

Jacaranda UK Foundation - Theory of Change



What is the problem we are trying to solve?

67% of Malawian children do not complete primary school; 77% do not complete junior secondary, and 85% do not complete senior secondary education. This is a key factor in perpetuating the cycle of poverty that most of these children are born into.

At the same time, there are **thousands of single and widowed mothers who receive or have inherited nothing from their spouses**, They often have little or no education, have no land, and very limited ways to support their families.

What steps are needed to bring about change?

- **High quality nursery, primary and secondary education** needs to be provided **free-of-charge** to children in Malawi, so financial constraints become less of a factor in whether a child completes their education.
- Schools should provide at least **one substantive hot meal, free of charge, every day**, to all students.
- For students that have good enough grades to **go to college, financial support** should be available so they can take up that opportunity.
- **Skills-based technical and vocational training** should be available to students who do not qualify to go to college, so they are able to develop skills that can lead to employment or them starting their own business.
- Locally-run programs should exist to **up-skill women to empower them and give them more tools to provide for themselves and for their families**, and reduce the necessity for their children to drop out of school to help provide for the family.

What are the measurable effects of our work?

of students graduating from primary school

of students graduating from secondary school

of students that go to college

of students that are employed <2 yrs post graduation

of local women newly able to provide for their family

What are the wider benefits of our work?

Fewer children dropping out of school and marrying young

Cycles of poverty broken by more education and employment

Empowerment of women redressing gender imbalance

Lower levels of malnourishment through free school meals

What is the long-term change we see as our goal?

We want Malawian communities to **lift themselves out of poverty**, driving long-term, sustainable and grass-roots economic and social development.

We want to **empower local women** to provide for themselves and their families, choose their own direction and shape Malawi's future.

We want the future leaders of Malawi to be brought-up, educated and shaped in locally-run programs that **value communities and local solutions**.