

**BICO DONATED COMPUTER AND BRAILLE PAPERS TO NSIYALUDZU  
RESOURCE CENTRE**

**“Improving Eye Health & Educational Services for Blind and Visually Impaired Children  
in Central Malawi”**



**8<sup>th</sup>May, 2017**



## **1.0 Introduction**

On 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017, Blantyre Institute for Community Outreach (BICO) donated computer and braille papers to Nsiyaludzu resource centre for blind and visually impaired children in Ntcheu district. This donation was an answer to a request made by specialist teachers at the centre asking for a help with those items. The donation was made under a low vision project in which among others, BICO is dedicated to assist and strengthen the capacity of resource centres to manage children with visual impairment.

## **2.0 Description of the donated items**

- i. Computer – A blind new desktop
- ii. 50 reams of braille papers

## **3.0 Other items donated before**

On 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017, BICO also donated spectacles, magnifiers, and other optical devices to low vision students at the same resource centre. In addition to that, BICO is constructing a maize mill at the school of which upon completion, the collections from the services will help to uplift the welfare of children at the resource.

## **4.0 How important are the donated items**

A computer being one of the assistive technologies needed in the curriculum for students with visual impairments, it will assist students at the resource centre in a variety of academic uses like note taking, studying and others. Braille papers will enable students who use braille to work effectively. Now both students and teachers will be able to access and store information easily and the education standards are expected to be high.

## **5.0 Conclusion**

Items donated will help to reduce some of the challenges being faced by teachers and students at the resource centre during learning process. In learning, students who are blind or visually impaired need a range of technologies like computers to enable them gather and convey information. This donation is in-line with BICO's effort in improving the eye health and education services for all blind and visually impaired children in Malawi, with funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

## APPENDICES



*BICO officer, Mr C Phiri (right) handing over braille papers to a specialist teacher, Mrs Mpekasambo at Nsiyaludzu resource centre*



*A student at Nsiyaludzu resource centre undergoing low vision assessment before receiving optical devices*

*Low vision assessment before issuing optical devices to*



*Maize mill construction is almost complete at Nsiyaludzu resource centre*