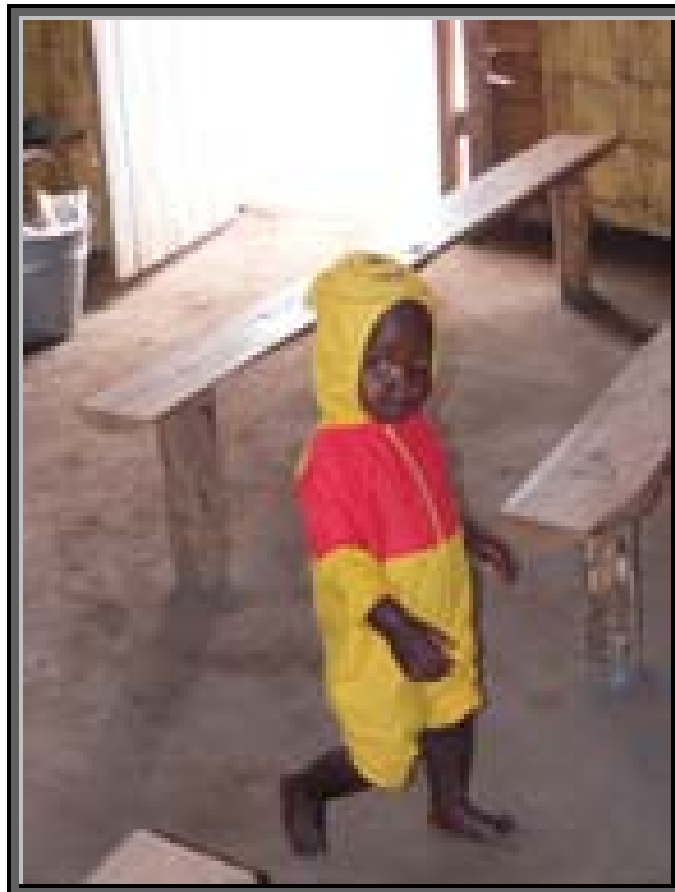


Rice for Education Distribution Report

R.I.C.E. Program 2008 - 2009
Rice Initiative for Childhood Education



Submitted by

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Joyful dancers celebrate arrival of the rice.

Introduction:

62 containers of donated whole milled rice were shipped from the Republic of Taiwan to CitiHope International in the Republic of Malawi, in partnership with Feed the Children. Distribution of the rice commodity began on December 21, 2007 with those recipient locations within and near Mzuzu who could arrange to pick up for their institution with the aim of creating additional storage space in the warehouse because the space was not to accommodate all 62 of the 20ft sea containers. CitiHope's Malawi team also began making deliveries to those local area recipients who could not afford to pick up themselves. Distribution was completed on February 13, 2008.

The R.I.C.E. Program beneficiaries to date include **18 hospitals, 8 schools, 9 orphan care centers** and **5 prisons**, a total of **40 beneficiaries**.

Objectives:

CitiHope International's major objectives are to provide needed food and nutrition support to patients, students, prisoners and orphaned and vulnerable Children (OVC), hence the following goals:

- Improve quality, efficiency and safety of institutional food service capabilities.
- Provision of greater food security for an institutionalized segment (hospitals, schools, prisons & orphanages) of the Malawian population.
- Provide food security capacity building support to local and rural organizations and institutions.

Logistic Details:

The containers carrying the whole milled rice began arriving in Mzuzu on December 11, 2007. For the first time in the history of Mzuzu City 16 containers were delivered at once and the whole city was amazed by this extraordinary event.



Photo 1 -- 16 containers at the warehouse are ready to be unloaded, one by one.

Originally, 62 containers were to be received -- **60** containers for CitiHope Malawi and **2** containers for the Anglican Church, but only **59** containers were received; **3** containers are missing. The missing containers numbers are:

- a. MSKU 4246641 b. MSKU 4262895 c. OCLU 0947390

As with regular deliveries, the containers were directed to Mzuzu Government Stores where CitiHope rents two warehouses to store donated products from abroad. Below are arrival dates and container numbers, in chronological order of receipt:

Container Arrival in Mzuzu	#	Container #	#	Container #	#	Container #
December 11, 2007	1	CLHU 2614231	2	CRXU 1169400	3	CRXU 1175737
	4	DAYU 2025222	5	FSCU 3340214	6	GSTU 2869766
	7	IPXU 3112827	8	KNLU 3293095	9	KNLU 3389279
	10	MAEU 6767532	11	MLCU 3410281	12	MSKU 2053427
	13	MSKU 2236372	14	MAEU 6712930	15	MSKU 2126863
	16	MSKU 2277480				
December 12, 2007	1	MSKU 2405153				
December 17, 2007	1	MSKU 2698529				
December 18, 2007	1	MSKU 2458317	2	MSKU 2918496	3	MSKU 3235508
December 19, 2007	1	MSKU 2562595	2	MSKU 2702280	3	MSKU 2898147
	4	MSKU 2914145	5	MSKU 3206963	6	
December 21, 2007	1	MSKU 2666481				
December 27, 2007	1	MSKU 4141804				
December 28, 2007	1	MSKU 4164991	2	MSKU 4331023	3	MSKU 4425077
	4	PONU 0002924				

December 29, 2007	1	PONU 0393979	2	PONU 0437721		
December 30, 2007	1	POCU 0618011				
December 31, 2007	1	MSKU 4418859				
January 1, 2008	1	PONU 0347799				
January 5, 2008	1 4	PONU 0622632 PONU 2100811	2	PONU 0649510	3	PONU 0715397
January 7, 2008	1 4	PONU 0139141 PRSU 2315829	2 5	PONU 0708090 TEXU 2108565	3	TEXU 2108565
January 8, 2008	1	SCMU 2080156				
January 11, 2008	1	PONU 0546430				
January 13, 2008	1	TTNU 13555683				
January 14, 2008	1	TEXU 2302360				
January 15, 2008	1	TRLU 2391961				
January 16, 2008	1	TTNU 1606840	2	TTNU 1716050		
January 22, 2008	1	TTNU 3058088	2	TTNU 1716050	3	TTNU 3345391
January 23, 2008	1	TTNU 2201	2	TTNU 3086217		

Distribution Details: Following is a list of recipients and delivery details:

No.	Institution	Bags of Rice (50kg)	Delivered by	Date
01.	St. Anne's Health Centre	100	CHI/Dennis/Rob	Jan 1 2008
02.	Mzimba Prison	200	Themselves	Jan 2 2008
03.	Kaporo Health Centre	80	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 3 2008
04.	Karonga District Hospital	100	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 3 2008
05.	Chitipa Prison	70	CHI/Dennis/Rob	Jan 3 2008
06.	Chitipa District Hospital	80	CHI/Dennis/Rob	Jan 3 2008
07.	Karonga Girls Secondary	80	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 3 2008
08.	Karonga Prison	80	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 3 2008
09.	Nkhata Bay District Hosp.	100	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 4 2008
10.	Nkhata Bay Prison	80	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 4 2008
11.	Chintheche Rural Hospital	80	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 4 2008
12.	Nkhata Bay Boys secondary	60	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 4 2008
13.	Kande Health Centre	80	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 8 2008
14.	Nkhwali CBCC	60	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 8 2008
15.	Thowolo CBCC	50	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 8 2008
16.	Kang'ona Orphanage	60	Themselves	Jan 8 2008
17.	Health Foundation (Kande)	50	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 8 2008
18.	Bandawe Girls Secondary	80	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 8 2008
19.	Embangweni Deaf School	60	CHI/Dennis	Jan 10 2008
20.	Embangweni Hospital	100	CHI/Dennis	Jan 10 2008
21.	Katete Health Centre	60	CHI/Dennis/Rob	Jan 11 2008
22.	St. John Bosco Secondary	80	CHI/Dennis/Rob	Jan 11 2008
23.	Mzimba Hospital	50	CHI/Dennis/Rob	Jan 11 2008
24.	Rumphi District Hospital	100	CHI/Dennis/Rob	Jan 18 2008
25.	Nthalire Health Centre	100	CHI/Dennis/Rob	Jan 19 2008
26.	Kasasa Orphanage	60	CHI/Dennis/Rob	Jan 19 2008

27.	Mhujuru Rural Hospital	80	CHI/Rob	Jan 22 2008
28.	DGM Hospital	100	CHI/Rob	Jan 22 2008
29.	St. Johns Hospital	50	Themselves	Dec 21 2007
30.	Wanangwa Orphanage	150	Themselves	Dec 21 2007
31.	FOMCO	80	Themselves	Dec 21 2007
32.	Kutemwa Orphanage	70	Themselves	Dec 21 2007
33.	Ekwendeni Mission Hosp	100	Themselves	Dec 21 2007
34.	Mhujuru Rural Hospital	80	CHI/Rob	Jan 22 2008
35.	Mzuzu Prison	150	Themselves	Dec 21 2007 Jan 22 2008
36.	Mzuzu Central Hospital	150	Themselves	Dec 27 2007
37.	Tapokera Orphanage	60	Themselves	Dec 28 2007
38.	Ekwendeni Girls Secondary	80	Themselves	Dec 28 2007
39	Ekwendeni Sch. For Deaf	60	Themselves	Dec 31 2007
40	Bandawe School for Deaf	10	CHI/Gabriel	Jan 13 2008

1. **22,800** bags of rice were received. **220** bags were spoiled by worms (maggots) and rain respectively because **2** containers had openings on top. The rice was distributed to **40** beneficiaries. The table below shows details of the bags which were given to Members of Parliament. To date, the overall number of bags distributed is **3,766** (plus **220** rotten bags totals 3,986); **18,834** bags of rice remain to be distributed.

	Member of Parliament	Bags Rice	Delivered By	Date
1	Hon. Godall Gondwe-Mzimba North	150	Themselves	Dec 24 2007
2	Hon. Loveness Gondwe-Mzimba Central	150	Themselves	Dec 27 2007
3	Hon. Frank Mwenefumbo-Karonga North	200	Themselves	Jan 21 2007

2. In total the number of Containers received was **59** of the **62** expected of which **3** have not yet arrived. **2** full containers were given to Anglican Orphanage as directed by the donors.

3. The Health Foundation is another new beneficiary. They care for children and look after chronically ill patients who are on home-based care; most of them are HIV positive.

Success Stories:

Institutions such as Mzuzu and Mzimba Prison were so grateful to receive CitiHope donated rice especially at a very crucial time for them. They had completely used their food stores to feed inmates and there was no corn at their market for them to buy. They also received their funding from the government very late.

Mr. Simweko from Mzuzu Central Hospital visited CitiHope offices to express appreciation for the donation saying that it was timely because they had no food stored for the patients at that time and said, "A friend indeed is a friend in need." Many more institutions are coming to CitiHope's Mzuzu office to express appreciation for what CHI is doing to feed the vulnerable people in these institutions.

New applications have been received from HIV positive teachers' groups positively with asking for food assistance because they are on ARV drugs.

Applications are being received from HIV positive individuals, from schools like in Mzimba, from community based organizations like Karonga and from orphan care centers like that of our Board Chairperson, Rev. Matiya Nkhoma, in his home area in Nkhata Bay.



Photo 2 – A sister at St. Anne’s Catholic Hospital pleased with the rice received, poses for a photo with Gabriel and Dennis.



Photo 3 – At Embangweni School for the Deaf pupils are very happy to receive rice.

Challenges:

We had some challenges as outlined below:

- a. Unloading so many containers at once was a problem. We used labors who were not strong; they could not unload and load for recipient deliveries as fast as we had hoped. Since the rice was stacked very high it was also difficult for labors to climb up with bags on their head.



Photo 4 – Rob Robbins helps unload.



Photo 5 – Laborers stack the rice.

- b. Space in the warehouse was not enough for the initial 62 containers hence we had to start deliveries within Mzuzu while receiving containers. The receiving and distribution were running concurrently in order to create enough space for incoming containers.

- c. While receiving of containers was in progress we started receiving calls from Members of Parliament who bothered us greatly, saying the rice was meant for them. Though we tried our best to explain to them what this rice was meant for and that we submitted a proposal to Feed the Children USA to implement a feeding program in primary schools they did not understand and we decided to give 3 Members of Parliament some. But we had calls from so many MPs from all over the North e.g. Nkhata Bay District and Mzimba Districts.
- d. When diplomatic ties between the Republic of Taiwan and Malawi ended it was a great challenge to us because we were looking at the sustainability of the program with only half of the initial tonnage of **2,240 MT** of rice to implement the program for two years, but when we met with MOE they were very slow to respond on how we could forge ahead with the program because they were also being pushed and threatened by politicians including government ministers.
- e. Delivery problems such as getting stuck in the mud are common since most of the time we distribute during the rainy season, especially on the Karonga to Chitipa Road.



Photo 6 – On the way back from Chitipa, the truck was stuck in the mud.

Conclusion:

This year's distribution exercise went very well despite the usual problems of getting stuck in the mud. All beneficiaries were so grateful to CitiHope International for its stewardship, integrity and compassion to the vulnerable and unprivileged people of Malawi.