

FRIENDS OF CHIPUNGA  
The President Dr. Jens Diedrich  
Förderverein e.v.  
Vordere Gasse 10  
71254 Ditzingen  
Germany

30<sup>th</sup> October. 2014

## Reply to the letter of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and October 2014

Dear GRACE Members,  
we are so excited with points that were written in both letters.  
We would also like to comment point by point from each letter, starting from letter of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

### Point 1:

Thanks for the idea that we should go for the old borehole which is working now. People are drinking good water from the borehole. And with the feeding programme it's good to have water at the school for health wise. Though it's a little bit far from the school but now people are used with it. The people from surroundings are also benefiting with it.

### Point 2: Expense Allowance

C.D.C members are very happy with the issue of getting an allowance of 500 MK per month starting from September 2014. On condition we have already started writing the minutes and have a calendar so that when we send in the month of December we should not have a problem.

As we are starting our annual year budget in October, we have started organizing the food and beverages for the first meeting that we had on 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2014. We did everything proper, it's good that we should not depend on volunteer because when the volunteer will be away we will have a problem so we should be used on our own.

It is really possible that we will send you the copy for all our tracking and receipts.

### Point 3: Scholarships College

We are so sorry that other people from the community they didn't or don't understand proper what the C.D.C. Members announced to them about what they should be doing when proposing for the scholarship college. Everybody in the community knows about how GRACE is working. They are not receiving any requests or proposals direct but the request should pass the office of C.D.C.. Then C.D.C members comment on it and send it to GRACE or forward it to you in Germany.

We promise that effective now if someone writes or proposes directly to you, we will not consider or recommend on his or her proposal. We also advise you that if anyone sends a proposal directly to you, you should send back this proposal, so that he or she should know, that C.D.C. has power.

But we talked to some of the people directly in the office about what they did, like the father of Stuart Thindwa. His father has apologized for what the son has done.

#### Point 4: Primary School

Thanks for accepting of paying cooks who are employed here in the community. We have already discussed about this issue in our community. We are doing all tracking for this project though there is a problem. The problem is, that the cooks are complaining that they need more money. The need almost 500 MK per day. We are still trying to talk to them that they should understand our goal of employing them and the work of the community on the feeding programme. If we will see that the problem continues, we will send you another report middle of next month.

#### The Schoolblock

We spoke to the community so they are still working on how they can start the project and plan for the schoolblock because this is a very big project in our community. We need to write it properly. You talked about your commitment that you cover only the cost of roofing. What about the covering of cement for building and flooring drains?

#### Advance payment for laptops for teachers

We talked with the teachers who will get a laptop and we come up with the following idea:

5 laptops are needed to 5 teachers only out of 8 teachers.

The cost per laptop is 150.000 MK, South African made.

The total of 5 laptops is 750.000 MK.

The teachers agreed that they will start paying before they get the laptop. They will start paying it in January 2015.

They will be paying 10.000 MK per month. But it will depend upon them. Some can pay more than 10.000MK per month.

They also agree that they can pay this money in 15 months with condition. It can be 15 months or less.

They put uniform laptops to avoid problems in payment.

#### Point 5:

Thanks for lifting up the wages of Pre-school teachers from 250 to 275 MK per day starting from January 2015.

#### Point 6: Medication

Thanks for the support on offering the medication at a reduced price. Before we come up with a plan and storage + handing over of the drugs, we want to ask you some questions on the project. Indeed we asked for this project but we also fear with what you explained to us. Our questions are as follows:

In Malawi selling the drugs is prohibited if you don't have licence from the government of Malawi. The licence is given to the one who has worked before in the hospital or having a Doctorate Certificate degree or diploma or a nurse. What happens if you can provide the drugs for free? The drugs will be for first aid only. As the drugs will be given to the workers from the farm, what will happen if the Company can also be paying half amount of the drugs, then GRACE also pays half.

#### Point 7: Lighting for Chipunga

Everything is done by Bernhard. Thanks to him for all what he is doing to us, the C.D.C. Members. We are still selling some of the small and big solar. We have the money for all the solar from the first and the second one. What should we do with it, after finishing selling all? After finishing all is when we can tell you the total amount of money that we will have. What should we do with this money?

We will be happy if we will be informed in time about what you will agree with Powered By Nature in Lilongwe. It will be good to train the volunteers for this job because they should be very busy on daily activities for them.

People have already agreed to renovate the Headmasters house. They have already started organizing some of the local materials like bricks and river sand and brick layers are waiting for the proposed material from GACE.

Point 8:

I already received the letters from them and I also announced to the community that the new volunteers will be here in middle of November.

Point 9: Answering the question:

a) The teachers from Primary School are getting salaries. The teachers from Pre-school are getting wages.

For the ones at the Primary School, they earn 50.000 MK basic per month.

For the Pre-school, they earn 5.000 MK or more than that, depending on the number of days worked per month.

b) The teachers work 5 days a week which is 20 days a month when the month begins on Monday. Sometimes they can work 23 days a month if the month begins in the middle of the week.

For the Primary School teachers, if they don't show up for work, the Headteacher is responsible for that. He has to talk to the PEA ( Primary Education Advisor). For his performance he has to affect his leave.

But for the Pre-School teachers, they are getting wages. They have to be marked absent for the days that he or she didn't show up. He or she will get less money.

c) A farm worker is earning 551 MK per day and per month they are earning 14.326 or 14.877 MK. It is like this because they are working more days per week and per month.

They are working 6 days a week. So some month there are 26 days and some 27. That's why in other months they are earning 14.326 and 14.877 MK.

1. Thanks again for information of the budget for 2013-2014. With this information we are really helped in our calculation.

As you said, that the remaining money for annual budget left over is 400.000 MK for the current season. But with our calculation the annual remaining money left over is 517.000 MK.

With Bernhard is 298.572,50 MK.

And with us in the cash box is 218.427,50 MK.

Our calculation was based from October 2013 to September 2014. As you have already agreed that for meantime we should use the remaining money from left over, we have already started using it for annual budget of 2014-2015. For example by buying the ingredients of the feeding system, paying the school fees for the scholarship for Day Community Secondary School and those who were selected to go to Bandawe boys and girls Secondary School, salaries for the cooks and wages for the Pre-school teachers.

We are tracking this money to avoid mixing with the money that you will send to us for the annual budget of 2014-2015.

2. Thanks for accepting the request of C.D.C to have a laptop to do all our accounting work and to write monthly reports.

We will take this chance of learning how to work with a computer. C.D.C. Is very happy on this. We hope that all volunteers who will come this year will be very busy especially in the afternoon.

Hannah has already started to help us on in terms of finding the cost of a laptop. We will forward any information for it after the coming of new volunteers.

3. The money will be paid for this monthend october, the trucking is done and by the help of Headteacher Mr. J. Mkandawire.

#### 4.Scholarship Primary School leavers

I understand that you really agreed to support this project as you have mentioned that you did not say that you have never said that the scholarships for Boarding Secondary has stopped. But in our minutes during your visit in Malawi 2013, we discussed about it. Anyway, I want to ask you about the scholarship of Boarding Secondary School:

Should we pay the 75% of the total amount of fees that they are paying at the secondary School (Boarding School)?

We have asked this question because last scholarship people were paying the whole amount of fees at the Boarding Secondary School.

### Budget 2014-2015

#### A) Proposed Budget For C.D.C for the workers

1. Fertilizer
2. Seedmaize
3. Health
4. Sets of cooking pots, plates, cups and flasks (vacume)
5. Blankets
6. Gumboots, Panga knives, slashers and hoes
7. Bicycles
8. Wooden beds made by local carpenters  $\frac{3}{4}$ .
9. Radio Cassetts
10. C.D.C. Allowances

#### B)Proposed Budget for Pre-schol teachers and Primary School teachers

1. Fertilizer
2. Laptops only for Primary School teachers
3. School fees 75%
4. Salary for Pre-school teachers (wages)
5. Feeding system (poridge)

#### Budget Detailed:

##### 1. Fertilizer

worker:	56 bags
pre school teachers:	8 bags
primary school teachers:	12bags
total:	76 bags

##### 2. Seedmaize

28 bags of 5 kgs

### 3.Schhol fees Day Community Secondary School

7 learners → 75%; 24.937,50 MK per term; 74.812,50 MK per year

1 learner is 4750 MK per term; 75%= 3562,50 MK; per year 10.687,50 MK

### 3.Boarding Secondary School

School fees for two learners 75%

1) Bandawe Boys → 25.500 MK per term; 75%= 19.125 MK; per year 57.375 MK

2) Bandawe Girls → 60.750 MK per term; 75%= 45.562,50 MK; per year 136.687.50 MK

Total for two will be: 194.062,50 MK per year

N.B. For fertilizer and seed maize we do not know yet the pricesbut we are asuming that 1 bag of fertilizer should be 15.000 MK and 1 packet of 5 kgs improved seedmaize is 4.500 MK.

With best regards,

Daniel Mthuti  
C.D.C Chairperson