

June, 2022

NONM NEWSLETTER



NONM EMPOWERS NURSES AND MIDWIVES IN LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

NONM DONATES RELIEF ITEMS

The National Organization of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi (NONM) has donated assorted relief items to survivors of cyclone Ana and subsequent floods and heavy rains in Chikwawa district.

In an interview at the distribution of the items on Tuesday at Kanthema campsite, NONM south west zone chairperson, Duncan Kwai-tana, said he is very delighted for the overwhelming response from nurses and midwives to the call for support.

to page>>3

The National Organization of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi says it is important for nurses and midwives to be acquainted with labour laws, unionism and leadership.

In interview, Central West Zone Chairperson of NONM, Chimwemwe Ziyaya, said nurses need to understand and know labour laws so that they can act accordingly and be better advocates for their profession.

He said this at one of the trainings which were conducted across the country on the aforementioned themes.

He said: "Membership is lacking some important information when it comes to their relation with their employers. Us-

ing this training it was really worthy to equip our participants, our membership that when they go down to their work place they should do things rightly at the right time so that we avoid unnecessary lawsuits, legal issues and the like so that our membership is professionally applied."

One of the participants of the trainings David Mnkondya, vice chairman of Kasungu District Hospital NONM chapter said the training has benefited them in a way that they have been equipped with leadership skills to bring positive change to their various facilities.

He said: "As shop stewards we have to be advocating for our fellow nurses, but how best are we going to do it? We have to know the

to page>>2

Page 1<<NONM EMPOWERS NURSES AND MIDWIVES IN LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

laws that are there that are guiding us and from the onset of the training today, we have known what is supposed to be done and amicably we are going to resolve the conflicts that might arise henceforth."



it was really worthy to equip our participants—Ziyaya



we have to be advocating for our fellow nurses—Mnkondya

The trainings were conducted with aid from Norwegian Nurses Organization. 120 nurses and midwives were trained in total; 40 from the North zone, 40 from Central East and Central West Zones and 40 from South West and South East Zones.



Nurses pose for photo with NONM delegates during the shopstewards training in Mponera

Page 1<<NONM DONATES RELIEF ITEMS



there was indeed an overwhelming response – Kwataina



We are happy with NONM – Mbasunga

He said: “As nurses and midwives, you know our role is to care for patients in the hospital. This is our trademark; this is what we are

known for. But then when we heard about this disaster it also affected us because some of these people are our relatives, some of them are our clients and patients so we also felt the need to help.”

“And then what we did as an organization, we mobilized nurses and midwives across the country; to say whosoever has anything that they can assist with, should do so. So, there was indeed an overwhelming response, I have to admit, and I extend gratitude to the nurses across the country for the support,” he added.

The chairperson for the campsite, Patrick Mbasunga, said they are very happy that the help has come at the right time.

He said: “We are very happy with the National Organisation of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi, who have given us these relief items in response to the effects of cyclone ana. People of this area, Kanthema, still have no place to stay until today because the floods were devastating; people's houses were washed away.”

“We also continue to appeal for support if there are still more well-wishers; they should continue helping us, people of kanthema, so that we may have healthy lives.

The items donated include second hand clothes, soap, sugar and soya pieces.

According to a report by DoDMA, as at March 29, 2022, close to 869, 000 people have been affected, at least 70, 000 displaced and 650 injured while 50 have been reported dead and three missing.

NONM South West Zone says the student level is the best time to groom nurses to become effective leaders.

South West Zone chairperson, Duncan Kwaitana, said this in Blantyre at a workshop about effective leadership late April.

In an interview Kwaitana said it is some of these students who will take leadership roles someday.

"They say it's good to start from the nursery so we regard the training as the starting point so from there we felt duty bound to impart in them leadership skills," said Kwaitana.

He also added that as future leaders they will guide their staff better if they also know how to do the required job.

"You can only supervise well if you know the basics in nursing and these include moping, dump dusting, cleaning what have you" he added.

Aside from the workshop, the students' chapter, led by NONM leaders, also did charity work at Queen Elizabeth Central

Hospital, where they cleaned children's wards.



We are supposed to know our roles as nurses —
Rashid Lyland

NONM student's chapter president, Rashid Lyland, said the exercise is a good reminder to nurses of their role in caring for patient's which includes making sure the environment is clean.

He said: "I would like to remind the nurses that we are supposed to know what our roles are as nurses of which one of them is making sure that the environment where our patients are living is clean to prevent them from infections."



Student nurses doing charity work at QECH paediatric ward

ACTIVITIES IN PICTURES



NONM
deligates
donating
relief
items to
survivors
of floods
in
chikwawa



**Temporary
homes for
the cyclone
survivors
in chikwa-
wa**



**Prof. Mbewa making a presentation during the students leader-
ship training at Malawi Postal Conference Center in Blantyre**



NONM members paying attention to presentations during the shop stewards training in Rumphi



NONM members pose for a picture during the shop stewards training in Rumphi



JOIN NONM. ENJOY THE BENEFITS.



1. **Legal representation** – lawyer defense in court, legal advice, counselling and support
2. **Continuing Professional Development (CPD)** – trainings, workshops, ICN CPD Online
3. **Funeral Insurance Cover** – MK75,000 instant within 24hrs to support members' funeral
4. **Annual Awards to Best Nurses** – beautiful certificates in picture frames and prize money
5. **Lobbying, advocacy, collective bargaining on professional and socioeconomic issues** - salary top-up allowance, promotions, locum, uniforms, and employment/recruitment
6. **Young Women Leadership Programme** – sponsorship for young female nurse leaders of 35 years and below
7. **Capacity Building Programmes** – district/branch shop-stewards and members sensitization
8. **Caring for Caregivers** - psycho-social-spiritual support in illnesses, deaths and wellness
9. **Solidarity with likeminded professional, union/labour, and civil society organisations** – MCTU, ICN, PSI, QUAD, HRH Coalition, HECAWLP and participation in key events - International Nurses Day, World TB Day
10. **Students Chapter** – leadership development, networking amongst colleges, meetings and social responsibility programmes



NURSES AND MIDWIVES COMMEMORATES KAMUZU

By Esther Nyirongo



NONM president, Shouts Simeza and Neema Kandoole laying a wreath at Kamuzu memorial site

National Organization of Nurses & Midwives of Malawi (NONM) says it is important and relevant for nurses and midwives to be part of the Kamuzu Day commemoration.

In an interview at the commemorations in Lilongwe, NONM president, Shouts Simeza, said late Dr. Hastings Kamuzu Banda contributed greatly to the growth of the profession in Malawi.

He said “I wonder where the nursing and midwifery profession would have been today if it were not for Kamuzu Banda. Banda valued the nursing and midwifery profession because of the input

they were giving in providing services to the nation.”

“He positioned nurses and midwives strategically to fulfill what he envisioned as the best way of doing and delivering services to Malawians out there.” He added.

The president also said their involvement as NONM in the event is only the beginning and they will continue to take part in the celebrations of Kamuzu in years to come.

He said: “We will continue doing this at any other time at any other function be it family or government where Kamuzu is being remembered or the services of Kamuzu are being com-

memorated, we will continue, we just started today.”

Malawi commemorates Kamuzu day in honour of Ngwazi Dr. Hastings Kamuzu Banda, the founder and first President of Malawi, every 14th of May each year. During this year's commemoration event, which took place at the Kamuzu Mausoleum in Lilongwe, NONM, represented by its president and Mrs. Neema Kandoole, a veteran in the nursing and midwifery profession, was honoured to be amongst the individuals that laid a wreath at the memorial site.

ACTIVITIES IN PICTURES



NONM president and NONM members pose for a photo with the minister of health at the Kamuzu Commemoration Event in Lilongwe



Student nurses pose for a photo after a leadership training at the Malawi postal conference center in Blantyre

Nurses signing NONM membership forms at South Lunzu Health Center in Blantyre

ACTIVITIES IN PICTURES



NONM Delegates and Thyolo Nurses pose for a photo after a member recruitment session



The resource mobilization committee, NONM Secretariat Staff, board members; cost reduction, fundraising plans meeting – Salima



Nurses are
capable
too. . .

They
can be
leaders
too. . .

Open all
leadership
positions in
the health
sector to nurses
& midwives
as well.

*Together
We can achieve universal
health coverage*