

NEWSLETTER

Quarterly NONM News

#4/December/2024

Top Stories:

- **NONM Floats Out Grants For Research**
- **Malawian Nurses/Midwives Gather for Historic Scientific Conference**
- **NONM hosts National Nursing Associations on a Mentorship Visit**
- **Dressing the Anamwino Village**

Top Stories:

NONM Floats Out Grants For Research

The National Organisation of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi (NONM) officially launched a call for applications for small grants aimed at improving healthcare quality across the country. Funded by the Norwegian Nurses Organisation, this initiative has supported nurses and midwives in driving innovative projects that address key challenges within the healthcare sector.

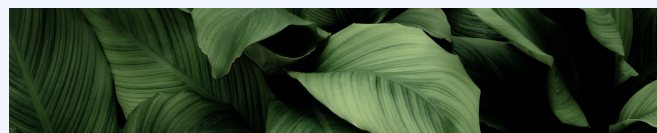
NONM's Executive Director, Peter Mvuma, stressed the importance of empowering members to conduct research that will directly benefit the healthcare sector.

"This grant initiative is an exciting opportunity for our members to take the lead in improving healthcare quality. We are calling on all nurses and midwives who are passionate about making a tangible difference to come forward with their ideas," said Mvuma. Read more at www.nonmmalawi.com



Local Events:

Inclusion Training: There's going to be an inclusion training on disability and gender mainstreaming from 4th - 7th March. The training will be hosted by NONM and leaders of Nurses Unions from Rwanda, Tanzania and Zimbabwe will be in attendance.



Dressing the Anamwino Village

In a bid to combat climate change and Natural Disasters (NONM) in December planted 50 trees around the Namwino village at Nogwe in Mulanje district.

The Namwino village has six houses that were constructed by NONM for the Cyclone Freddy survivors.

NONM President Shouts Simeza told Zodiak Online that the trees will provide protection to the houses from the destructive winds at the same time provide good oxygen to people at the village.

Group Village Head Nogwe made a promise that as a leader, he will ensure that the planted trees are taken care of and grow to their full potential.

He said that the area was heavily hit by the cyclone because of environmental degradation made by people in Mulanje Mountain Landscape.



For more news and updates, visit our website at www.nonmmalawi.com. Thank you for reading!





NONM Hosts NNO

The first week of October 2024 marked a significant milestone for the National Organisation of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi (NONM) as we had the privilege of hosting our long-standing development partner, the Norwegian Nurses Organisation (NNO). Their unwavering support over the years has been instrumental in our journey, and we are truly grateful for their commitment to advancing nursing and midwifery in Malawi.

The week began with a productive engagement meeting, setting the tone for a series of impactful activities. Together with the NNO delegation, we visited Kamuzu Central Hospital (KCH) and the Malawi College of Health Sciences. These visits provided an excellent opportunity to engage with shop stewards, stakeholders, and nurse leaders, fostering meaningful discussions on collaboration and development.

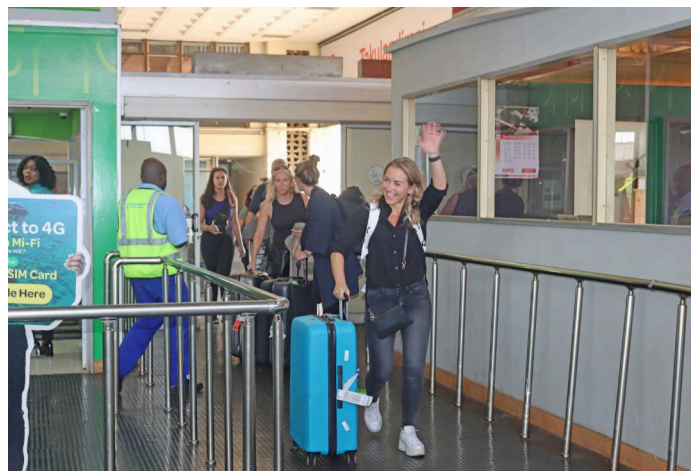
One of the highlights of the week was the visit to Kamuzu Central Hospital, where the NONM delegation, alongside the NNO team, met with nurse leaders, including the Deputy Director General - Nursing. The engagement was both fruitful and inspiring, as we exchanged ideas and explored ways to strengthen our partnership for the benefit of nurses and midwives in Malawi.

A truly heartwarming moment came when Ms. Chimwemwe Masoatenganji, a dedicated nurse at KCH, was presented with a Certificate of Recognition for her outstanding work. The certificate was awarded by the President of the Norwegian Nurses Organisation, who also serves as the President for all

Nordic Countries (Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Finland, the Faroe Islands, and Greenland). It was a beautiful sight to witness Ms. Masoatenganji receive this well-deserved honor.

Reflecting on the week, NONM President Shouts Simeza said: "This visit has been an evidence to the power of partnership and the shared vision we hold with the Norwegian Nurses Organisation. Together, we are strengthening the nursing profession in Malawi for a healthier Malawi."

This visit not only strengthened the bond between NONM and NNO but also highlighted the importance of recognizing and celebrating the hard work and dedication of nurses and midwives. As we reflect on this memorable week, we are filled with gratitude for the continued support of the Norwegian Nurses Organisation and look forward to many more years of fruitful collaboration.





Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders

The future of healthcare lies in the hands of today's young professionals, and the National Organization of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi (NONM) is taking bold steps to ensure that future is bright. Mid December 2025, NONM embarked on an inspiring initiative to engage and empower student leaders from nursing and midwifery training colleges and universities across Malawi.

At the heart of this activity was the election of a Student Leadership Executive Committee. This group of young leaders will serve as the voice of their peers, representing them on critical issues and ensuring that their perspectives are heard at the highest levels of decision-making as the committee will also include a representative on NONM's National Executive Council (NEC), the organization's highest decision-making body after the General Assembly.

NONM's Executive Director, Peter Mvuma, commenting on the activity said: "Investing in student leaders today is an investment in the future of our healthcare system. These young minds bring fresh ideas, energy, and passion that will drive innovation and excellence in nursing and midwifery. By giving them a seat at the table, we are ensuring that their voices shape the policies and practices that will define our profession for years to come."

The newly elected Student President, Idah Msimuko, expressed her gratitude and commitment in her acceptance speech, saying, "I am deeply honored to have been entrusted with this responsibility. This role is not just about leading; it's about serving my fellow students and advocating for the changes we need to see in our profession."

This move is a game-changer. By involving students in leadership roles, NONM is not only fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility among the next generation of nurses and midwives but also equipping them with the skills and experience needed to drive positive change in Malawi's healthcare system. These young leaders will play a pivotal role in shaping policies, advocating for their profession, and addressing the challenges faced by nurses and midwives across the country.

The initiative underscores NONM's commitment to nurturing talent and leadership from the grassroots level. As the saying goes, "Catch them young," and NONM is doing just that. By investing in these student leaders today, the organization is laying a strong foundation for a more resilient, innovative, and inclusive healthcare workforce tomorrow.



Membership



**Road to
10,000
Members**

Join Now
Be the 10,000th Member!
+265886463321

This far, we have reached a significant milestone in membership recruitment. At the moment, we are on track to reach 10,000 members soon—an achievement made possible by the dedication of our shop stewards, who have been actively recruiting on the ground; our human resources officers, who play a critical role in enrolling members in the check-off system and initiating the remittance of membership fees; and all those who have taken an active role in bringing new members into the fold. Congratulations to us all!



Conference Delages Follow Progress Event

Malawian Nurses/Midwives Gather for Historic Scientific Conference

The Bingu International Convention Centre buzzed with energy as nurses and midwives came together for the inaugural National Nursing and Midwifery Scientific Conference. This landmark event, taking place from November 29-30, 2024, marked a historic moment in the field, bringing together a diverse community of experts, advocates, and professionals united by a shared vision.

What made the day even more extra-ordinary is that it was held simultaneously with NONM's 9th Biennial General Assembly.

With the theme “Nursing and Midwifery Workforce: An Investment in Combating HIV/AIDS and Achieving Universal Healthcare Coverage,” the conference has drawn attention for its focus on some of the most pressing healthcare challenges of our time.

Minister of Health, Honourable Khumbize Kandodo Chiponda, Member of Parliament, said that he expects events like this one to continue.

She said: “I hope that this conference is just the beginning. I am confident that the insights shared here over the next two days will help us build a more sustainable and inclusive healthcare system, both in Malawi and worldwide.”

In his remarks, Shouts Simeza, President of the National Organization of Nurses and Midwives (NONM), extended a heartfelt welcome to all delegates.

“Your presence here today symbolizes our collective commitment to addressing the challenges of HIV/AIDS and working towards universal healthcare coverage for all,” Simeza said.

The president’s remarks set the tone for two days of productive dialogue, collaboration, and reflection on the research that nurses and midwives conduct in the Malawian healthcare system. Highlighting the impact of nursing and midwifery research, Simeza encouraged attendees to engage in insightful discussions and share experiences that could shape the future of healthcare delivery.

“We can leverage our expertise and passion to drive positive change,” Simeza emphasized, “fostering innovation and improving the delivery of healthcare services globally.”

In her remarks, the Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services in Malawi, Lucy Mkutumula, said that the focus on HIV/AIDS is particularly relevant in the context of Malawi, where healthcare professionals have made significant strides in the fight against the epidemic. The country, once one of the hardest-hit



Simeza - We can drive positive change

by the HIV/AIDS crisis, has experienced impressive progress in treatment, prevention, and education efforts, largely driven by its nursing and midwifery workforce.

She said: “Malawi has made tremendous progress, but the fight is far from over.”

“Nurses and midwives are not just caregivers; they are the frontlines of the battle against HIV/AIDS, and we need to continue investing in their training, resources, and support to sustain the gains we’ve made.”

Mkutumula further underscored the need for innovation and research in nursing and midwifery education and practice.

“As nurses and midwives, we are not just caregivers—we are also policymakers, advocates, and researchers. Our voices are essential in shaping a healthcare system that truly meets the needs of every individual,” she said.

NONM Hosts NNAs for Exchange Visit



Members from NNAs in the Exchange Visit Pose for a Photo

The National Organization of Nurses and Midwives (NONM) had the pleasure of hosting representatives from national nursing associations, including the Rwanda Nurses and Midwives Union (RNMU), the Tanzania Nurses Association (TNA), and the Zimbabwe Nurses' Association (ZINA) in an exchange visit.

The collaborative engagements commenced on the 11th of December and conclude on the 13th, marking a three-day event filled with productive discussions and mutual learning. The primary objective of the meeting was to safeguard the interests of nurses and midwives across the region by sharing best practices, addressing common challenges, and enhancing operational strategies.

“We are thrilled to welcome our esteemed colleagues from Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. This visit is not only an evidence of our shared commitment to supporting nurses and midwives but also an invaluable opportunity to learn from one another,” said NONM president, Shouts Simeza.

Throughout the event, participants engaged in discussions on critical issues affecting the nursing and midwifery professions, including workforce welfare, professional

development, and strategies to overcome systemic challenges.

Support from the Norwegian Nurses Organisation (NNO) and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) was instrumental in facilitating this gathering, reflecting the significance of international solidarity in advancing nursing and midwifery.

As the program closed, participants left with actionable insights and reinforced connections that will drive their efforts to advocate for and empower nurses and midwives in their respective countries.



A tour around LION



Interface meeting with the CEO of LION - KCH, Discussing woes that come along in the train of unregulated Kabaza

Growing a Greener Future: NONM Continues Tree Planting Campaign



Nurses/Midwives from Ntchisi DHO Pose for a Photo at the Tree Planting

The National Organisation of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi (NONM), in partnership with the Norwegian Nurses Organisation (NNO), is proud to continue its impactful tree planting campaign across Malawi. This initiative, driven by local NONM branches, is part of our ongoing efforts to combat climate change and promote environmental sustainability.

Recently, the Ntchisi District Hospital NONM branch organized a successful tree planting exercise around the hospital grounds. This activity is an evidence to NONM's commitment to addressing climate change and securing a greener, healthier future for all. Tree planting remains one of our strategic priority areas, and we firmly believe that every tree planted brings us one step closer to a more sustainable world.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who is participating in this initiative! Your dedication and hard work will leave a lasting positive impact on the environment and the community. Together, we are not only restoring


ecosystems and improving air quality but also creating a legacy of sustainability for future generations.

The momentum continues to grow! Following the inspiring launch of the 2025 tree planting campaign by Ntchisi DHO NONM branch, Phalombe and Nkhotakota DHOs have joined the movement today, demonstrating their commitment to environmental stewardship.

And the efforts don't stop there—in the coming days, Ntcheu, Mwanza and Dedza DHOs will also be implementing their own tree planting activities. This collective action underscores the power of collaboration and the shared vision of a greener future.

Let's continue to grow a greener future, one tree at a time. Together, we can make a difference!





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ENJOY THE BENEFITS

- . Legal representation
- . Continuous Professional Development (CPD)
- . Funeral Insurance cover
- . Collective bargaining (lobbying & advocacy)
- . Capacity building
- . Best nurse awards
- . Solidarity with likeminded organisations
- . Leadership grooming & networking
- . Care of carers initiatives



To become a member contact the following people

North Zone: +265 995 534 930 - Zone Chairperson
South West Zone: +265 884 710 567 - Queen Mkorongo
South East Zone: +265 884 233 411 - Tapiwa Mguntha
Central East & West Zone: +265 886 463 321 - Grace Mutholowa

More information @ <https://www.nonmmalawi.com/membership/>

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