



Malawi
2017
*Cultivating hope
one village at a time*

May Team



Emma McCallum

I can't wait to go back!

I am 20 years old, and am in my third year of studying psychology at York University. I love working with children and have been involved in childcare for a long time now. I have watched a handful of kids who are now 8 from the time they were infants. In addition to psychology and children, I have always had a love for sports (hockey more specifically) and cherish the friendship and companionship that team sports provide.

As you may know, in August 2016 I served on a Love a Village team in Malawi. My eyes were opened to realities I had never even thought about prior to the trip. Visiting Malawi and seeing so many needs has stirred up my passion to do whatever I can to help. I see the opportunities that I have and can't help but think about people who are trapped in extreme poverty. I haven't been able to stop thinking about excess spending in first world countries. I'm more aware of excesses in my own life. So, I guess you could say I'm returning to Malawi because I am on a mission to follow God now that He's opened my eyes and heart. I want to befriend and help those who have basic needs that are waiting to be met.

I cannot express how beautiful Malawians are. These are the most joyful, welcoming, and warmhearted people I have ever met even though they deal with serious trials every day. The people are inspiring me to go back. I saw how smart and resourceful Malawians are and so I know that Love a Village can help villagers achieve great things and work their way out of extreme poverty. Above all, Malawian women hold a special place in my heart. They are the bravest women I have ever met, and I yearn to get to know them on a deeper level.



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.

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. My goal is to raise \$4,600, 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
PO Box 20513
Toronto, ON
M1T 3V5

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

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

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

BN 82900 0181 RR001

I'm also stirred by horrific conditions (like the lack of basic sanitation & access to clean water) that I witnessed on my first trip. I know we can make a difference! How cool would that be to be a part of aiding in the changing of an entire country one village at a time?

On this trip I would definitely like to be even more involved. I would like to have a closer look into the lives of Malawians, and in doing this would like to exhibit a servant's posture. I want to go and shine God's light in the dark shadows that cover many Malawian lives. I want to show love and kindness to people who might not understand what God's love and kindness look like. I want to be able to carry God's presence with me to a place where His presence may not always be easy to feel.

As I mentioned above, I would like to have a closer look into the lives of Malawians. In doing this I want to learn more about the trials that they face, and want to understand how they think we can slowly but surely work at solving these problems. Furthermore, I am extremely interested in learning more about Malawian women's lives. They are such strong women who have to endure so much negativity, and I would love to learn more about them in a personal way. In addition, I would like to learn more about myself. My strengths and weaknesses, and how far I can be pushed. Most importantly, I want to learn more about God and about His plan for me, and his never-ending love for everyone.

I have a dream that God will use me in the way He sees most fit. It can be scary to leave home again, taking time off of work, not knowing what to expect. But I know that God would not lead me to the decision of going back to Malawi if there was not a reason for it. I pray that He would use me in ways that help me see Him and experience Him. And I dream that this would be an amazing trip with long lasting friendships made, and people coming to God.

Once again, I am not looking forward to the bugs. But now that I have gone once, I know that my least favourite part of the trip will be the travel. I had a pretty bad experience with the flying during the first trip, and feel a bit anxious when I think about traveling for that long again.

I am more than excited to be going back to Malawi! Although I had an amazing experience the first time, I know that it does not mean I will have the same experience the second time. But I know that God will be leading me every step of the way, and I am stoked to see what he has in store for the beautiful country of Malawi.