

# INTERNATIONAL PROJECT PROPOSAL

PROJECT 1481



*Cross International*

*Delivering Food, Shelter and Hope in the Name of Jesus*

# Developing Faith and Hope

## Ambuya Development Center Microenterprise

— Blantyre, Malawi —



Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2



## We are a ministry

that mobilizes the global Church to transform the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

Rather than create new institutions to distribute aid, we support existing ministries and churches already serving the poor. In addition to being the most cost-effective way of helping the poor, empowering these ministries allows us to support the Church's spiritual mission and its important position of leadership in poor communities.

We consider every gift we receive as a precious resource from God. We direct every donation to its intended project, provide honest and accurate reports to our donors, and keep overhead costs to an industry low. We handle funds with utmost integrity and hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards by asking them to document costs and the impact of their outreach.

We invite you to join with us as we seek to transform the lives of the poor materially and spiritually — ways that please the Father and glorify Him in Heaven and on earth.





## Developing Faith and Hope | Project 1481

# Project Synopsis

### Description

This project will provide microloans to at least 145 women who are caring for orphaned and vulnerable children, so they can start businesses and generate enough income to feed their currently underfed families.

### Purpose

To share the Gospel through words and actions, and give parents and their children hope for a better future.

### Our Partners

The Ambuya Development Center Microenterprise Project and supporting churches.

### Location

Surrounding villages of Blantyre, Malawi (Africa).

### Cost

**\$26,400.**

### Highlights

- Over a two-year period, these women will be assisted with microloans for six-month cycles. They will also be trained to save while repaying their loan. The goal is for at least 80 percent of the participating women to be fully self-supporting and graduate from the program by the end of 2018.
- Depending on how well they repay the first loan, the women will be given an opportunity to re-borrow those funds. If it is apparent that a participant needs to generate more income in order to adequately feed her family, and she has repaid the first loan successfully, larger loans, as well as additional training, may be given until the income goal is met — hopefully by the second loan, but up to a maximum of four loans over a period of two years.
- Cross International partners with local Christian ministries that have a passion to share the love and compassion of Jesus Christ with those in need.
- Your generous gift is needed to fund these lifesaving and transformative programs that hundreds of families are depending on.

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:19-21



*The Ambuya Development Center Microenterprise Project will provide life-changing microloans to women who desperately want to provide for their families.*



## Developing Faith and Hope | Project 1481

### The Need



Esther Madziakapita's voice softened as emotions overcame her. "I love every child. Love is the most important thing... God walks with me; God is the one who gives me this job. If I see people suffering, it hurts my heart and then I ask, 'God what can I do?'"

Esther is a coordinator at the Ambuya Development Center (ADC) in Blantyre, Malawi, and she is desperate for Christian support to empower her ministry. She is eager to spread the Gospel and to care for the earthly needs of the impoverished villagers she ministers to daily, but she can't accomplish her ambitious goals without outside help.

As Esther moves among the families she humbly serves in Thanganyika Village, she says she is inspired by Psalm 119:18 and asks God: "Please open my eyes so that I really see what is needed in this child or in this lady."

While persistent drought has devastated the local farming community, faith grows here abundantly, and Esther wants to reward that devotion to God with practical support.

According to Dr. Victor Madziakapita — Esther's brother and the director of the ADC program — the mission is poised to demonstrate the love of God by enhancing the education of orphans and vulnerable children through the provision of infrastructure, food and life skills. It also helps women rise out of poverty by building livelihoods in the households in Thanganyika and surrounding villages, and all of these services are built upon a Gospel foundation promoting biblical truth and enhancing the spiritual development of both children and adults.

In the next 18 months the ADC wants to provide Bible-based business skills training along with low-interest microloans to at least 145 caregivers whose orphaned and vulnerable children are enrolled in the after-school feeding program. Women caring for elderly or ill family members will also be a focus of its outreaches, and the need is urgent because an ongoing drought has prevented poor subsistence farmers from harvesting enough food to feed their families.

Your support is critical in empowering the Ambuya Development Center to address all of these needs!

#### Faith at Work

With your support, the women will be organized into six groups comprising 17 to 29 participants. They will meet every two weeks for Bible study, and to share ideas, progress and encouragement. Every two months, these groups will be visited by an ADC staff member for updates and a needs evaluation. The women are encouraged to participate in a spiritual retreat every six months. Even though they come from different religious backgrounds, most of the women are strengthened through hearing the Gospel.



## Developing Faith and Hope | Project 1481



*Children like these will receive food, education and spiritual guidance through the Ambuya Development Center Microenterprise Project.*

### Ministry Description

Cross International is thrilled to partner with the Ambuya Development Center because it is a Christian ministry that shares our values and our goal of combining works of mercy with a strong evangelistic effort.

Esther and her brother Victor are members of the local Presbyterian church; their brother Ronald is a pastor in the Full Gospel Church of God, alongside pastors Robert Mpazula and Harry Afana.

Pastor Robert explains, “When kids come here from school, they eat. Esther is helping with the spiritual guidance. She teaches them the word of God, assisting them in reciting the Bible so they can grow up with spiritual guidance and wisdom. Because the Bible says to teach children when they are young so when they grow up they will not forget what they have been told.”

Pastor Harry adds, “We have prayed for Ambuya’s growth and success so the children can grow in their spiritual life. We would like to see a big house built to preach the word of God to all children and adults. And materially, something to help them with clothes, blankets and even provide gifts.”

By working in fellowship with local churches, ministries and organizations like the Ambuya Development Center, Cross International is able to have a profound impact on the lives of the suffering poor while demonstrating that the power of Christ’s love is at work in their lives!

***“The children are growing and they have learned more in the program than at school; they recite Bible verses, know spiritual songs and are better mannered.”***

Alfa Nelson, mother of seven children, four of whom are involved in the ADC feeding program



## Help Now!



Jesus calls us to love one another just as He loves us. Your gift today will provide more than material help and support for our poorest brothers and sisters. It will establish a far-reaching beacon of hope for those who desperately want to improve their lives and provide for their families. In that way, your generosity and compassion will shine the light of Christ's love into the lives of those living in the darkness of despair.

The Ambuya Development Center Microenterprise Project was started as a seed of love, and has been nurtured by the hard work and dedication of Dr. Victor Madziakapita, his sister Esther, and many others — but without your support, this program could wither and dry up like the arid farmland around Blantyre, Malawi.

As you step forward and support this outreach, you will become a lifeline of hope to those who need it most. Please share your faith and your blessings with those who are less fortunate and help us forever change their world for the better!

**“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”**

**Luke 6:38**

### **Our Promise to You!**

Proceeds from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2018, the close of our ministry's new fiscal year. In the event that more funds are raised than needed to fully fund the project, the excess funds, if any, will be used to meet the most urgent needs of the ministry.