



Billy's Malawi Project Inc
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A Daunting and Difficult Time

Dear Friends of Billy,

As in the U.S. and worldwide, 2020 has been a most challenging year in Malawi and for The Billy Riordan Memorial Clinic. In our 17th year, we provide a comprehensive range of medical services to Chembe, a community of more than 18,000 people that are among the poorest in the world. We have continued uninterrupted since Covid-19 struck in March 2020, but not without significant setbacks.

The Clinic's income has been reduced by more than **75%** due to the loss of all revenue from traveling medical students who have paid to gain considerable experience in tropical medicine as part of their overall medical training program. Due to the pandemic, we are no longer able to offer our Clinic as a learning platform. We also have been faced with the loss of services from unpaid doctors, nurses, physiotherapists and dentists, who brought not only their labor and skills, but often expensive and hard-to-get medical supplies and pharmaceuticals. We do not expect to benefit from the services, income and donations of medical interns and volunteers until mid-2021, at the earliest.

We have postponed our planned eye care clinic, as our available funds are now used for PPE and to employ local medical personnel, all of which have been unplanned financial burdens on our limited financial resources.

For many years, the Clinic has benefited from generous contributions from the USA. Earlier this year American donations primarily raised in 2019 allowed us to replace water and lighting systems. These improvements have been vital to continuing our ability to provide the much needed medical services to this impoverished community. But we are in need of more funds to keep our Clinic as a valuable resource to Chembe, particularly during a period in which the pandemic has magnified the already existing challenges to its population.

We have been able to provide our services on a budget of only \$200,000 per year, but as noted, our costs have risen. The cost of treating a patient with high blood pressure for a year is \$100. To treat an epilepsy patient is \$50 per year. Just \$20 will enable us to treat five children with antibiotics. Any donation will contribute to helping the lives of the clinic patients.

Please support this 2020 appeal and give whatever you can, fully knowing that it will be very beneficial to many lives, and greatly appreciated by us all.

Thank you,
Mags Riordan, MA, Ed, MPH
Founder/CEO, The Billy Riordan Memorial Clinic, Cape Maclear, Malawi, Africa

DONATIONS: Go to BillysMalawiProjectUSA.org and click

DONATE

- OR -

Send to Billy's Malawi Project Inc., P.O. Box 312, West Springfield, MA 01089

Updates from the Clinic



Old borehole water vs. new borehole water.

Resources



The clinic's borehole, where it acquired its water, recently collapsed. Dirty water had to be filtered manually, a time-consuming process. Thanks to funds from our USA patrons, we dug a new borehole and water is clean again.



Services

Thanks to your contributions, our operations persist. Our clinic still offers vital healthcare for our vulnerable community.



Dr. Janet Van Os examining a child from the village.



Remaining local staff with Dr. Janet Van Os.

Numbers



Though few in number, our dedicated staff continue to serve the medical needs of Chembe Village and beyond. Your donations provide PPE for our front line medical workers.