



Q1 2021
**Quarterly
Report**



Wandikweza
HEALTH CARE CLOSER TO THE PEOPLE



About Wandikweza

Everyone has the right to access healthcare. Yet to many people in Malawi, this right is denied. Healthcare facilities do not exist where they are most needed. Only 46% of Malawians live within reach of a health facility. This is especially true in rural and remote areas where the distance to travel to a facility, or the cost to do so, is too great.

Wandikweza is a locally-led organization determined to improve access to healthcare in remote communities. We train and empower local community health workers to be on the ground and available to improve the health and wellbeing of vulnerable communities.

We want everyone in Malawi to have access to high-quality health care when they need it.



A MESSAGE FROM THE Executive Director

Dear friends and supporters,

When I imagine a world, I see a world where everyone has access to affordable, quality healthcare when they need it. I see a world where no one fights alone. I see a world with no childhood illness, no woman dying while giving birth, ultimately zero preventable deaths. Wandikweza continued to provide this care, and so much more in this first quarter.



In a world of uncertainty, there is one thing that I am sure of, and that is that Wandikweza team continued to show up every single day for our clients and patients. This team of 11 staff members, 130 community health workers and 7 traditional leaders is composed of the most passionate and individuals that I have ever come across. Every time I meet a member of this team, I am inspired, and that is why I have absolutely no doubt that we will continue to rise above every challenge given to us, and make miracles in the face of those challenges.

During this quarter, 10 community health workers communicated with 102 clients via video WhatsApp calls on a smartphone. But what if every community health worker had a smartphone, we would raise those figures.

On behalf of the entire Wandikweza management team, thank you for your continued support that makes everything we accomplish together possible. This is one generation fighting for the next, in a time where the communities need us now more than ever.

With gratitude,

Mercy Chikhosi Kafotokoza

Service Milestones

MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH



669
**under-five
children**

Immunized by community
health workers



204
**Pregnancy
Home visits**

conducted by Nurses on
Bikes and community
health workers



248
**Postnatal
Home visits**

conducted by Nurses on
Bikes and community
health workers



COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS



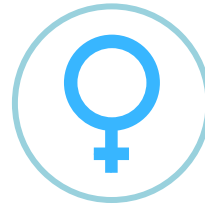
617
Home
Visits

Conducted by community health workers for case finding, treatment and follow-up



102
Tele-
visits

conducted by community health workers for follow-up and health education



553
women

received family planning services from community health workers

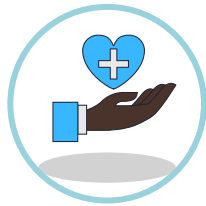


1,598
Under-
five

screening and treatment conducted by community health workers



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



29
mobile
clinics

conducted in hard to reach areas



9,874
patients

served during the outreach clinics



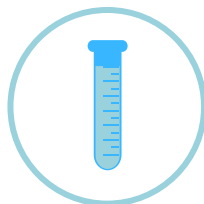
90%
malaria
cases
treated

YOUTH SERVICES



182
young
people

accessed sexual reproductive health and rights services



48
HIV/AIDS
tests

and counselling provided to young people



92
at the
library

The library continues to be a conducive space for students to study and access information.



28
children

(aged 1-12 years) accessed physiotherapy services at our center

PROGRAM UPDATE

- In March, we recruited a Maternal and Child Health Nurse responsible for community-based maternal and child services.
- We are working with neglected teenage pregnant girls to give them support and guidance. We are helping the girls to live free of fear.
- We have a nutrition program for malnourished under-five children at our center.
- The health center construction is underway. Services shall include maternity, emergency and cervical cancer screening in addition to the other Out-Patient services.

SUCCESSSES

- Through the Youth Supporter initiative, the community health workers provided psychosocial counseling and training on relevant health topics, including Sexual Reproductive Health, mental health, treatment adherence, stigma, and disclosure. This helped to bring 25 clients back to care.
- 54 patients were referred and linked to care and treatment services by community health workers

CHALLENGES

PATIENT REFERRAL ISSUES.
DUE TO COST AND DISTANCE,
SOME PATIENTS COULD NOT
GO FOR PROPER TREATMENT
AFTER BEING REFERRED.

COVI9-19 VACCINATION MYTHS

INADEQUATE SUPPLIES DURING
OUTREACH CLINICS

RESOLUTION

Discussing with community leaders to engage local motorbike operators on transporting patients to nearest health facilities at a reasonable cost.

Community health workers continue giving reliable information and encouraging people to get vaccinated.

A local public health facility to be supplementing the needed supplies.



COMMUNITY UPDATE

Covid-19

- Malawi received the first consignment of AstraZeneca that is accessed from some government and private health facilities.
- 30% of our team has been vaccinated
- Our team is available at our premises to offer information and support to the communities on Covid-19 prevention and the vaccine.
- There is downward trend in new daily cases, but the community is still observing preventive measures
- Our community health workers are conducting weekly awareness meetings to tackle fake news circulating in social media platforms about the dangerous side effects of AstraZeneca vaccine

NEW PROGRAMS / SYSTEMS:

Construction of Wandikweza Health Center

Construction of the health center is underway. Construction is expected to be completed by the third quarter of the year. Services shall include: maternity, under-five children, laboratory, pharmacy, emergency, dental and cervical cancer screening.



PARTNERSHIPS

- In partnership with the Gould Family Foundation, Wandikweza hired a Maternal and Child Health nurse. This nurse joins our Nurses on a Bike to provide community-based postnatal care services for women and newborns to improve quality and access.
- In partnership with Formidable Joy, Wandikweza has a borehole at its proposed site for a health facility.

Government partnership

- In collaboration with the district health office, Wandikweza continues to conduct outreach mobile clinics eight times a month.
- The government provides staff and medicines for the outreach clinics
- We implemented our programs within existing government delivery and data systems.
- We worked with the District Health office to ensure implementation was embedded in government systems, leveraging existing government infrastructure and personnel.
- We integrated the program's impact data into the government's data collection systems. This enabled outcomes to be routinely and consistently shared with government partners.
- In this quarter we continued to work within and in an effort to strengthen the health system to save lives during this pandemic.



OUR IMPACT:

Stephano's Story

A normal day for Stephano, our Nurse on a Bike, entails waking up early to check his motorbike, pack and load the medical supplies onto the motorbike and start the journey of 9kms before the sun gets too hot. According to his schedule, he is visiting four pregnant women and three postnatal mothers in Chifule community.

One of his clients is Harriet 25, who was not aware that she was three months pregnant because of her erratic menstrual cycle. It was only when she fell sick from what seemed like malaria and called for her community health worker. Malaria test came out negative. Harriet was referred to Stephano by her community health worker for further assessment, a pregnancy test was done and found to be pregnant and immediately enrolled for antenatal classes.

“The good thing is that the motorbike enables me to reach places where vehicles cannot go,” Stephano says, adding that he has now expanded his catchment area to other two villages to serve these underserved communities.

Chifule village, like other remote areas in Malawi that are inaccessible due to nearly impassable roads, locals are forced to walk for hours to obtain urgent medical care. This has made the Nurse on a Bike the most convenient means of providing health services to women and children.

In one Mtoto village, 34-year-old Naphiri struggled to contain her tears as she recounted the moment she watched her three month old baby die while she was rushing to a clinic 8kms away on a bicycle . “If it were today with the nurses coming to our community, my baby would be alive,” she said.

Today, as Naphiri watches the Nurses on Bikes loaded with medicines pass her house to deliver services to her neighbours, she is grateful that, although they came a little late to save her baby who died three years ago (Nurses on Bikes have been on the ground for two years), she and her other children are beneficiaries of the services.

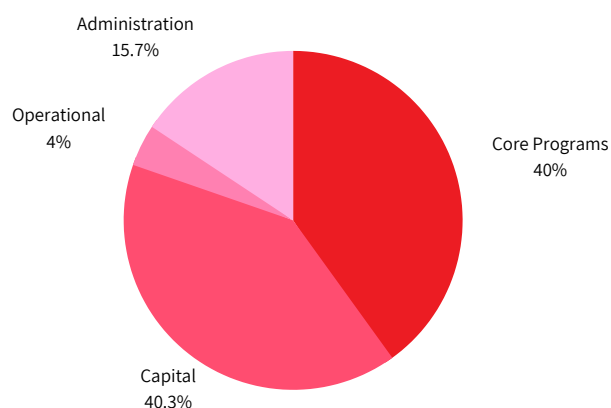
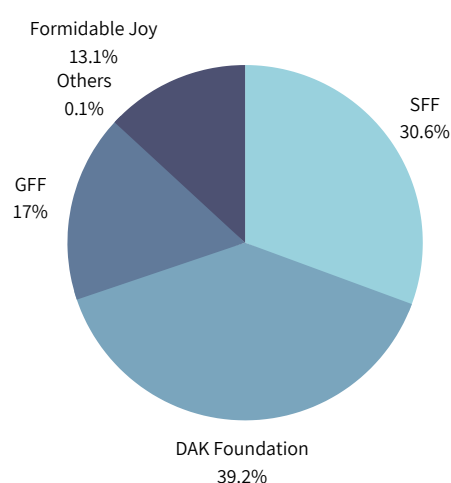
Every day, women and girls die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. But there are Nurses on Bikes like Stephano attempting to fight for their lives. These nurses offer pre and antenatal care, and refer mothers to public health facilities early in serious cases. They also teach women about nutrition and breastfeeding, and promote the importance of maternal medicine in their communities.

We use motorbikes to reach our pregnant women and children in remote areas of Dowa. Since the introduction of this innovation, remote communities can easily access maternal and child health services. The motorbikes can navigate impassable roads to save lives.

Financial Update

For the three months reported, ending 31 March 2021, income received was US\$79,735 and total expenses were US\$58,791

	USD
Opening balance	41,465
INCOME	
Segal Family Foundation (SFF)	11,716
DAK Foundation	15,000
Gould Family Foundation (GFF)	6,525
Others	30
IN KIND DONATIONS	
Formidable Joy	5,000
Q1 INCOME TOTAL	38,271
Income and opening balance	79,735
EXPENDITURE	
Core Programs	
Community Outreach	14,834
Youth Services	817
Maternal Health	7,893
Capital Expenses	
Health Center building	23,670
Operational Expenses	
Motor Vehicles	1,669
Monitoring & Evaluation	683
Administration	9,225
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	58,791
BALANCE (31 MARCH, 2021)	20,944





TEAM UPDATES

- We have recruited our first Maternal and Child Health nurse in addition to the government nurses and clinicians we work with.
- We have increased tele-home visits complimenting the physical home visits conducted by community health workers

UPCOMING EVENTS

- World Immunization Week - April 24 - 30th - Wandikweza has organized an event at its premises, promoting the life-saving benefits of vaccinations for people including the Covid-19 vaccine.
- Community meeting - May 17th - to bust Covid-19 myths


AREAS OF NEED

We are currently seeking two motorbike ambulances. Besides carrying basic medicines and information, these three wheeled motorcycles could allow the Nurses on Bikes to also ferry children or women in labour to the nearest health facility. With these village ambulances, many lives could be saved.

CONNECT WITH WANDIKWEZA

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