

CHIWERE COMMUNITY CITY OF PEACE

BACKGROUND

Chiwere is a community under the Traditional Authority Chiwere in Mvera, Dowa District, in the Central Region of Malawi in African Continent which has a rich cultural background rooted in traditional practices and beliefs, with different tribes like Chewa, Ngoni, Tumbuka, Lhomwe, Tonga etc. However, the main tribe in this community is Chewa with some traditional dances as Nyau and Chitelera. Furthermore, the economy of the area has deep roots in agriculture, with farming being a primary occupation for many residents and maize as a main food crop. Chiwere community as part of Dowa district, is a hilly community with gentle slopes and experiences a humid subtropical highland climate zone. Politically, Chiwere community as in Dowa district is affiliated to the Malawi Congress Party. Chiwere community is privileged to be surrounded with some historical importance like Mvera mission hospital, Andrew Murray primary school and Mvera mission church which was first established in 1889 by Andrew Charles Murray, Kaso hill where the Holy Bible was first translated to Chichewa and also Thuma forest reserve.

MISSION

The mission of establishing Chiwere a city of peace community is to foster a culture of understanding, tolerance and cooperation among residents to create a harmonious and safe living environment for all.

VISION

Chiwere community envision to become a model community that exemplifies the values of peace, tolerance and solidarity, serving as a beacon of hope and inspiration for other cities and regions around the world.

OBJECTIVES

1. Promote dialogue and understanding through implementation of programs and initiatives that foster open communication, mediation and conflict resolution skills among residents to address disputes peacefully and constructively.
2. Strengthen social cohesion and solidarity by fostering collaboration, cooperation and shared responsibility among residents.
3. Promote environmental sustainability practices that protect the natural resources, ecosystems and biodiversity of the community.
4. Advocate for peace, human rights and social justice by engaging in campaigns, advocacy initiatives and alliances that promote peace, equity and inclusivity.
5. Collaborate with local organisations, businesses, schools and government agencies to create a network of support and solidarity, promoting collaboration and collective action in addressing community issues and promoting peace building efforts.

6. Educate and raise awareness about the importance of peace, human rights and social justice, fostering a sense of responsibility and engagement in creating a more peaceful and inclusive community.
7. Implement crime prevention programs, neighborhood watch initiatives and community policing strategies to ensure the safety and security of residents.
8. Offer support services for victims of violence and promote a zero-tolerance towards any form of aggression or discrimination.

CHALLENGES

Chiwere community faces different challenges which hinder the development and well-being of the community and are as follows:

1. Lack of proper infrastructure such as roads, electricity and healthcare facilities.
2. Limited access to quality education affecting literacy rates and opportunities for the youth.
3. Healthcare facilities and services are inadequate, leading to challenges in addressing healthcare needs in the community.
4. Economic challenges and poverty impacting the overall well-being of the residents.
5. Limited access to clean water in the community leading to vulnerability of women and girls due to long distance fetching water.
6. Food insecurity which resulted due to climate challenges, hence, students go to school hungry.

SOLUTIONS

The possible solutions to address these challenges would be involving government intervention, non-profit organisations and community-based initiatives. For example, improving infrastructure, increasing access to education and healthcare facilities, promoting sustainable agriculture practices and creating employment opportunities to uplift the community.


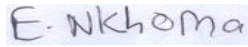

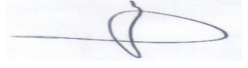

CURRENT ISSUES

Chiwere also faces current issues which include environmental degradation, climate change impact and lack of economic opportunities. Therefore, addressing these issues would require sustainable development projects, conservation efforts and capacity-building programs to enhance the resilience of the community.

SUCSESSES

Despite challenges Chiwere face, there has been some successes made in the Chiwere community which include improvements in education enrollment rates, cultural preservations and agricultural productivity. Therefore, recognising and building upon these successes would help propel further positive change and enhance the overall well-being of the community.

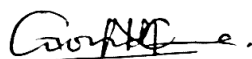
THE TEAM

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TEAM LEADER'S STATEMENT OF PEACE

Establishing a community as a city of peace requires a collective effort from its residents, leaders and stakeholders. It involves promoting dialogue, understanding and cooperation among diverse groups. By fostering a culture of tolerance, respect and non-violence, a city can create an environment where conflicts are resolved peacefully and where all individuals feel safe and valued. Furthermore, it is essential to implement policies and programs that address the root causes of violence and promote social justice and equality. Therefore, building a city of peace requires a shared commitment to building a harmonious and inclusive community for all its inhabitants.

Innocent Chifipa Gondwe



Team Leader

Chiwere Community City of Peace

CHIWERE COMMUNITY PHOTO



COMMUNITY GATHERING FOR PEACE BUILDING TRAINING BY THE TEAM MEMBERS



TEAM LEADER PHOTO

