



Hands at Work
AFRICA



Report on

Kawaza Community, Malawi

January to March 2019

HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA *in partnership with*
Kirchenkreis Winsen



CRISIS RESPONSE IN THE WAKE OF CYCLONE IDAI

In mid-March, Cyclone Idai hit South Eastern Africa, devastating communities and affecting hundreds of thousands of people in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

“When we went to visit people who lost everything, they literally sat on the rubble of their own houses that were destroyed. Sometimes we sat in silence. Sometimes we wept with them. **It is personal, it is deep. It is ‘I am with you’.**”

- George Snyman

For more information on Hands at Work's response, visit:
handsatwork.org/crisis-response



Alfred appreciates
the motherly role of
the Care Workers

that is operated at the Care Point.

“After the death of Luka's* mother in 2017, his father, Alfred*, chose not to remarry, a situation which is uncommon in many of the most vulnerable communities across Africa. Instead, he chose to do everything he could to care for Luka well. This has proved challenging, however, as Alfred depends on odd jobs within the community, which are only available seasonally. When Luka's mother passed away, he started lacking the motherly care and attention that he needed; something Alfred recognises as crucial to his son's development.

Anne, one of the Care Workers from Kawaza Community Based Organisation (CBO), lives close to Luka's home and, seeing their struggles, brought Luka's story to the attention of the other Care Workers. After visiting his home and recognising his vulnerability, the Care Workers invited five-year-old Luka to the Care Point where he began receiving a hot and nutritious meal daily and support with his basic health care and education. Currently, Luka attends the pre-school

The Care Workers are committed to not only bringing transformation into Luka's life, but also to his father's life. Twice a month, the parents, grandparents and other relatives of the most vulnerable children in Kawaza meet at the Care Point where they read the word of God, share their challenges and pray together. These are special times for Alfred and he is committed to attending regularly.

The love that Alfred has for Luka is evident in his commitment to bringing Luka to the Care Point daily, despite the distance that it is from their home. Alfred appreciates the motherly role that the Care Workers have taken in loving and caring for his son in the way that he also desires to. Regularly, Luka and his father are visited in their home by Anne, who brings much-needed support and encouragement. When required, Anne helps with their practical needs like fetching water and grinding mealie-meal, a staple in many Malawian homes. She cares for them in the way that she would her own family.