMBOO...** After the successful pilot of the bamboo project in Makungula Village, the plan is to roll it out in more village communities in 2023. In the face of deforestation, a special clumping-type bamboo can help provide cooking fuel for Gogo families and for our preschools.

**4 SAFE/GOGO GROUPS...** More SAFE/Gogo groups are needed to help sponsor a village. Let us know if your church or community would be interested in knowing more about this! Remember, "You don't need to be a gogo to help a gogo!" Call to find out more... 750-500-4311



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

## Get more involved!



Visit [GogoGrandmothers.com](https://www.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



GogoGrandmothers.com  
SAFE.mw



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# Keep Peeking!

*More inspiration is coming...*

Be curious ■ Be grateful ■ Be informed

Please Invite **KERNELS** to your favorite inbox.

No spam. Just thoughtful, heart-felt news from Malawi.

Simply text: **"2Malawi"** to **760-500-4311**.

Don't forget to include your email address.

