

# Medical On Life Support



A critical need for health care assistance is evident throughout Malawi. The system of universal health-care, put in place in the 1960s, has been unable to keep pace with the demands of a population growth from 4 million to 18 million in fifty years. Add to the population explosion the advent of HIV/Aids, Covid-19, the continued

onslaught of malaria, tuberculosis, malnutrition, cholera, and other diseases and problems that are absent in western medical communities.

In Malawi, going to the hospital can mean laying on a mat on the floor because there are no beds available, giving birth in a rural hospital on a black garbage bag, or seeking needed supplies from the pharmacy only to learn there is a single box of gauze on the shelf. Even as late as the 90's reports indicated there were fewer than 100 Malawi doctors and no more than 3,000 nurses to serve a population of nearly 17 million people. By the turn of the century, even though the life expectancy was improving, the average Malawian was expected to live only to 45.9 years of age. The situation continues to be critical.



**The Malawi Project**

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*For additional information about the critical state of the medical needs in Malawi go to;*  
[www.malawiproject.org/programs/medical/](http://www.malawiproject.org/programs/medical/)



# Medical Supply Assistance



The critical need for additional medical resources to Malawi was evident from the beginning, and for the first 15 years (1993 – 2008), a major part of the focus was to create a state-of-the art medical facility, and to ship badly needed medical supplies to other facilities. It had started with one-on-one assistance during village and rural hospital visits. Then it saw a major expansion with the construction of a well-supplied, Malawi staffed, 5-building, 110-bed, medical complex near the capital city of Lilongwe.

In 2008, with the hospital's future secured, the Malawi Project moved

and expanded operations in the south where the highest concentration of population resided. For the next 10 years distribution continued from a site near Zomba, and soon reached nationwide. By 2017 aid assistance had reached over 600 medical facilities.

In 2017-18 Action for Progress\* was formed, and through the joint efforts of the two groups distribution has passed 270 million dollars in medical, agricultural, and educational assistance, the bulk of it being in the area of medical assistance.



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\*The Malawi Project tailors its work to the goal of the Malawi people overseeing and administering their own programs. It is believed this will bring a better understanding to the unique problems of their nation and culture. Action for Progress is the Project's Malawi sister organization accomplishing these goals.

For additional information on how to assist the Malawi Project in reaching and enlarging these goals contact the offices listed on this page, or go to [www.malawiproject.org](http://www.malawiproject.org)