

Shaping our Future Foundation

This week, Shaping our Future Foundation is celebrating its first anniversary. The values and purpose of Shaping Our Future Foundation (SOFF) are guided by its vision of a holistic citizen empowered for social impact through emancipation from a difficult childhood.

In Malawi, the majority of women have primary school only as highest level of education. 67% attended primary school compared to only 5% who attended secondary school. In addition, the percentage of households with no education is higher in rural areas (16%) than in urban areas (5%). Further to this, women in the lowest wealth quintile completed only 1.6 years of schooling compared to 6.5 years of schooling for those in the highest wealth quintile. The same applies to the national attendance ratio which is 5% in the lowest wealth quintile households and at 42% among households in the highest wealth quintile.

The main goal of SOFF, therefore, is to increase the enrolment, retention and completion of secondary school education of 5,000 (rural) village girls by 31st December 2026. The strategic approaches the Foundation has used over the past twelve months to achieve this goal have been four-fold: Keeping Girls in School, Supporting the needs of street kids, Women's Economic Empowerment and Sexual Reproductive Health.

There are currently a few activities happening under the Keeping Girls in School banner. The **Provision of Scholarships** programme has so far awarded 309 scholarships to needy secondary schools going girls and boys across the country. This programme is done in conjunction with the Ministry of Education. The first phase of scholarships covered 161 students (154 girls and 7 boys) and the second phase scholarship covered 148 street connected kids (80 girls and 68 boys). The total grant of 309 students (234 girls and 75 boys) cost over forty-nine million kwacha. The scholarship package includes fees and uniform, and the support is available until the beneficiaries finish their education at secondary school.

The **Mentorship Programme** targets girls, especially in rural secondary schools, with the aim of providing guidance and creating a platform of exposure to information and opportunities for the girls. The mentors are designated to support, guide, and encourage the selected girls to set, strive for, and in the long run achieve worthy goals for themselves. Current partners and mentors that have joined this programme include women in management positions from the NBS Bank, Eris Properties, NICO Life Insurance and NICO Pensions. These women are using their knowledge, skills, status and positions to share with the mentees information about their own career path, as well as provide guidance, motivation, emotional support, and role modelling.

The **Girls Education Leadership Coordination** forum aims at bringing together Girls Education leaders in the country in order to begin to inculcate a culture of coordination among organizations involved in girls' education programming in Malawi. The first coordination meeting took place in July 2021, and was attended by grass root girls education leaders.

The **Educating Linda** and **Tertiary Scholarships** by the Merck Foundation are a strategic partnership that is providing scholarships to best secondary school performers. Twenty girls have been sponsored through this programme. In the last few months, SOFF received from this partnership 30,000 copies of storybooks to raise awareness about Covid19, support girl child education, break the infertility stigma and emphasize family values of love and respect.

How can you help?

1. Become a sponsor for any of the programmes
2. Sponsor a specific girl/groups of girls
3. Join the mentorship programme
4. Contribute skills, time and resources to upcoming virtual projects from your country of residence
5. Contribute skills, time and resources to projects in Malawi during vacation

What is needed?

TYPE OF SCHOOL	DESCRIPTION	AVERAGE OF TOTAL FEES PER YEAR
National Public Boarding Secondary Schools	Lilongwe Girls Secondary School, Blantyre Secondary School, Mzuzu Government Secondary School	K75,000.00
National Grant Aided Boarding Secondary Schools	Mostly church owned secondary schools e.g. Stella Maris Secondary School, St. Michael's Girls Secondary School etc.	K390,000.00
District Boarding Secondary Schools	District levels e.g. Phalombe Secondary School, Chiradzulu Secondary School etc.	K144,750.00
City Day Secondary Schools	Schools in this category include Mkwichi Secondary School, Bwaila Secondary School etc.	K14,000.00
District Day Secondary Schools	Students have no boarding facilities. The schools run two shifts. One in the morning and another one in the afternoon.	K14,000.00
Community Day Secondary Schools	Students have no boarding facilities. The schools run two shifts. One in the morning and another one in the afternoon.	K13,473.03
Community Day Secondary Schools with Boarding Facilities	Students have boarding facilities (mostly girls). The schools run two shifts. One in the morning and another one in the afternoon.	K139,500.00

Standard Package	Girls Scholarship Package	Spotlight Package (for Teenage Mothers who have returned to school as per the Ministry of Education Readmission Policy)
Shoes	18,000.00	23,400.00
School Bag	11,000.00	14,300.00
Exercise Books	2,500.00	3,250.00
Hardcovers	12,000.00	15,600.00
Sanitary Pads	8,000.00	10,400.00
Socks	5,000.00	6,500.00
School Uniform	12,000.00	15,600.00
Mathematical Instrument	1,900.00	2,470.00
Calculator	7,000.00	9,100.00
Pens & Pencils	2,000.00	2,600.00
Out of pocket allowance/Term	10,000.00	30,000.00
Total	K89,400.00	K133,220.00

	TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP PLUS STANDARD ENTITLEMENT PACKAGE	TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP PLUS SPOTLIGHT PACKAGE
TYPE OF SCHOOL		
National Public Boarding Secondary Schools	K164,400.00	K208,220.00
National Grant Aided Boarding Secondary Schools	K479,400.00	K523,220.00
District Boarding Secondary Schools	K234,150.00	K277,970.00
City Day Secondary Schools	K103,400.00	K147,220.00
District Day Secondary Schools	K103,400.00	K147,220.00
Community Day Secondary Schools	K102,873.03	K146,693.03

Community Day Secondary Schools with Boarding Facilities	K228,900.00	K272,720.00
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Shaping Our Future Foundation Bank Details.

Account Name : Shaping Our Future Foundation
 Bank : First Capital Bank
 Account Number : 0004704003295
 Currency : Malawi Kwacha
 Branch : Capital City Branch



Shaping Our Future Foundation Bank Details.

Account Name : Shaping Our Future Foundation
 Bank : NBS Bank
 Account Number : 20543221
 Currency : Malawi Kwacha
 Branch : Capital Branch



TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM EUROPE

EURO

CITIBANK N.A. LONDON

Account Number : **11074997**
Beneficiary Name : NBS Bank Limited
Quote SWIFT code : NBSTMWMW
GBP Correspondent : Citibank N.A. London
Citigroup Centre
Canary Wharf,
London E14

Correspondent Bank SWIFT Code: CITIGB2L
IBAN NO. GB43CITI18500811074997

Beneficiary Bank Account Name

NBS Bank Limited
Ginnery Corner
PO Box 32251
Blantyre
Malawi
NBS Bank Swift Code: NBSTMWMW

Shaping Our Future Foundation Bank Details.

Account Name : Shaping Our Future Foundation
Bank : NBS Bank
Account Number : 20543221
Currency : Malawi Kwacha
Branch : Capital Branch



TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICAN RAND

ABSA BANK LIMITED-JOHANNESBURG

Account Number : **027789ZAR671201**
Beneficiary Name : NBS Bank Limited
Quote SWIFT code : NBSTMWMMW
Correspondent Bank : ABSA Bank Ltd
ABSA Tower North
3 WEST 1
180 Commissioner Street
Floor 3W1
P.O Box 4854
Johannesburg 2001

Correspondent Bank SWIFT Code: ABSA ZA JJ
Telex: 489399

Beneficiary Bank Account Name

NBS Bank Limited
Ginnery Corner
PO Box 32251
Blantyre
Malawi
NBS Bank Swift Code: NBSTMWMMW

Shaping Our Future Foundation Bank Details.

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Currency : Malawi Kwacha
Branch : Capital Branch



TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM

British Pound

CITIBANK N.A. LONDON

Account Number : **0011075004**
Beneficiary Name : NBS Bank Limited
Quote SWIFT code : NBSTMWMMW
GBP Correspondent : Citibank N.A. London
Citigroup Centre
Canary Wharf,
London E14

Correspondent Bank SWIFT Code: CITIGB2L
IBAN NO. GB48CIT118500811075004

Beneficiary Bank Account Name

NBS Bank Limited
Ginnery Corner
PO Box 32251
Blantyre
Malawi
NBS Bank Swift Code: NBSTMWMMW

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Branch : Capital Branch



TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Dollar

CITIBANK N.A. NEW YORK

Account Number : **36246192**
Account Name : NBS BANK LIMITED
Quote SWIFT code : NBSTMWMMW
Correspondent Bank : Citibank N.A. New York,
111 Wall Street,
10043 New York,
USA

Correspondent Bank SWIFT Code: CITI US33

Beneficiary Bank Account Name

NBS Bank Limited
Ginnery Corner
PO Box 32251
Blantyre
Malawi
NBS Bank Swift Code: NBSTMWMMW

Shaping Our Future Foundation Bank Details.

Account Name : Shaping Our Future Foundation
Bank : NBS Bank
Account Number : 20543221
Currency : Malawi Kwacha
Branch : Capital Branch