



## Joy To the World Ministries

*“The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them.”* Isaiah 9:2

The village of Dzuwa is about 90 km northwest of Lilongwe, and is not unlike many villages in Malawi. The residents are a close-knit community who rely on the land to provide for them; they are also among the world’s most impoverished. Most will not live to see their fortieth birthday, 10% of their children will not make it to their adult years and the HIV/Aids infection rate is about 30%.

One difference however between Dzuwa and other villages of Malawi is an absence of government or other aid. Due to an inaccurate and unfair stigma, the people of Dzuwa are largely without support and consequently feel as they have been abandoned. In a country where most are proud of their village, the residents of Dzuwa are at times ashamed. They feel rejected and forced to tackle their seemingly insurmountable problems alone.

When a young Malawian named Fletcher Matandika visited Dzuwa he didn’t see any reason for their shame. He saw an opportunity to partner with the beautiful people of Dzuwa to provide medical services, education, food and discipleship. After many conversations with villagers and chiefs, and a lot of prayer, he knew that the people of Dzuwa were in need of some light.



Fortunately, Fletcher knew a thing or two about large undertakings. In 1999 at the age of 21, Fletcher started an orphan feeding center in the village of Matapila. It quickly grew and today that organization, Ministry of Hope, feeds thousands of orphans through a series of six feeding centers throughout central Malawi. They also run a crisis nursery which provides temporary care for abandoned babies, many of whom are born with AIDS.



The chiefs of Dzuwa welcomed Fletcher’s big ideas. To his amazement they gave him 171 acres! In the words of one local chief - *“Now, God has remembered us!”*

Fletcher quickly went to work on developing preliminary plans for the site, now called Joy To The World Ministries. After consulting with the local people, he realized what was needed most was a medical clinic.

The nearest reliable hospital is about 40 km away from Dzuwa. Not very far by our standards, but considering the sick must be transported across rough dirt roads on an ox cart pulled by a bicycle, it might as well be on a different continent. Many patients die on the way to the hospital, while others don't bother unless they are very sick, and in which case it is often too late.

While the Malawian government does send a HSA (Health Surveillance Assistant) to the village every month or so (provided there are enough supplies), the HSA only treats children under the age of five. Thus for the vast majority of people in Dzuwa, medical care is virtually non-existent.

In building this clinic, Fletcher's immediate plan is to staff it with a full time nurse that can provide basic medical care to all the people of Dzuwa, with particular emphasis on providing care to pregnant women and young children. Additionally, the nurse will lead classes on such topics as personal hygiene, nutrition and HIV/AIDS prevention.

This summer, a team of Americans, which includes an architect, an engineer and a pharmacist, are planning to travel to Malawi to begin construction of the clinic (see preliminary drawing below). With your help, the clinic will be up and running by January 2008.

Joy To The World Ministries is asking for your tax deductible donation so the construction can begin this summer. Any funds you donate will go directly to the construction and operation of the clinic, or to subsequent aspects of the project if the financial goals of the clinic are met.

If you feel moved to help the people of Dzuwa, please send a check to:

Joy To The World Ministries  
P.O. Box 23091  
Richmond, VA 23223

