



KUWALA
Christian Girls School

2024 Annual Report

A Canadian-Malawian Partnership

www.kuwala.org



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Annual General Meeting 2025

Today's Agenda



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**Kuwala Christian Girls School • Educating Today's
Girls for Tomorrow's Future**

*"Educating girls in Malawi - one of the poorest nations in the world -
will measurably improve the lives of their families, their villages, and
their country."*

ABOUT KUWALA: WHO WE ARE



"We are a team of Canadians partnering with Malawians to provide quality Christian education to girls and to develop future leaders."



Canadian-Malawian Partnership

A collaborative effort between Canadian supporters and Malawian educators to transform lives through education.



Girls' Christian Secondary Boarding School

228 - student boarding facility in rural Malawi providing safe accommodation, nutritious meals, and quality education.



Excellence in Education

Providing education to girls from poverty-stricken homes who otherwise would have no educational options.



Registered Charity Registration number: 800640062 RR001

Officially registered as a charity in Canada and approved in the US (501c3), enabling sustainable support and transparent operations. We are also a registered Malawian NGO (Non Governmental Organization)



KUWALA
Christian Girls School

Kuwala is a member of the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation. MCIC values are echoed in our charity: a just world, voices for change, and supporting each other to be global citizens.



OUR CONTEXT: MALAWI IN FOCUS

Malawi: A Nation in Need



"The Warm Heart of Africa"

*A nation with immense challenges, but also
immense potential through education*

32% Inflation rate in 2024

75% Living on less than \$3.00 USD
per day

41% Of the population is under age 14

Why Girls' Education Matters in Malawi:

- ◆ Reduces child marriages and early pregnancies
- ◆ Improves family health outcomes and nutrition
- ◆ Creates economic opportunities beyond subsistence farming
- ◆ Empowers community leadership and development

Malawi is the world's fourth poorest country per capita, [according to the World Bank](#), with an average annual income of just \$508 in 2024. More than 80% of the population [works in agriculture](#) and 90% of farming uses just rain without irrigation, according to the [World Food Programme](#). That has made the landlocked southern African country particularly vulnerable to climate-fuelled disasters, including cyclones that have increased in intensity and frequency in recent years. In 2023, Cyclone Freddy [killed more than 1,000](#) Malawians

Source: The Guardian August 24, 2025

LIFE AT KUWALA: A GLIMPSE ON CAMPUS



7 x 24 Security Presence



Engaging Classrooms



Greenhouse Study Session



Student Community

Daily Life on Campus



Safe Accommodation

Full security team equipped with new technology to improve communication and to keep the entire campus safe



Nutritious Meals

Girls are fed a healthy diet each day to support academic performance and physical health.



Skills Development

Trades workshop where students will be able to learn practical skills with hand and power tools, preparing them for future employment.



Christian Community

Our school follows the Malawian curriculum which includes Bible studies. Our values-based education creates a supportive community atmosphere.

Kuwala is building a new school model focused on a long-term sustainable operation, combined with the highest levels of excellence in educational results. Our latest graduation rate was 97% with two-thirds qualifying for post-secondary education.

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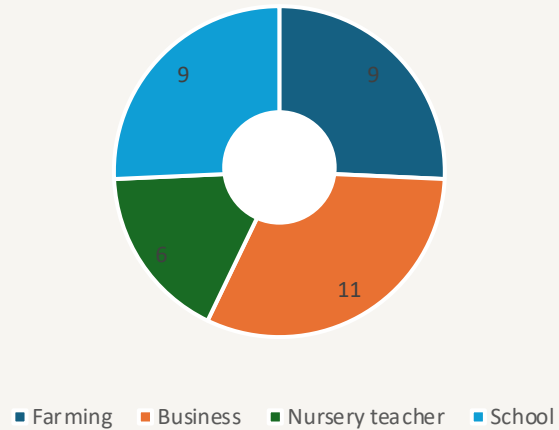
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STUDENT IMPACT: STORIES OF CHANGE

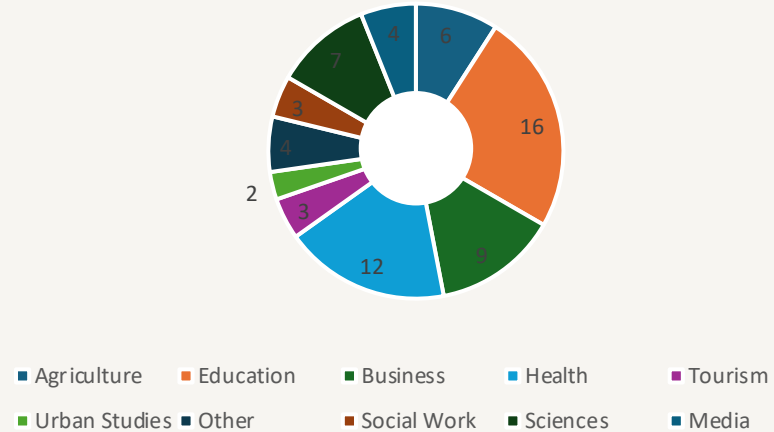
After Graduation



Working



University Studies



Education is one of the most transformative forces in human life—it's not just about acquiring knowledge, it's about unlocking potential.

STUDENT IMPACT: STORIES OF CHANGE

After Graduation



Education is the most powerful resource that you can use to change the world

Student Testimonials



Desire, Form 4 Graduate (North American Grade 12 equivalent)

"I am in my third year at Chancellor College doing my Bachelor of Arts in Media Development ."



Lesina, Form 3 Student (North American Grade 11 equivalent)

"Kuwala has taught me how to use a computer. It is not easy for a person to have this chance. Thank you for everything you do for me."



Martha, Form 3 Student (North American Grade 11 equivalent)

" Thank you for everything that you have been doing for me because without your help, I could not be here at Kuwala, where there in peace, love and joy."

PROGRAMS & OPERATIONS UPDATE

Educational Programs & Campus Updates

Academic Curriculum

Expanded STEM subjects with new science laboratory equipment.
Professional development for teaching staff begun

Skills Training

New trades workshop completed where students will be able to learn practical skills with hand and power tools.

Introduction of new farming techniques and agricultural teaching opportunities for students and staff alike

Improved Safety

Walkways and lighting have been added to the campus to make movement between buildings a safe and easy journey especially during the rainy season.

Food Security

Our farm is ensuring a consistent sustainable supply of food
Purchase of additional vehicles to aid work on the campus

Service Trip

A group of 18 Canadians visited the campus in June of 2024. While in Malawi, the group:

- participated in special education programs and other activities with the students
- met with country officials
- visited the refugee camp just outside of Lilongwe
- met with US Aid and local leaders.
- visited other villages and other local schools both public and private



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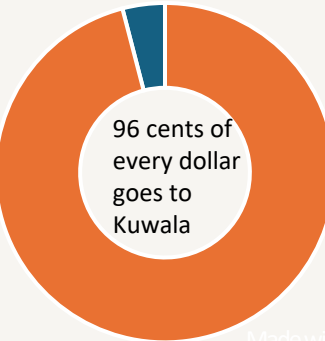
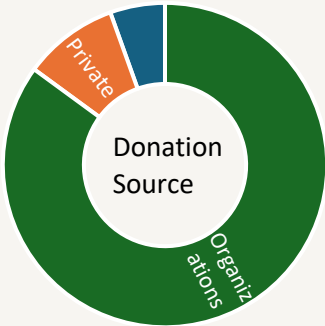
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW & TRANSPARENCY

Fiscal Year 2024

DESCRIPTION	\$CAD-2020	\$CAD-2021	\$CAD- 2022	\$CAD- 2023	\$CAD- 2024
Total Support and revenue	342,002	466,589	909,574	578,806	796,303
School operating Expenses	140,183	218,009	264,124	279,786	429,250
School construction	97,833	153,729	375,859	295,439	308,650
Management and general expenses	21,259	21,480	30,325	24,637	29,072
Fundraising Expenses	276	18,576	22,418	1,101	2,025
Total Expenses	259,551	411,794	690,095	600,963	768,997
Net Income	82,451	54,795	219,479	-22,157	27,306
Total Assets	106,520	151,501	376,504	358,990	384,032
Total liabilities	5,672	5,671	5,671	7,500	7,875
Net asset balance	100,848	145,830	370,833	351,498	376,157

Numbers are from 2021-2024 audited statements. Management expense ratio is calculated from general expense divided by total support and revenue (x 100) to obtain a percentage.

Canada Helps Private Grant Organizations



Financial accountability matters. Full financial reports available on our website or upon request.

Made with Genspark

Operational Integrity

- Weekly Zoom leadership calls to ensure alignment and procedural discipline
- Weekly Zoom calls with the Finance teams in Malawi and Canada
- Move to a consistent accounting platform (QuickBooks for both Canada and Malawi)
- Joint calls between Malawi and Canadian Boards
- Monthly Newsletter development calls
- Annual site visits by Board members
- Annual financial audit by professional auditors both in Canada and Malawi



Starlink provides effective internet access



Our focus is on leveraging technology to stay connected, follow disciplined financial strategies and ensure effective communication

Navigating hurdles and embracing growth in Malawi



Risks



Inflation
Over 30% annually



Currency volatility
Repeated devaluation of local currency



Climate Change
Increasing extreme weather



Declining International Support
Scaled back foreign assistance

Mitigation



Building self reliance in food and energy
- Farm
- Biogas
- Solar expansion



Continuing to enhance operational and financial procedures
A contributor to bringing foreign exchange into Malawi which aids currency stability



Introducing sustainable farming practices
Development of food preservation and on location processing



Developing community resilience by reducing reliance on external aid through local employment and the opening of our maize mill

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Biogas installation



Walkways connecting our buildings



Irrigation underway

Path to Sustainability

Completed

- Solar power installation
- Biogas to replace Liquid Propane gas
- Maize mill supporting Kuwala and the surrounding community
- Phase 1 Irrigation of 5 acres of farm
- Regenerative soil practices
- including composting
- First introduction of livestock



Preparing compost



Solar provides reliable energy

Next Steps

- Food preservation building
- Weather station
- Fish farming to provide additional protein
- Increased greenhouse capacity
- Phase 2 expanded irrigation
- Expand livestock diversity



Weather Station

Campus Expansion Plans

Current demand exceeds 10 times our existing capacity

- Work is underway to extend our capacity to 320 students
- This requires 2 additional hostels and two more classroom blocks (6 additional classrooms)
- The further classrooms allows us to create a full-fledged computer lab and library as well as accommodate the extra students at an appropriate class size
- Work will be done on these four buildings as our fundraising allows.



- In addition, we will be completing and furnishing the Food preservation building. Once trained, staff will be able to store the abundant harvest for future use
- An additional dormitory matron is required. Two small matron housing units will be built adjacent to the hostels.
- Basketball Court
- New greenhouses (2)
- Additional wells for water and extension of the irrigation system
- Additional walkways

Campus Expansion Plans



Farm Expansion

Inflation and climate change require a sustainable farm

Accomplished in 2024

- Weekly farm coaching calls
- Introduction of sustainable farming practices
- Irrigation installation on 5 acres
- Companion planting introduced
- Diversification of nutritional choices
- Introduction of goats
- Purchase of the tractor and additional components

Planned for 2025

- Irrigation expansion
- Continued staff training
- Initiate food preservation program
- Bolster livestock with chickens
- Additional water wells
- Expand greenhouses capacity

Irrigated land will be expanded to the size of two large Costcos and will be capable of producing over 50,000 kg of food



The power of irrigation



714 KG of tomatoes were recently harvested



Tractor in use

Community Impact

Kuwala has become a major employer supporting the surrounding communities



Day labourers lining up for work



Making desks in the workshop



Kuwala students teaching local children

Total of 53 permanent staff

Teachers (13)

Cooks (4)

Security (14)

Maintenance (5)

Farm Manager (1)

Farm (8)

Nurse (1)

Accounts (3)

Maize Operations (2)

Biogas Management (2)

As well as casual day labour of up to 40 additional people depending on activities scheduled



Wildlife Club checking the seedlings



Our Cooks



The campus is green and flourishing

Canadian Board Members

Mark Kinzel

President and chair

Mark is located in Winnipeg and is the Vice-Chair of IG Wealth Management

mark.kinzel.kuwala@gmail.com

Myles Boonstra

Vice President and Vice-Chair

Myles is a senior professional engineer currently serving as the Director of Environmental Sustainability and Energy for Shared Health in Manitoba

myles.boonstra.kuwala@gmail.com

Susan Wiegner

Treasurer

Susan is retired from the financial services market as assistant Vice-President of Information Services

susan.wiegner.kuwala@gmail.org

Donalea Ozuk

Secretary

Donalea is a credit analyst at a financial services company and lives in Winnipeg

donalea.ozuk.kuwala@gmail.com

Kristi Knutson

Director

Kristi is an owner of MK Cattle Co, a purebred cattle operation and an office administrator for T Bar C Cattle Co. Kristi lives in Saskatchewan.

kristi.knutson.kuwala@gmail.com

Darryl van Herksen

Director, Digital Marketing

Darryl is an account manager at Web Wizards, a software development and web-based company in Winnipeg, and consults on brand development.

Darryl.vanherksen.kuwala@gmail.com

Mitch MacLean

Director

Corporate lawyer practicing at Halliwill Seguin LLP in Windsor, Ontario with previous corporate law experience at a large top-tier firm.

mitch.maclean.kuwala@gmail.com

Ruth Hessmann

Director

Ruth is a retired elementary school teacher who worked with Parkland School Division and stays connected by tutoring throughout the year. She lives in Nanaimo, BC.

ruth.hessmann.Kuwala@gmail.org

Marsha Cosman

Director

Marsha is a e-commerce strategist, consultant, author, and entrepreneurial educator.

marsha.cosman.kuwala@gmail.com

Emily Hazlett

Director

Lawyer at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP. Her practice covers various aspects of civil and commercial law, with a particular focus on commercial litigation and class actions.

emily.hazlett.kuwala@gmail.com

Malawian Board Members

Memory Mdyetseni, B. Arts in Biblical studies, and an Education minor, African Bible College.

Director

16 years experience as School Managing Director responsible for policy and general management. Memory's leadership and professional experience are exceptional. She has been on the Kuwala Board since inception and is instrumental in guiding the direction of academics and administration in a consultant capacity.

Henry Mdyetseni, P. Eng.

Director

Henry has over 17 years experience as a Schools Operations Director with his expertise and commitment to quality workmanship. He is instrumental in the growth of the Kuwala campus and grounds while also being a board member.

Esther Kawale, M.Sc. and Strategic Management

Chairperson of the Board

Esther is working as a programs Manager with the Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Africa.

Martha Chizuma Senior Integrity Risk Specialist, World Bank

Director

Martha holds a Masters in Law from UK and Bachelor in Law (Hon) Degree from Malawi. Martha has won several awards in recent years including being woman of the year and personality of the year, female public servant of the year. In 2021 Martha was named one of the 12 Anti Corruption Champions across the globe by the US State Department.

McLuwen Kachipanda, MBA (ESAMI), CPA (Malawi) with accreditation from the FCCA, ACCA

Treasurer

McLuwen Kachipanda is the Cluster Procurement Manager responsible for all procurement activities for JTI Leaf Malawi and JTI Leaf Zambia. McLuwen has 23 years work experience in Accounting & Finance, Financial planning, Internal controls and Audit.

Rev. Blessings Chikakula Pastor,
Director

Minister at MATOLA CCAP, Dowa District - Central Malawi. Blessing has a degree from the African Bible College, LL, Bachelor of Arts and Biblical Studies.

Isaac Kalebe, BAH, MBA (UNIMA), ACII

Director

Isaac Kalebe is a commercially astute chartered insurer and an experienced business executive with over 19 years' experience in FMCG, risk management, public funds management and administration in Malawi, Zimbabwe and South Sudan



THANK YOU & CALL TO ACTION

Your support transforms lives in Malawi

We Appreciate Your Support

With your continued partnership, Kuwala Christian Girls School is transforming lives through education. Thank you for being part of our mission to break the cycle of poverty in Malawi.



Become a Sponsor

Support a girl's education for
\$1500/year



Capital Campaign

Help us complete our campus
expansion. You can donate on-
line at Canada Helps



Volunteer

If you'd like to help us, contact us
directly.



Become an Ambassador

Spread the word about our mission
Sign up for our newsletter and
share on social media.



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Contact Us



www.kuwala.org



info@kuwala.org



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Watch our video for a current
update on Kuwala

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