



GIRLS ON THE MOVE

RIPPLE EFFECTS

www.malawigirlsonthemove.com

FALL 2016



ATSIKANA
PA ULENDO
girls on the move

MEMORY'S SPEAKING TOUR 2016

Memory arrived in Canada on Sept 28th, just hours before her first, and most important speaking engagement of her month long stay in Canada. She and APU Graduate Maness Samuel had been flown in to deliver a plenary presentation at the Rotary Zone Institute. After their main presentation, they received a standing ovation from over 450 deeply moved Rotarians including John Germ, the President of Rotary International. The photo shows John giving Memory a big, warm hug after the applause died down.



John Germ and Memory

Included in her speaking tour were presentations to the Rotary Clubs of Sidney By The Sea, Westshore, and Oak Bay, the Rotaract Club of Victoria, SMUS Middle School, West-Mont Elementary School, a special meeting with some private funders from Victoria, and a meeting with APU Director Dariol Haydock and her group of Women Helping Women in Victoria.

A huge thank you to APU Malawi Education Foundation Directors Pat Killoran, Dean Rohrs, David (and Frances) Stocks, Lori (and Bob) Messer, Lance Shaver, Dariol Haydock and Christie Johnson for all of their work in arranging, driving, and hosting Memory during her most successful stay.



SCHOLARSHIPS

To earn a scholarship to attend APU, girls from over 50 Primary Schools are recommended by teachers from local primary school within our self-defined catchment area. These girls need to have proven their dedication and determination to remain in school despite obstacles that include poverty, lack of parental support, and orphanhood. Once their teachers recommend them for scholarship to APU, the girls are interviewed both in English and Chichewa by Memory and other female teachers. The interview is critically important in sorting out girls who have the internal motivation and courage to stick with the very strict rules and high academic expectations required to succeed at APU. Following their interviews, the girls are given basic skills tests in math and English. Those girls fortunate enough to be selected to attend APU are brought to school one week early for orientation before they start their four-year program at APU.



scholarship students in their hostel

THIS IS THE STORY OF ONE OF OUR NEWEST SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS AS TOLD BY APU DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER MEMORY MDYETSENI.

Iness (name changed to protect her identity) is the first-born child in a family of seven children. She was raised by her parents until the time when she was nine years old. Her mother passed away and life became hard for her father to parent seven children. Her father remarried with the hope of raising the kids together. This was just a dream of Iness's father because this stepmother became a burden to the kids particularly the older kids who were able to notice the torture they were going through. Iness's father found a new home for Iness at his mother's house. Iness was young and yet in this home she was forced to become the breadwinner as her grandmother was very old and she could not do any economic activities to bring food into the family.

Iness took the role of a mother in this house. Whenever, there was food in the home she was able to go to school and whenever there was no food she'd hire herself out to do piecework so that she could have food in the home. She failed to balance school, and work, and had to quit exams in order to find food to eat. Finally, when this became too hard, she gave in to the constant pressure she was under from older boys and accepted a boyfriend who agreed to give her money for her basic needs. This allowed Iness to return to school. At the same time, Iness was terrified that she would end up pregnant or sick with HIV/AIDS, but despite her fears, she was determined to finish school.

It took Iness fourteen years to complete 8 grades of primary school, and she was 20 years old at the time of her APU interview. Her advanced age did not stop her from believing that she might earn herself a scholarship to attend APU and achieve her dream of becoming an educated woman. APU has become her school, home and place that will help her to have a better future. She feels protected at APU rather than her home where she felt very exposed to so many dangers.

**PLEASE CONSIDER
JOINING OUR APU FAMILY
BY SPONSORING ONE OF
THESE REMARKABLE
YOUNG WOMEN.**

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BRICK BY BRICK CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Since 2007, our APU Campus has grown to include 19 buildings and 9 additional capital projects. This has only been possible through the hard work of hundreds of individuals fundraising independently or with fundraising groups that they have created in support of our school. This year, our major funders include a private donor on Vancouver Island (\$35,000), Rotary Clubs of Sidney By The Sea, Langley Central, North Delta, Stony Plain, St. Albert, Spruce Grove, Edmonton South, Calgary Downtown, Calgary West, and Olds. It also includes our longstanding champion, the Interact Club of Dawson Creek, and Women Helping Women in Victoria.



Women Helping Women



Primary school classroom

APU CAPITAL PROJECTS 2007-2016

GENERAL PROJECTS

- ROAD UPGRADE FROM NSALU TRADING CENTER
- ELECTRICITY
- TWO STORY WATER TOWER WITH 30,000 L WATER CAPACITY
- CAFETERIA WITH CAPACITY TO ACCOMMODATE 600 PEOPLE
- GUEST HOUSE

RECENT PROJECTS 2015-2016

- ➔ **SECURITY PROJECT**
\$22,000 TO TRAIN AND EMPLOY SECURITY GUARDS, CONSTRUCT FENCING AND EQUIP APU WITH VIDEO SURVEILLANCE.
- ➔ **FOOD FOR WORK FAMINE RELIEF ROAD CONSTRUCTION**
\$35,000 TO PAY FOR MANUAL LABOR SERVICES OF LOCAL FAMILIES DESPERATE FOR WORK DURING TIME OF 2015/2016 FAMINE.
- ➔ **WATER PROJECT**
\$15,000 RAISED FOR 2ND WELL AND RURAL MONO PUMP THAT CAN RUN ON DIESEL, SOLAR OR ELECTRICITY FROM THE GRID.
- ➔ **SOLAR POWER PROJECT**
\$12,000 TO EQUIP ALL CLASSROOMS, STAFF HOUSING AND HOSTELS WITH SOLAR PANELS.

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY 2007-2016

ATSIKANA PAULENDO (GIRLS ON THE MOVE) PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOL

- 4 Classroom Blocks that contain 3 classrooms each
- 4 student Hostels that are accommodating 80 students each
- 3 Staff Duplexes
- Science Lab containing 2 lecture halls and 2 laboratories
- 6 composting Toilets

FUTURE APU TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE (TTC)

- Legacy Building
- 1 Staff Duplex
- Hostel

VICTORIA GARDENS ACADEMY (FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE APU PRIMARY SCHOOL)

- Class Block #1
- Class Block #2 (\$34,000)
- Primary Playground

CURRENT PROJECTS REQUIRING FUNDING

- Legacy building (\$30,000)
- primary class block #3
- Hotel #5

Message from Founder Memory Mdyetseni



APU Founder Memory Mdyetseni

It has been ten years since this vision came to pass. Christie and I both saw the problem of high illiteracy among women and girls which brings in a lot of problems like poverty, diseases, violation of human rights, and abuse of women and girls. This quality education is not all about academics only, but it teaches

things like ethics and life skills. We groom girls who will be able to stand for themselves as well as other people as long as honesty and integrity is concerned.

The school opened its doors in 2008 and so far we have graduated over 400 girls. Over 70 girls are in various universities in Malawi. 80 girls have become primary school teachers already working in different public schools in Malawi. 50 girls are in nursing schools and some have already started working as nurses. 10 girls are now employed by APU and it feels good to work with APU Alumni. The graduating students whether working or not but they have taken leadership position in their families, villages and community. They are encouraging and paying for their siblings to work hard in school.

Many thanks to our donors for supporting this cause, We feel humbled to learn that a vision that we had has turned into reality. The reality that has made the world a better place for people who did not have hope for the future.



**YES, TOGETHER WE STAND
AND DIVIDED WE FALL.
THANK YOU FOR
STANDING WITH US.**

Memory Mdyetseni

*Dear Memory and Christie,
Thanks very much for
dedicating your entire lives
to educating girls in the
rural areas of Malawi.*

*My life would be hell
if it wasn't for your work
in Malawi.*

*So thanks very much for
saving my life.*

I love and admire you both.

Maness



Maness Samuel