

In 1992, Venerable Huili embarked on a journey to Africa. He established the first "Amitofo Care Center" (ACC) in Malawi during 2004, dedicated to caring for African vulnerable children and where more than 85% of world's HIV-positive children live. Today, many years later, the founder continues with his compassionate practice of Buddhism in Africa traveling to all corners of Africa, and helping countless precious young lives. Nowadays, he is known as the "African monk" or "Monk dad" in the eyes of thousands of children.

## Wheelchair donation

Contributor: ACC Malwai

On July 9, Lilongwe ACC international relief team donated 7 wheelchairs to the Malawi Council for the Disabled (MACOHA) to the following beneficiaries. Volunteers from the Buddhist Institute also assisted in the donation.

Initially, it was planned to donate 10 wheelchairs, but because 3 beneficiaries were unable to attend, only 7 wheelchairs were donated.

- 1. Roderick Richard was born in 2011, and is a first-grade student of Beauva Elementary School. The boy lives in Beauva Village in Chitukula. His father said that Roderick was born with a disability. Thank you very much for the donation of the wheelchair so Roderick can get around easier.
- 2. The second wheelchair was donated to Uvimi Muwowo who is studying in COBT kindergarten in District 25, he was born in 2016. His mother Eliza Gunvey confirmed that the child was born with a disability. A wheelchair can help both of them because she carried him on her back wherever she went.
- 3. The third wheelchair was donated to Mpaso Salmani from Dotti Village in Tachi Tukula, who was born in 2007, who is currently studying in the first grade of a model elementary school. His mother Lydia Jackson said that the wheelchair will alleviate her child's mobility problems, and thanked the donation very much.
- 4. Another wheelchair was donated to Grace Banda, an 18-year-old girl in the 8th grade of Cancordola Elementary School. The girl's family lives in the town of Tandire. Grandmother Joyce Banda is very excited about the donation because it will help the mobility situation. Their family encourages students to study until the 8th grade, which is rare among disabled children.
- 5. Chicondi Zakyu, a 17-year-old boy, who studies in Chivoza Elementary School in the Katera Village area of Qianseka near Benda, received another wheelchair. His father Zakyu Ismail is very grateful for this donation, because it improves mobility. Because of the disability, it is difficult to send the children to school on walk, and the situation will get better now.
- 6. Kingsley Mchinga is also a beneficiary of a wheelchair. He was born in 2000 and is currently participating in computer vocational training in the 2nd district of Sandvika. His family lives in the town of Tandire. As the guardian (brother) Amos Mzinga said, Kingsley works very hard despite his physical difficulties. He thanked Lilongwe ACC for the donation.
- 7. The last wheelchair was donated to Kingsley Golova, a 19-year-old boy in the 4th grade of Cancordola Elementary School. His family lives in Mtandale. His father, Kennedy Golova, is very grateful for the donation from Lilongwe ACC. Some beneficiaries did not attend due to illness, so three wheelchairs were left in MACOHA. When the selected students are ready, Lilongwei ACC will donate these wheelchairs next time.

Lilongwe ACC took a group photo with all beneficiaries and guardians including MACOHA members.

The manager of MACOHA witnessed the donation and thanked Lilongwe ACC for its care for the disabled. Wheelchairs will help students move more easily during school and other social activities.

After the donation, the Lilongwe ACC team also had the opportunity to discuss with Ms. Brenda about our request of MACOHA to assist in training our nanny and to provide recognition for this training, Ms. Brenda said she would give us feedback after consulting other members of MACOHA.









