

Vision

Supporting the placement of Missionaries to Malawi from New Contexts (MNCs) / majority world countries. – We would like to enable missionaries from non-traditional sending countries and churches with emerging mission movements to take part with their unique skills and gifts in the various ministries under SIM Malawi’s mandate. We are seeking to gradually increase the number of placements of MNCs on our field. The initial project duration of three years will assist us in gaining experience regarding the cooperation with the various countries, churches and sending offices which will certainly lead to a finetuning of the project in the future.

Background

SIM Malawi has a steady need for missionaries, but it is increasingly difficult to recruit in traditional Western countries, especially for placements in rural areas or where schooling options are difficult. At the same time emerging mission movements are looking for appropriate opportunities to place their growing number of missionaries. Recognizing the financial challenges connected to that, this project tries to contribute to a successful placement of missionaries from new contexts to Malawi. While they are able to raise funds for their individually agreed, essential support needs, SIM Malawi desires to assist them by covering costs that exceed the basic needs of such missionaries, but ease their placement and support our member care, e.g. orientation & language learning necessities; administration & setup costs; medical & travel needs. These needs may vary depending on the country of origin and through which office the MNCs will be send. Avoidance of dependency will be given ample attention in the support budget discussions. Acknowledging the mutual mandate, SIM Malawi missionaries will be encouraged to contribute to the support of such missionaries.

Progress

The project continues to provide support for the ministry of our Ethiopian colleagues Abera & Bizunesh, subsidizing ministry, health, housing and administration costs as they continue to work among the Yao people in eastern Malawi.

They are now meeting with 7 or 8 different groups and other individuals in the villages around Namwera. This would not be possible without the support of this project.

Friendship evangelism (see story below) is the method employed by Abera & Bizunesh to get to know local Yao people, to come alongside them and eventually be able to share about the love of Jesus to them. It is a time consuming process, but within the Yao community it is the only way in to the homes and hearts of this M* dominated people group.

“Friendship Evangelism”

Abera and Bizunesh have been working in a number of villages around Namwera:-

Salimu village has been a totally unreached area. Please pray for the almighty power of God and we thank God for a few believers, about seven in number. Pray for others to look after them please stand with us in prayer for wisdom through Holy Spirit.

Kwitunji village group church - we have around fourteen people (some new converts) in Kwitunji and we have weekly fellowship where we are going to encourage and to teach the word of God to make them disciples of Jesus Christ but we have challenge that they are fearful of culture and parents - some of them fear witchcraft or witch doctor and are told that “to be Yao is to be Muslim” so we can’t change our religion they said every time. Please pray for the power of God to touch their hearts.



Bizunesh – centre – with group of ladies

Namwera is our new location and home, where we are making new friendships and sharing gospel through with Gods love in their context. We are even meeting with Islamic school teachers and lower chiefs to make friendship and to share gospel. God's love is leading people through with his mercy full and forgiveness it was going good and well praise be to God.

Again in Namwera good foundation with sport friends. I bought two footballs which I gave for coach and selection committee, then they gave for two team each a ball - Namwera selected team and Namwera united team for me it made best way to find them to made right way for friendship making for the sake of Gospel. Please pray to reach them for Christ Jesus.



sports ministry is popular among the Yao

Prayer Requests

Please praise God for:

- the groups of Yao seekers & believers meeting with Abera and/or Bizunesh
- safe trip to Ethiopia to renew their passports and to visit family
- for steady improvement in health for Abera's sister-in-law following the tragic vehicle accident last year

Please pray for:

- increasing fluency in Yao language in order to interact with seekers
- For God to break the hold that Islam has on the Yao people
- for God to continue to meet all their financial needs – the last 6 months have not been easy, but we pray that we now have a resolution and away forward