

World Medical Fund: Vocational Training for the AIDS Orphans of Malawi**Sponsor:** Graham Prescott**Expenditure:**

Annual training was provided for 88 beneficiaries*	@ £35 ea	3,080
Start up capital to 86 graduates**	@ £24 ea	2,112
Supervision, part-time field worker	@ 390	<u>390</u>

One great success story out of many, thanks to the funding received from the Funding network: **Chisomo Chigayo** is just 18 years old; he has been supported by World Medical Fund since he was orphaned at the age of eleven. He joined our Vocational Training programme in August 2003; very bright and eager to learn he graduated as a carpenter in just 6 months.

In March 2004 he began his own small business, working six days a week, specialising in making high quality sofas and chairs. His business is now situated near the centre of the township and is justifiably enjoying great success, he now employs 6 carpenters and his order books are full.

The business skills we teach as part of the course are paying off – the deposit he takes for each order is the cost of materials plus 10%, so he cannot lose. His workshops are always buzzing with activity, potential clients, small children watching, hoping to learn the skills. Chisomo is immensely grateful for the help he received and, like all the beneficiaries, he is aware of the source of the funds. He asked us to pass on his special thanks to the Funding Network and hopes that one day he will be able to export his furniture to the U.K.

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Member of BOND. (British Overseas NGO's for Development)

Member of CONGOMA. (Council for NGO's in Malawi).

Member of the UK forum for Hospice and Palliative Care Worldwide

✦ Signatory to the International Red Cross Code of Conduct in Disaster Relief

Advisers: Rev Dr Anne Bayley OBE • Dr Timothy Wiggin

The success of the programme over the last twelve months and the increasing demand for Vocational training has led us to the decision for exciting further expansion; we are now building our own Vocational Training centre at Nkhotakota on land donated by the chief, to add to the one we have at Dwangwa with a future target of over 200 beneficiaries per year.

We are introducing new skill training including radio and watch repairing, pottery and woodcarving. We have agreed a system of certification with the Malawi Ministry of Labour with the issuing of diplomas to those who reach a certain standard. We have capital costs in place for the above and we are currently in the process of raising revenue funding

The value and importance of this work has been recognised by the World Bank (through Malawi Social Fund) and UNICEF.

Media Coverage:

Malawi radio – the most popular station in country devoted a 30 minute programme to the World Medical Fund Vocational Training programme at Nkhotakota. This was because it is the only such programme in the region and the reporter cited it as the perfect example of what should be copied by other NGOs, not just because of the skills that are learnt but also it incorporates HIV/AIDS education in the curriculum.

One paragraph summary:

The funding received from the Funding Network has given a secure future to 86 youths, all of whom were orphaned by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The skills they have learnt will enable them to support themselves and their future families. As well as enabling so many young people by teaching them a trade, it has also helped the local community by ensuring that these skills do not disappear – which would have been the case with so many artisans affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic.