



Baby Packs for Life



The Malawi Project appeals to churches, community groups, and individuals to rally their resources, and help change this shortfall for the mothers and babies of Malawi. While these items appear to be a convenience to expectant mothers in the developed world, many of them can be lifesaving in sub-Saharan Africa, and many village people can never afford the cost to purchase them.



The need is not going to change any time soon. Malawi has a young population with 52 percent 18 years of age or under. Half of the population lives below the internationally recognized poverty level, and the maternal mortality rate is estimated at 1,120 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births. (This compares to 23.8 deaths per 100,000 in the U.S.) By supplying these simple items, you can make a life-or-death difference in the life of a Malawi mother.



BIRTHING PACK CONTENTS

- 0-3-month Onesie
- Baby hat
- Baby washcloth
- Mother washcloth
- Baby receiving blanket
- Piece of cloth for baby to lay on after delivery
- Large black garbage bag on which to deliver
- Sanitary Pad x 2
- Small zip lock bag containing:
 - Bar of soap
 - Razor blade
 - 2 pair of rubber gloves
 - Umbilical ties x 2

(Place all items in a gallon zip lock bag)

In turn these baby packs will be sent to Malawi and distributed to expectant mothers.



Send to:

The Malawi Project

2421 Golfside Drive
Lebanon, IN 46052



Baby Births ill-equipped

Edith is 22 years old, and about to deliver her second baby. The problem is Edith is 8 miles from the nearest healthcare facility and has no option but to walk the remaining distance to the hospital. Add to that there may be no bed for her when she reaches the hospital, and she is only partially prepared with the supplies the medical staff will require before they can do the delivery. Then when it comes time for her delivery she will be required to deliver her precious new baby on a black garbage bag.



The next problem comes in the fact there will probably be no doctor in attendance and a mid-wife will handle the delivery, along with 8 or 10 others who will deliver within minutes of Edith. In addition to the needs of the mother, and those of the hospital staff, there are also the needs for the baby. This new mother has no blanket in which to wrap her newborn, no cap to keep its head warm, no hygiene items for her own care, and chances are the hospital will be unable to supply any of these. If Edith can make it to the rural hospital in the trading center her problems with shortages, baby and mother needs, and poverty will only be beginning. If only there were someone, somewhere, who loved her enough to help her with this delivery and after care.

Edith is reflective of life in one of the poorest parts of the world, central Africa. Shortages abound in every aspect of life, and as a result, death and disease stalk the village people at every turn. Families have no cars or other transportation (other than walking or riding a bicycle or oxcart) to get to a hospital, and no resources to care for their family members at home in an emergency. When they reach the hospital for their first visit they are given a list of items they must provide for the delivery of their baby and for themselves. The hospital is without adequate supplies to provide adequate delivery care, and the maternal death rate for the nation reflects this fact. Malawi has one of the highest maternal death rates in the world.

Send donations to: www.malawiproject.org/donate

The Malawi Project

2421 Golfside Drive
Lebanon, IN 46052

Contact the Project at: info@malawiproject.org