



Malawi
2017
*Cultivating hope
 one village at a time*

November Team



Lydia Hutt

My heart has been pulled

I am a follower of Christ, growing and learning every day. I married my husband, Ryan, eight years ago, and since then we have had three wonderful children; Conor is 5, Kassidy is 3 and Brenna is 1. I worked as a nurse in a Toronto hospital for 10 years while Ryan renovated three homes for us there, but recently we moved to a quiet country home outside of Ottawa. We recently joined Move Church and have been growing as God speaks to us each week, and I am looking forward to experiencing Him in big ways I never imagined!

My heart has been pulled by God towards doing this trip for over 5 years now. Since I first saw Julie's pictures of the Malawian people and heard her stories of happiness and heartaches I have desired to meet these beautiful, expressive faces; to love them and help them.

I've chosen to go to Malawi not so much because of the location, but because of Love a Village. This is a mission organization that I absolutely KNOW is doing God's work and I want to be part of it!

With 2 young girls at home, and my son in kindergarten, my husband and I felt 2 weeks was long enough for him to be a stay-at-home dad! Thankfully his family lives nearby and can help him!



Project Areas

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

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

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. 5,000). 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.

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.

Financial gifts are also needed towards reaching my goal, which will not only enable me to go but also advance Love a Village projects in Luhomero.

Here is how you can help:

PayPal

www.loveavillage.org/donate

Cheque

Love a Village Mission
c/o Julie Seath
PO Box 33511
Toronto, ON
M3A 1Z0

Online banking e-transfer

to: loveavillage@yahoo.ca

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

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

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As I prepare for this experience, it's natural to consider what my goals are. I really want to understand the heart of Malawians and to show them God's love while I am there. I hope to better understand the challenges that families in Luhomero are facing and see the work that Love a Village is doing to meet those needs. I want to jump in and participate where I can. I feel my service can demonstrate that these vulnerable people matter to God.

I really feel that I'm a part of the Love a Village team, so on this trip I would like to learn more about how we, as Love a Village Mission, can practically and effectively help the people of Luhomero for the long-term, become independent and self-sustainable.

While I'm looking forward to this experience, I think it will be very challenging to face the reality of extreme poverty. I live a privileged life here in Canada, and have a difficult time understanding what poverty means: a complete lacking of the resources to provide for the basic needs of life such as food, clothing and shelter. I know that it will be hard to see the truth and realize that my whole life I have done very little to change this reality. Matthew 25: 37-40 says, *"Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'"* Every time I read this verse I feel uncomfortable and I wonder how I will answer the Lord. This short two week trip is not an item on my list that can be checked off when I get home "OK God, I gave the thirsty something to drink." This trip is simply the next step in my walk of obedience to Him.