

Joseph's Story

Joseph Mashaka is a student facilitator in Nyamuswa Primary School. He leads his school's JFFLS group in farming, dairy goat management, and gardening activities. Joseph has participated in a number of CPAR trainings where he learned about land preparation, planting, weeding, harvesting, and the use of local pesticides like ash. He shares his new skills with other students who are in turn bringing the knowledge home.



Joseph Mashaka.

"Some of us have started planting vegetables at home after the training sessions. Now, our families are also eating vegetables and we sell the surplus at the local market. We use the money we earn to buy school uniforms and workbooks." Joseph's father admits he was skeptical at first but is now very proud of what his son has learned.

"When my son started growing vegetables, I didn't think he would be able to earn an income from them. But, after the second harvest I saw people coming to his garden buying his vegetables. From his income he is helping our whole family buy basic necessities like clothes and sugar. I am proud of him. I thank CPAR for teaching these new skills to our children."



Thank you for your monthly support!

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Your gifts at work:
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Giving malnourished children a healthy future.

Children are growing up healthy in Ethiopia

Just as the damaging effects of malnutrition can pass from one generation to the next, so can the benefits of good nutrition. Giving a child a solid nutritional start has a life-long impact on her/his physical, mental, and social development. Through the community-based Positive Deviance (PD)/Hearth approach CPAR is helping malnourished children reach acceptable heights and weights for their ages.

We help caregivers learn how to safely prepare nutritionally rich foods from locally available ingredients. These learning sessions take place in the home and children's weight is monitored on a daily basis by trained health workers. CPAR has helped malnourished children in 11 villages! It is our aim to move into other villages and apply this approach throughout our current and future projects to help even more rural children have a healthy future.

Healthier schools in Tanzania

Tanzania's dry season can last up to eight months. During this period, there is very little rainfall and severe droughts are common. In order to cope with the lack of rainfall, students, in rural areas, are sometimes asked to share water with livestock or walk up to 20 kilometers every day during school hours to collect water from nearby rivers. This lack of classroom time and health concerns severely compromises students' attendance and academic performance. To address this concern, CPAR has constructed rainwater-harvesting systems in five of our most vulnerable partner schools. Today, over 2,500 of Bunda district's most vulnerable children have access to water and are sharing improved hygiene practices with their communities.



Empowering women in rural Ethiopia.

Improved hygiene and sanitation in Malawi

Access to clean water alone is not enough to prevent illness and death. Poor hygiene and sanitation practices, including defecating in the open have left Malawi's rural population vulnerable to diarrheal diseases. Children under the age of five are particularly vulnerable, and diarrheal diseases, such as cholera account for 18% of deaths for children under five.

CPAR is working with communities in Malawi to ensure everyone is using a hygienic toilet, washing their hands at critical times (before preparing food and after using the toilet), and handling food and water in a hygienic manner. These hygiene education campaigns have helped over 130,000 people in nearly 200 villages live healthier lives!

Women's Economic Empowerment in Ethiopia

In rural regions of the developing world, women are responsible for significant portions of labour on farms and in households. However, women's access to financial resources and ability to participate in decision making in the community and home are usually mediated through men. For female-headed households this results in exclusion from activities that could generate income and contributes to keeping women living in poverty.

CPAR's work with female farmers and female headed households is helping women move themselves out of poverty. With the help of our donors, CPAR provides female farmers with resources, such as goats and poultry, and trainings on animal husbandry and income management. As a result of our work, female-headed households in Debate and Guba Districts in rural Ethiopia have increased their incomes by 72%!