

# NEWSLETTER

Quarterly NONM News

#1/2025

## Stories:

- **NONM Hosts Regional Training on Event Planning and Management**
- **NONM Welcomes New ED and Zone Assistant**
- **Fight Against Climate Change Continues**
- **NONM Eyes Inclusivity**

## NONM Hosts Regional Training on Event Planning and Management

The National Organization of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi (NONM) successfully hosted a regional training on Event Planning and Management from April 01 to 04, 2025, at Sigelege Hotel in Salima.

The workshop was facilitated by the Norwegian Nurses' Organisation (NNO) and brought together nursing leaders from across the region to strengthen organizational capacity and enhance the effectiveness of professional events.

Participants included representatives from NONM and sister National Nurses Associations (NNAs) from Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. Specifically, the Rwanda Nurses and Midwives Union, the Tanzania Nurses Association (TANA), and the Zimbabwe Nurses Association were all represented at the training, creating a vibrant exchange of ideas, experiences, and strategies.

Speaking during the closing ceremony, the President of the Rwanda Nurses and Midwives Union (RNMU), André Gitembagara, commended the initiative, saying, "This training has equipped us with practical tools and insights that will help us organise impactful events that engage our members and other participants and advance our advocacy work. We are grateful to NONM for the wonderful organization of the event and NNO for the generous financial support."



*Gitembagara - grateful for the wonderful event organisation and generous financial support*



The interactive training sessions covered a range of topics including budgeting, stakeholder engagement, communications, risk management, and post-event evaluation. Facilitators from NNO brought international perspectives and best practices to the sessions, while participants shared regional challenges and innovations.

NONM's Executive Director, Chifundo Colletaimba, expressed appreciation for the strong partnerships that made the training possible. "This collaboration with NNO and our sister NNAs demonstrates the power of regional solidarity. By investing in the skills of our staff and members, we are building stronger institutions that can better advocate for nurses and midwives across Africa," she said.

The training forms part of ongoing efforts to professionalize and elevate the administrative and strategic functions of nurses' associations in the region, ensuring they remain responsive and resilient in today's dynamic health care environment.



For more news and updates, visit our website at [www.nonmmalawi.com](http://www.nonmmalawi.com). Thank you for reading!



# NONM Welcomes New ED and North Zone Office Assistant



Zimba (First from right) - I look forward to working with all of you to strengthen nursing and midwifery in Malawi and beyond

The National Organization of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi (NONM) is pleased to announce two exciting additions to its leadership and administrative teams, both of whom assumed their roles on 1 April 2025.

We extend a warm welcome to Dr. Chifundo Colleta Zimba, who has been appointed as NONM's new Executive Director. Dr. Zimba brings a wealth of experience and a strong vision for the advancement of the welfare of nurses/midwives and nursing and midwifery in Malawi. Reflecting on her appointment, she expressed heartfelt gratitude:

"I am deeply grateful for your overwhelming congratulatory messages and support following my appointment as the Executive Director of the National Organization of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi (NONM). Your encouragement reaffirms our shared commitment to advancing the nursing and midwifery profession. Thank you for your unwavering support—I look forward to working with all of you to strengthen nursing and midwifery in Malawi and beyond."

Alongside this leadership milestone, NONM has also welcomed Ms. Angella Sifa, who joins the organization as North Zone Office Assistant. Angella brings enthusiasm and a commitment to contributing meaningfully to the NONM team. She said:



*It's a great opportunity to be part of a team with such a strong reputation and clear vision - Sifa*

"I'm truly grateful to join NONM. It's a great opportunity to be part of a team with such a strong reputation and clear vision. What stood out to me about this organization is the emphasis on teamwork, integrity, and innovation. From the beginning, I've felt welcomed and supported. I'm still getting up to speed, but I'm eager to learn as much as I can about our processes and where I can add value, because I really wanted to be part of something meaningful and impactful."

The entire NONM community looks forward to working closely with Dr. Zimba and Ms. Sifa as we continue to champion the welfare of nurses/midwives across Malawi. Please join us in welcoming them to the NONM family!



# 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!





## NONM Boosts Climate Action Through Tree Planting



*This is just a glimpse of how it was*



*Kuphanga - This is an exceptional gesture*

The National Organization of Nurses and Midwives (NONM) continues its climate change mitigation efforts by planting trees, using its local structures across the country.

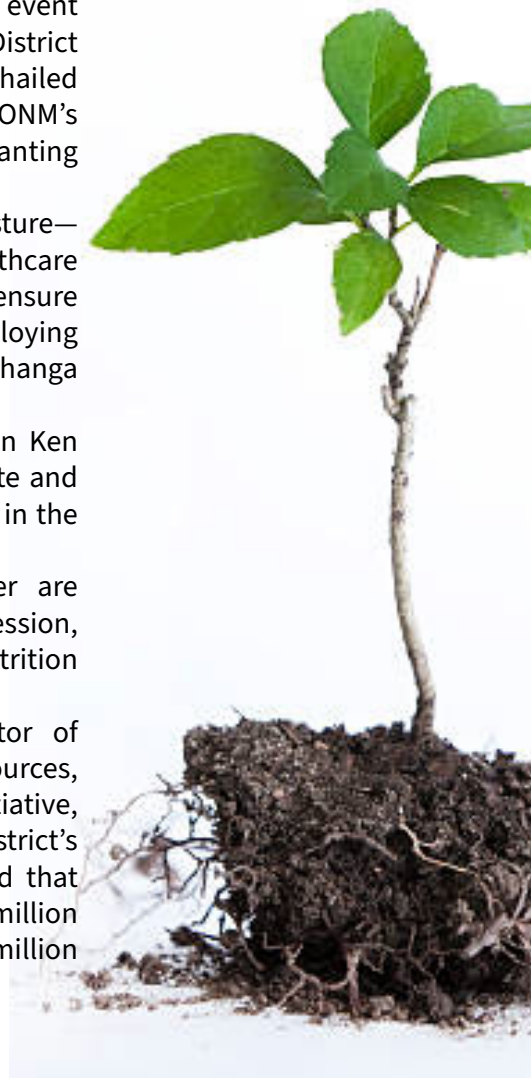
Speaking on during a tree planting event at Thyolo District Hospital, District Commissioner Hudson Kuphanga hailed the tree planting initiative by NONM's Thyolo Chapter, which saw the planting of at least 90 tree seedlings.

"This is an exceptional gesture—combining the noble duties of healthcare with reforestation. I urge you to ensure the survival of these trees by employing proper care mechanisms," Kuphanga said.

NONM Thyolo Chapter Chairperson Ken Kaonga highlighted that the climate and health thematic area is embedded in the organization's strategic plan.

"Climatic shocks such as hunger are significantly impacting our profession, contributing to cases of malnutrition among the population," he noted.

Meanwhile, Acting District Director of Environment and Natural Resources, Mirriam Yona, applauded the initiative, saying it adds momentum to the district's reforestation efforts. She disclosed that Thyolo has so far planted 1.049 million tree seedlings, surpassing its one million target.





# Invest! Invest! Invest!



**Better working conditions = Better healthcare. It's time to invest in nurses and midwives by providing fair wages, safe environments, and the resources they need to thrive. Together, we can build a stronger healthcare system for Malawi.**



# NONM Takes Sign Language Training Online to Bridge Communication Gaps in Healthcare



Late last year, the National Organization of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi (NONM) took a significant step towards inclusive healthcare by conducting basic sign language training for nurses and midwives. NONM is currently continuing this initiative through an online platform using Google Meet, ensuring that the cohort which started the training gets to understand and know how to use sign language effectively.

The training is aligned with broader efforts to promote inclusive service delivery within the healthcare sector.

“Our goal is to ensure that no patient feels left out because of a communication barriers,” said Scholastica Jimu, NONM Programs Manager. “By equipping our members with basic sign language skills, we are not just adding to their knowledge—we are empowering them to provide care that is respectful, compassionate, and inclusive.”

By investing in such inclusive initiatives, NONM is fostering a healthcare environment where all individuals, including those with hearing disabilities, receive the dignity and

quality of care they deserve.


“A hospital should be a place where every patient—regardless of ability—feels understood and cared for. We’re breaking down communication barriers and creating a system where every voice matters, even if it’s expressed through signs,” added Jimu.

Participants, however, state that it is easier to understand the concepts through face-to-face interactions compared to online sessions. NONM acknowledges this concern, noting that the shift to online delivery was primarily due to limited funding for physical meetings.

This programme is one of many steps NONM is taking to build a future where inclusivity is embraced, and no patient is left behind.







# JOIN NONM

## 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



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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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