



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



Joy Tigchelaar

Greetings family, friends and acquaintances of Love a Village! I am thrilled to be a participant of Love a Village's team to Malawi this coming May. I love to sing, design spaces, have a passion for people, and enjoy the outdoors (including the winter season). Currently, I am a second-year student at the University of Western Ontario studying Urban Development. Simply put, urban development is interested in the dialectic relationship between people and spaces. Through my studies, I have not only come to appreciate how people behave and influence their environments but how space itself influences people. In contrast to my studies of urban environments, Love a Village has the mission of "cultivating hope one village at a time by empowering villagers to escape extreme poverty and live independently!"





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 Luhomero.

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

Receipts issued for donations over \$25

Those in Northern Malawi, live in severe scarcity of both resources and opportunities.

As a team, we'll be working in the community of Luhomero, a network of 42 villages. Love a Village works with local partners to achieve Clean Water, Food Security, Safe Shelter, Health and Hygiene, and Education (with a focus on girls). This will be my first time going to Malawi and though I have theoretically learned about the complex relationships of people in their environments, my understanding of such relationships has not gone much further than the borders of a classroom. This past year the concept of faith in ACTION has been placed on my heart particularly the verse Matthew 25:34-40, a part of verse 40 states "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." This verse expresses my motivation to go, learn about love, and show love to others.

I discovered Love a Village through their newsletters which my mom would forward to me. Initially I didn't think much about the emails. However, I thought the mission of LAV was a powerful and inspiring one. It wasn't until this year that I felt inspired to GO to Malawi and take part in LAV's mission which works alongside Malawians by empowering them to break the cycle of poverty. It is hard to know what to expect from this project, but I have faith that God will do something big through our team. I know that there will be many highs and lows and a plethora of emotions along this journey. I am anticipating that in Malawi we will observe and absorb a lot of new things which are much different than our North American culture and comforts such as simple amenities of water or electricity. I look forward to serving and learning from the Malawian people and excited to see God at work. Please keep me and the team in your thoughts and prayers as we prepare and head out to Malawi. Blessings!

