



Together, we're making a difference!

Love a Village

We are a grassroots organization dedicated to changing the face of extreme poverty. We are the voice for the voiceless, silenced by the chasm the grip of poverty has left them in. We exist to empower villagers, not through handouts, but by working together with local leaders, coming alongside them and assisting them to live independently.

Luhomero, Malawi

Luhomero is nestled in an isolated, low-lying mountain range with a population of over 5,000. As subsistence farmers, their survival depends on what they grow. They're determined people, who's lives are changing!

Follow my team!

Photos and updates will be posted during our trip!

www.facebook.com/loveavillage

@loveavillage

www.lavm.org/blog



Olivia Wells

I am 18 years old, and currently a first year student at Guelph University. I'm taking international development and am thoroughly enjoying my classes and new experiences at university. I'm learning lots about topics like humanitarian efforts and foreign aid, but I'm eager to take my knowledge of these things outside of the classroom. I have always been passionate about seeing the world and connecting with others, but the first time I put this into practice was on a trip I took during high school to the Dominican Republic. There, for the first time in my life, I was removed from the culture I was so used to and got to work alongside wonderful people with very different lives than my own.

My reasons for wanting to go on this trip are similar. This is my first time going to Malawi and I am excited to be a part of something that I'm sure will be full of new experiences. I have known about Love a Village for a few years and felt something





LAV Projects

LAV works to reduce poverty and promote independence by partnering with Malawians in:

- Clean Water - boreholes and water filters
- Safe Shelter - roofing
- Food Security - farming techniques, beehives, mushrooms and so much more
- Health & Hygiene - toilets, hygiene classes
- Focus on Girls - sewing and menstrual hygiene management

Support

Prayer is essential and is the single most important gift people can give me. Financial gifts are also needed in order to enable me to go and advance LAV projects in Lhomero.

Here's how you can help:
www.loveavillage.org/donate.

Receipts issued for donations over \$25

stirring within me telling me to get more involved and I am excited to finally be acting on that. I am so privileged and blessed to join this team and travel to Malawi. I am grateful for the chance to be pushed further outside of my comfort zone than ever before, and can't wait for the growth that will come as a result. I know I will learn a lot from all the Malawians we connect with. I hope that this trip will stick with me and shape me long after I return.

Being involved with and supporting mission trips such as this one are a big part of what I feel God is currently calling me to do with my life. While it's often tough to express exactly why I feel this way, it's the sense of fulfillment, even in anticipation of this trip, that I feel that confirms for me that I am following God's will for my life. I want to love and walk alongside the Malawians that we meet. As I have never been on this trip before, I'm not sure what form this will take, but I pray that my thoughts and actions will be led by God as I figure this out.

I hope that throughout this trip I will grow more passionate about helping others and more sure of God's will for my life. It would also be amazing if our team could provide the Malawians with hope and further progress against some of the issues they are currently facing. Making a difference in other people's lives is such an important thing to do, especially when I have already been blessed with so much. As mentioned before I also hope for personal growth and to learn lots from everyone I come in contact with. I hope to learn about a new culture and what our culture should be doing differently so I can make some personal adjustments in my life.

I think that I'm least looking forward to a sunburn that I will probably get. Even if I am diligent about sunscreen I'm currently so pale that it feels inevitable. Hopefully by some miracle I will be able to avoid this or at least only be burned for a short amount of time. This is a fairly minor issue though so I'm sure no matter the outcome I will be just fine.

Overall, I pray for safety throughout the trip, to keep an open mind so I can experience everything more fully, and to learn lots about God, others, and myself so that I can live set apart for Him.

