

drops of grace®
Mission Trip to Malawi, Africa - Overview



Dates: July 4 – July 18, 2015 OR October 3 – October 17, 2015 (10 workdays)

Sponsored by: *drops of grace*®

Led by: Diane Bouchard – International Mission Operations
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Cost: \$3500.00

Travel Plan: Itinerary: TBD

Destination: Malawi is a land-locked country in central Africa that is bordered by Tanzania, Mozambique, and Zambia. Its GDP is in the bottom ten worldwide, giving this nation challenges that come with extreme poverty including hunger, health, and adequate education. Moreover, the extreme weather patterns, high rates of HIV/AIDS, & malaria have had devastating effects on the people of this African nation known as the ‘Warm Heart of Africa’. The Mission team will assist Somebody Cares Ministries carry out their various programs in and around Lilongwe, the capital city of Malawi.

Mission: *drops of grace*® desires to raise hope in the vulnerable communities where our in-country partner, Somebody Cares Ministries, serves in their Home Based Care program. By focusing our mission of help and hope on relational support of those who are economically poor, we hope to fulfill a ministry of presence which may result in our own personal transformation.

Some Specific Activities:

- 💧 Prepare & Serve daily meals to orphaned, abandoned and vulnerable children.
- 💧 Cause some SMILES! Create & Lead recreational activities at SBC orphan care life centers.
- 💧 Organize & Run Rural Medical clinics in community. (For healthcare professionals).
- 💧 Plan, prepare and deliver hands-on training for the Lead Home Based Care volunteers in, but not limited to: Health & Hygiene, First Aid for Adults, Children, & Infants, Preventative Care, and Nutrition.
- 💧 Teacher ‘Train the Trainer’ sessions. Create & implement innovative, enthusiastic & energetic lessons to use as Teacher Training session for the volunteer Teachers in community.
- 💧 Bring your own innovative ideas for the widows & women in micro-finance opportunities. Lead workshops in sewing, jewelry making, cooking, etc.
- 💧 Work together with the youth: to restore & rebuild structures, participate in agricultural activities, lead workshops in the trades, such as welding, construction, brick making/laying, and more.
- 💧 Serve alongside & build lifetime relationships with our Malawian brothers and sisters.
- 💧 Relaxing & Shopping at Lake Malawi with our friends at Somebody Cares Ministries.

Deposit Required: A \$300 non-refundable deposit and interest form reserves your spot today! First \$2,000 payment is due by March 31, 2015/June 13, 2015, respectively. The account balance is due June 26, 2015/September 12, 2015, respectively. Or, the total amount may be sent in or paid online before due date.

How to make payments: Payments for your trip can be made in one of three ways:

- 1) **Telephone:** You may call *drops of grace*® Customer Service at (512) 784-0461 to complete a credit card donation.
- 2) **Mail:** You may mail checks made out to *drops of grace*® to the address below. They should include your name on the check to ensure it is applied to your account. *drops of grace*®, P.O. Box 2168, Round Rock, TX 78680
- 3) **Online:** You may make a payment using most major credit cards at the *drops of grace*® donations page on our website at www.dropsograce.org.

TRAVEL

Do I need a passport? Yes! Please go to <http://travel.state.gov/> for more information regarding passports. Your passport must have at least 4 blank pages and be valid six months past your departure date from the country you are visiting. Please make copies of your passport to leave at home with family and/or friends as a reference in the event you misplace your passport during your trip.

Do I need a visa? No, a Visa is not required for travel to Malawi if you are a United States Citizen.

Does *drops of grace*® require that I have traveler's insurance?

No, this is your personal choice. Should you acquire traveler's insurance please note it will be at your expense.

Meals and Accommodations: Accommodations in Malawi will be comfortable and safe. Single supplements are available if needed - (individual will be responsible for additional cost). Accommodations, travel arrangements, meals, and water while in country are included in the base price of the trip. Group meals and accommodations to and from Malawi are at traveler's expense.

Medical Insurance: Outreach Group Travel Medical Insurance will be provided. Medical, Evacuation & Mortal Remains return included. This coverage is included in cost of trip and is secondary coverage while in country. Participant should contact primary care coverage to determine coverage out of country.

Projects and Objectives: We will have small educational, and skills training teams to work with orphans & teachers. We may be called upon to assist in food distribution, volunteer at selected mission sites, meet and encourage widows & orphans, and assist local HBC volunteers with leadership training.

Funding: Team members are encouraged to request mission funds from their friends & family as well as participate in a Team fundraising event. A sample "appeal letter" is available by request that can be adapted and sent to family members and friends.