



Malawi
2017
*Cultivating hope
one village at a time*

May Team



Elana Malloy



Following God's call

I am 19 years old and in my second year at Ryerson University for a degree in Early Childhood Studies. I have always had a love and passion for working with children. I have spent many summers at Ontario Pioneer Camp, where I attended as a camper and really experienced God's love through the community and staff. I returned as staff, where I gave many of my summers to God, so he could work through me within the lives of the campers. Last year, I spent four months (May-August) living in Japan working at an English school. Through this experience, God challenged me in ways I had never been challenged before. I really learned what it meant to rely on God for strength and guidance when I felt like I had none left. God used this amazing opportunity so I could grow as an individual, and in my faith.

I have always had a desire to go to Africa, but have never understood nor been able to explain why I had this desire. I have started to realize that God has placed this desire in my heart and is calling me to serve in Africa.

In the song *Called Me Higher* by All Sons & Daughters, one of the lyrics is "I could be safe here in your arms and never leave home. Never let these walls down. But You have called me higher. You have called me deeper. And I'll go where You will lead me Lord". This has really led me to follow God's calling for

Project Areas

Love a Village works to reduce poverty and promote self-sustainability by partnering with Malawians in five key project areas:

- **Clean Water** - bore holes and household water filters
- **Food Security** - fruits, veggies, livestock, forestation and fertilizer
- **Hygiene** - toilets and wash stations, and girls hygiene classes
- **Education** - tuition scholarships, school supplies, and life skills training
- **Basic Shelter** - new construction, repair, tin roof installations

As we work, we build relationships and share the good news of Jesus' great love for us.



Luhomero

Love a Village works in the village of Luhomero (pop. 4,000). Malawi is known as the Warm Heart of Africa and is one of the world's poorest nations (per person GDP is only \$226.50 USD). The village of Luhomero is in Malawi's neglected northern region.

me to go to Africa. I had looked into different programs and organizations but heard God telling me "not yet". When I learned about Love a Village and how they are serving in Malawi, I was so excited because I knew that this was where God was sending me! I am so excited to be serving in Malawi this May. Throughout this past year, I have learned so much about God and myself and I am excited to dedicate this summer to him and experience all that he has planned for me.

My personal goal is to stay completely open to this experience and not allow fear or anxiety to hold me back from fully serving this summer. I have never been on a mission's trip so I don't really have expectations. I will rely on God for strength and fully trust that He has something amazing planned for Malawi this summer.

I have always had a love for traveling and learning about different cultures. I look forward to learning about, and experiencing Malawian lifestyle and culture. I have heard about the poverty and brokenness in Malawi, like many other third world countries, and I look forward to seeing the beauty in the people and the country. I know that God will open my eyes to see all this beauty in His creation during my time there. It is so easy to look at poor and broken places and want to change them, but I know there will be many things I will be learning from them. I think I will learn to appreciate everything I have in my comfortable life. It is so easy to get caught up in the thought that we never have enough. But thinking about people who have nothing and still have joy and love really puts everything in perspective.

My dream has always been to show God's love to those who are vulnerable. I want to do this through working with children, specifically children who are in difficult situations. I love getting to know people and connecting with them, and I am really excited to go to Malawi to show love, and interact with the people there.

It will definitely be difficult to be in a new place so far away from home. The shock and adjustment to the lifestyle will be challenging, but getting out of my comfort zone is when I learn the most about myself and God's grace.

Prayer is essential. It is the single most important gift people can give me, so please pray! It is only through prayer that I will be able to accomplish all that He is asking me to do as I walk along side Him.

If you would like to contribute towards my goal of \$5,000, you can do so in any of the following ways:

PayPal
www.loveavillage.org/donate

Cheque
Love a Village Mission
PO Box 20513
Toronto, ON
M1T 3V5

Online banking e-transfer
to: loveavillage@yahoo.ca

Feel free to connect with me personally at:
elanamalloy@gmail.com

All donations over \$25 will receive a tax receipt when you include your full name, address & email.

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