CENTRE FOR HUMANITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (CHUSDE)





In recent months, our organization has made significant strides in partnerships, embracing a volunteer-driven approach. Notably, we have successfully joined forces with CARVE Africa, an international organization specializing in Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHH) and Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR). Our commitment, dedication, volunteerism ethos, efficient time management, and strong organizational context have garnered recognition from CARVE Africa, based in Lilongwe

PROGRESSIVE 2024

26TH MAY, 2024

Vol: 2 iss: 2

OUR PROGRESS, THE REALM OF PARTNERSHIPS

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Our well-coordinated system and demonstrated experience have positioned us as influential contributors, fostering opportunities with patience and resilience. We are excited to announce the upcoming implementation of the MHH project, focusing on distributing menstrual cups to communities in Kasungu District and beyond.

Our team is undergoing training to become experts in SRHR and MHH, preparing to make a positive impact across Malawi.

In terms of networking, our connections have expanded significantly. In Malawi, we have partnered with organizations such as the National Youth Network for Climate Change (NYNCC), Good Health, DREAM, Save the Village, SPRODETA, and CARVE Africa. Internationally, our network includes collaborations with Kipepeo Community Empowerment Program and SUSO Organization in Kenya, Solarstique and Early Years Learning Initiative in Nigeria, Mostar Friedens project e.V, Jugendvision.ev, PEWOBE GmbH in Germany, Argus Tech in Turkey, and United Equality Sweden in Sweden, among others.

MENSTRUAL HEALTH: EMBARKING PERIOD POVERTY

In the year 2023, CHUSDE in partnership with CARVE Africa initiated a project to combat period poverty by promoting Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHH). The partnership has resulted in the provision of sustainable menstrual materials, such as reusable pads and menstrual cups together with educative trainings to youths from Yasenya and Mwalawanyenje Community Day Secondary school in Kasungu district. This initiative is critical, as it addresses key issues affecting girls and women within Malawi, subsequently there is a need for proper MHH awareness and resources. By sharing the information and resources they need, we are overcoming many stigmas and myths surrounding MHH.

Our collaborative efforts have achieved a double benefit for those we are reaching. Through the use of reusable pads, the individuals in these communities can save money that was previously spent on disposable pads. This means that they can now direct their funds to other essential items such as food, soap, and body lotion. Additionally, by utilizing reusable pads instead of disposable ones, our work is indirectly helping in self-guarding the environment by controlling continued poor disposal of non-reusable pads.

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We have been incredibly inspired by the feedback we have received from those we have worked with. They expressed gratitude for the support we have provided, and the positive impact it has had on their lives. We remain committed to continue our work towards promoting MHH and combating period poverty, as we recognize the critical importance of our work towards achieving gender equality and empowerment of young girls and women.

Menstrual Health & Hygiene Project

A one-year project

AIM: To offer trainings and provide high quality, safe, accessible and hygienic menstrual supplies for all menstruators.

Objectives

1. Give high quality MHH trainings including anatomy, period cycle and basic physiology to all beneficiaries.
2. To break the stigma and the silence surrounding MHH to empower girls and women with confidence and knowledge.
3. To distribute Menstruation materials (Menstrual cups) to target populations.

TARGET GROUP AND LOCATION

The project targets adolescent girls, selected mother group representatives, selected female teachers and selected female Health Workers.

The project will be implemented in 12 sites of TA Mwase and TA Kaomba.











EARLY CHILDHOOD INNOVATION

In order to bring about an innovative-friendly environment that allows children to work together, test new ideas and engage in active learning. CHUSDE has introduced an early childhood innovation program which aims at working with Nursery schools, and early childhood development centers surrounding Kasungu municipal council. Patterning to the saying that, "What happens early in life, matters for a life time", CHUSDE has taken a step forward in helping children reach their developmental potential in all domains of development, because as an organization we believe that by creating a culture of innovation we inspire others to think differently and share ideas to find impactful solutions to the challenges of today and the future.



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Innovation involves generating ideas and making the most of the resources you have. In our program, we utilize locally available resources, which makes our work easier and more cost-effective. Early childhood development goes beyond counting numbers and recognizing colors; it also encompasses critical thinking, problem-solving, motor skills, and learning to collaborate. Our program is designed to help children develop these skills. Currently, we are collaborating with Blessings Academy and Matako Nursery School to achieve these goals.

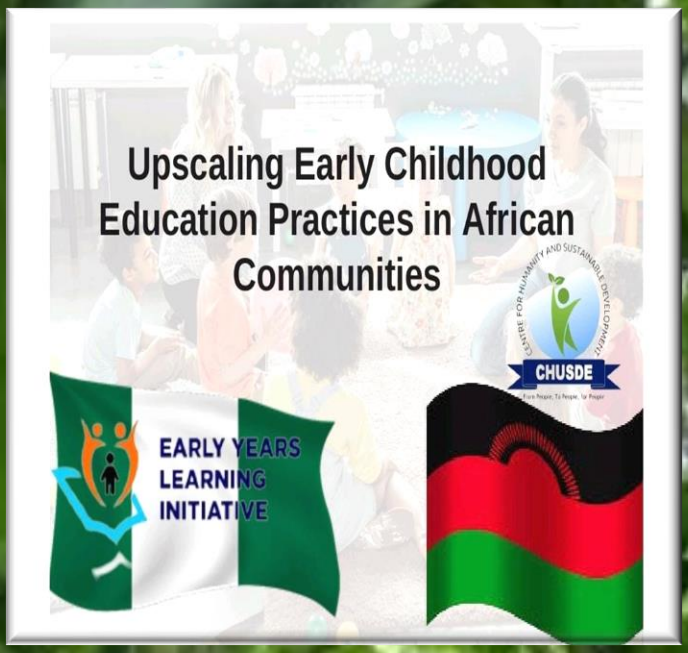
UP UPSCALING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Our online program, running from March to May 2024, collaborates with partners from Nigeria and includes participants from countries like Cameroon. Together, we are raising awareness about accessible, high-quality early childhood education, special needs inclusion, effective child protection practices, parent education, and promoting the best teaching and learning strategies for teachers in Africa.

Throughout the program, we have explored various topics, including Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP), an introduction to special education, the critical role parents play in their children's education, barriers to parental engagement, strategies to improve parent engagement in early education, differentiated instruction, and child safeguarding and protection strategies.

This journey has been filled with impactful discussions and insights, enhancing the perspectives of many participating teachers. Below are the participants in action through the online program.

Meanwhile, we have the certificate presentation to all our participants on 31st May 2024. Follow us on the links below for more updates!!!



About Early Years Learning Initiative!

The Early Years Learning Initiative (a subsidiary of the Early Years Learning Network Ltd.) was founded in 2017 to create awareness about accessible quality early childhood education and special needs inclusion matters, effective child protection practices, parent education, and promoting best learning and teaching strategies for teachers in Africa.

Our Vision: Promoting a safe early start.

EARLY YEARS LEARNING INITIATIVE

THE EYL INITIATIVE TEAM



Patience Osinaike
Founder, Early Years Learning Initiative. Early Childhood Educator | Child Protection Practitioner | Radio Host
Location: Lagos, Nigeria



Florence Ajala
Assistant Lecturer and a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Reflective Pedagogy and Early Childhood Studies at Mary Immaculate College Limerick, Ireland.
Location: Dublin, Ireland.



Vicky Wilson-Woko
Inclusive Education Director
Special Education Consultant
NLP Practitioner & Life Coach.
Location: Abuja, Nigeria.



Nkechi Ugbo
Curriculum Designer and School Manager
Location: Lagos, Nigeria.



Obaika Joy Jesuseme
Administrator / Ui/Ux Designer
Location: Lagos, Nigeria.

EARLY YEARS LEARNING INITIATIVE

About CHUSDE!

Mission
To empower vulnerable communities through promotion of human rights, environmental stewardship, and supporting community owned initiatives for sustainable livelihoods.

Vision
CHUSDE envisions progressive communities where people know their rights, recognize environmental integrity, and uphold them in their community development initiatives for decent and self-sustained livelihoods.

CENTRE FOR HUMANITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
CHUSDE
From People, To People, for People

THE CHUSDE TEAM



Vernasio Phwandaphwanda
Executive Director
Matako Nursery & Blessed Academy.
Location: Malawi



Ester Mbewe
Caregiver, Matako Nursery
Location: Malawi



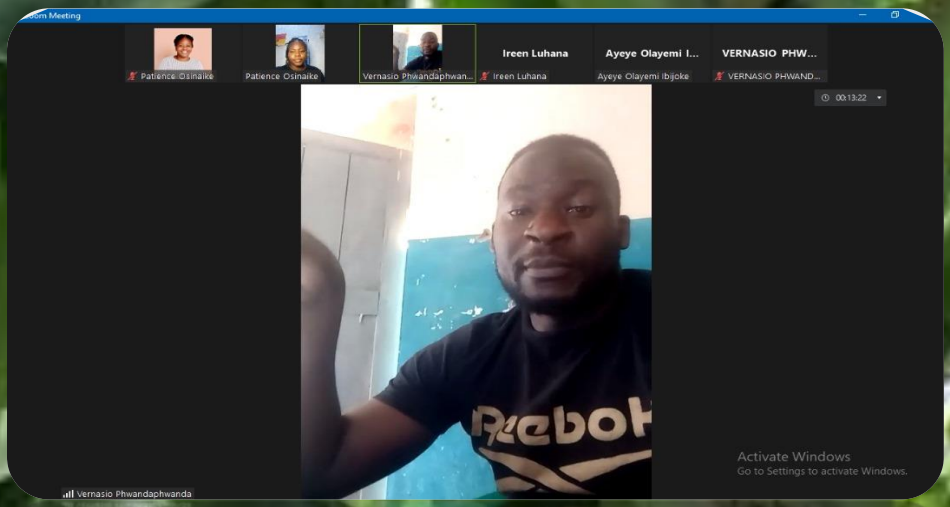
Ireen Luhana
ECD Officer for Community Engagement, Mobilization and Facilitation.
Location: Malawi



Martha Chawinga
Founder & Grade Teacher
Blessed Academy
Location: Malawi



Yollam Phiri
Caregiver, Matako Nursery
Location: Malawi



ECD COMMEMORATION WEEK KASUNGU

Ministry of Gender, Community Development, and Social Welfare in collaboration with its partners holds ECD week of advocacy and awareness annually to raise the ECD profile at all levels. This year's commemoration was commemorated under the theme: Nurturing the bright Future: promoting access to integrated Early Childhood Development services, one village one CBCC. The choice of the theme was based on the fact that quality early childhood development services lay the foundation for life-long learning and contribute to improved education system effectiveness.

Evidence shows that failure to provide quality ECD leads to greater inequality and poor learning outcomes which has negative consequences on education systems and societies. In this year's ECD commemoration week, the Centre for Humanity and Sustainable Development was in the organizing committee and participated in both the panel discussion on the ECD commemoration heard at the DC'S chamber and the ECD commemoration program at Kaluluma CDSS ground.

As one of the organizations working on Early Childhood Development, the ECD week has also been the greatest opportunity for us to upgrade our knowledge on ECD services mostly on what other organizations are doing, the policies guiding early childhood development in Malawi, the gap that is to be filled on ECD service delivery, the achievements that have been accomplished so far and the current status of Early Childhood Development in Kasungu district.



Transforming the Face of Early Childhood Education in Malawi

Since 2020, CHUSDE has been developing and testing a model of how to run Community Based Childcare Centers in rural areas in order to promote Early Child Development (ECD). Through this initiative CHUSDE has made notable progress where the model has proved to be effective. The model is to ensure that CBCCs in rural areas are affordable to everyone at the same time are able to run independently. But despite making such tremendous progress in testing the model, having proper infrastructure in such CBCCs remains a big problem. In most cases children learn in churches which are not even conducive for children's studies. This was also the case at Matako Nursery School in Traditional Authority Lukwa in Kasungu district where CHUSDE has been testing its model. Today, this is no longer the case at Matako Nursery School as the support from Bartu, a visitor from Germany under the 'Food Print Project' has helped to renovate the building. This has created a safer and conducive learning environment for kids at the school. CHUSDE believes that such support from different stakeholders will be extended to other CBCCs that CHUSDE work with, more especially those located in rural areas. Bartu works with Mostar Friedensprojekt.eV in Potsdam, Germany, and he visited Malawi from 5th – 16th December, 2023 for job shadowing. Below is his remarkable contribution to our collaborative effort.





Before and after Bartu's donation

CHILANGA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND CROCS DONATION

CHUSDE has been actively engaged in various development initiatives to bring about positive change. The organization therefore works with vulnerable communities and extremely poor people through local community structures and groups. Children, young people, vulnerable women, and men are its target groups. It is against this background that CHUSDE and its partner from Germany distributed crocs at the Chilanga School for the Blind in Kasungu district. CHUSDE is part of an Erasmus+ youth exchange program for 'The Food Print "which is financed by the European Commission.



Through this project, our organization has gained valuable knowledge and expertise in various areas, including partnering with international individuals and organizations. It was through this project that CHUSDE met Bartu from Germany. Bartu visited the Kasungu district in Malawi for job shadowing, aiming to observe how we operate our organization here. We were privileged to demonstrate our work across all our projects to Bartu. Before leaving Malawi, Bartu wanted to make a positive impact on the local community. This led us to visit Chilanga School for the Blind, one of the few schools for the blind in the country, located in the Kasungu district. The school lacks basic resources to meet its needs

In collaboration with Bartu, our team decided to donate Crocs to all the students at the school. While the donation seemed small to us, the joy, smiles, and gratitude expressed by the students and staff showed us how much it meant to them. Although we couldn't solve all the challenges faced by Chilanga School for the Blind, we are happy to have made a difference in this way.







CHUSDE IN PICTURES



CHUSDE Director in Ghana attending the Climate Tech Innovators and Leaders Program









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ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION NOT AN OPTION

Climate change has become a huge problem worldwide including Malawi such that addressing this is no longer optional. Malawi has on several occasions been a victim of climate change effects with recent experience of Cyclone Freddy. With this, CHUSDE has initiated different initiatives to help address the issue of climate change since addressing such is one of our thematic areas. Such initiatives are being taken in partnership with other stakeholders and as CHUSDE alone. In recent initiative CHUSDE has collaborated with Yasenya Youth and Fantastic Youth. It also worked with the government on several occasions. This has been achieved in the line of networking considering that this problem requires all stakeholder to take part, it needs a holistic approach. CHUSDE will initiate a project advocating for the reuse of plastics (especially thin plastic papers known as majumbo), next year (2024).

In the upcoming tree planting season, CHUSDE has put focus on the Moringa tree considering its nature. More than 2000 tree seedlings have been prepared by making a nursery in partnership with Fantastic Youth. The Moringa tree has the ability to grow even in areas that receive less rains, and that each part of the tree can been used in different ways like medicine. More importantly the tree cannot be used for charcoal, therefore making it safe.

Despite the effort CHUSDE team has put on how best we can to promote, protect and restore the environment, there are a lot of challenges being faced like lack of community commitment. Subsequently we always rise above obstacles in contributing towards a sustainable environment

















SOMETHING ABOUT OUR CLIMATE TECH

Our climate tech intervention involves tree planting initiatives aimed at cooling the environment, restoring ecosystems, and mitigating the adverse effects of heavy deforestation. The problem it addresses is the significant loss of forest cover due to unsustainable practices for energy sources, livelihoods, and lack of awareness about the importance of preserving forests.

By planting trees, we are actively combating climate change by sequestering carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and promoting the absorption of greenhouse gases. Trees also provide vital cooling effects by transpiring water, shading urban areas, and reducing the urban heat island effect. As a result, this intervention helps to alleviate the rising temperatures and contributes to creating more livable, sustainable, and resilient environments.

GHANA STANCES of YALI Regional Leadership Centre, Accra Ghana, I think we represented Malawi very well.









WASTE TO WEALTH

Over the past few months, CHUSDE has been empowering young people by turning waste plastic, bottles, and tires into valuable products. We've been collecting these materials from around town and transforming them into useful items. We're happy to see our efforts paying off. So far, we've turned plastic into hard mats, which we use to make

shoes, bags, and more. Our goal is to help the environment and provide economic opportunities for the youth involved in this project. The Wanda Foundation Youth Club has been very helpful and hardworking in this effort. Together, we're making a positive impact. Check out some of the products we're making. They are currently on sale for MWK10,000.00 each as a promotion, but the regular price is MWK15,000.00. Enjoy!















We are located behind Kasungu Community Hall, inside Skill Youth Network Building

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Our Social Media Pages are:

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WATCH OUT FOR MORE!!!!!!