



NAMIKANGO MISSION  
ANNUAL REPORT

25



# WELCOME



*Ben Hayes*

Ben Hayes  
Executive Director

Moni nonse! Greetings everyone!

We have spoken often in the last few years about the transition that has taken place with US missionaries transitioning out and complete Malawian leadership stepping in. **Transition is no longer the focus. Today, we are seeing the fruit of a strong handoff.** Bisani and the team have led Namikango through this season with wisdom and vision, opening doors for exciting new developments. Have a look at some of these highlights in 2025:

- Conservation Agriculture trained more individuals than **we ever have before, providing a sustainable food solution for many in difficult agricultural times!**
- Namikango Football Club – both a ministry and point of community engagement – **became a semi-professional team.**
- Discipleship Training Institute graduated Cohort 2, and a new group of leaders is now being formed in Cohort 3.
- Namikango was able to **generate 10% of its total budget locally** through initiatives such as honey production, campus agriculture, Albright Soccer Stadium, and other income-generating activities.
- Ntonda Primary school graduated its highest number of students to high school in the school's history – educating future leaders of Malawi!
- 5 Village Bible School centers are preparing to graduate their first group of students, nearly **40% of whom are women**—an important step toward greater balance in biblical education for both men and women.
  - The Village Savings and Loans program experienced its single largest savings group share-out ever – **a remarkable \$28,000 from a group of 25**, in one of the poorest countries in the world!
    - **Over 300 new believers were baptized into Christ**, and more than 15,000 people were reached through training, outreach, and the sharing of the good news of Jesus across all ministries!

**One of the challenges in describing Namikango is that we are a part of so many areas at once.**

Leaders are being trained, communities strengthened & equipped with sustainable tools for growth, physical needs are being met, children are being educated, health services are being provided, and the gospel is moving forward across Malawi.

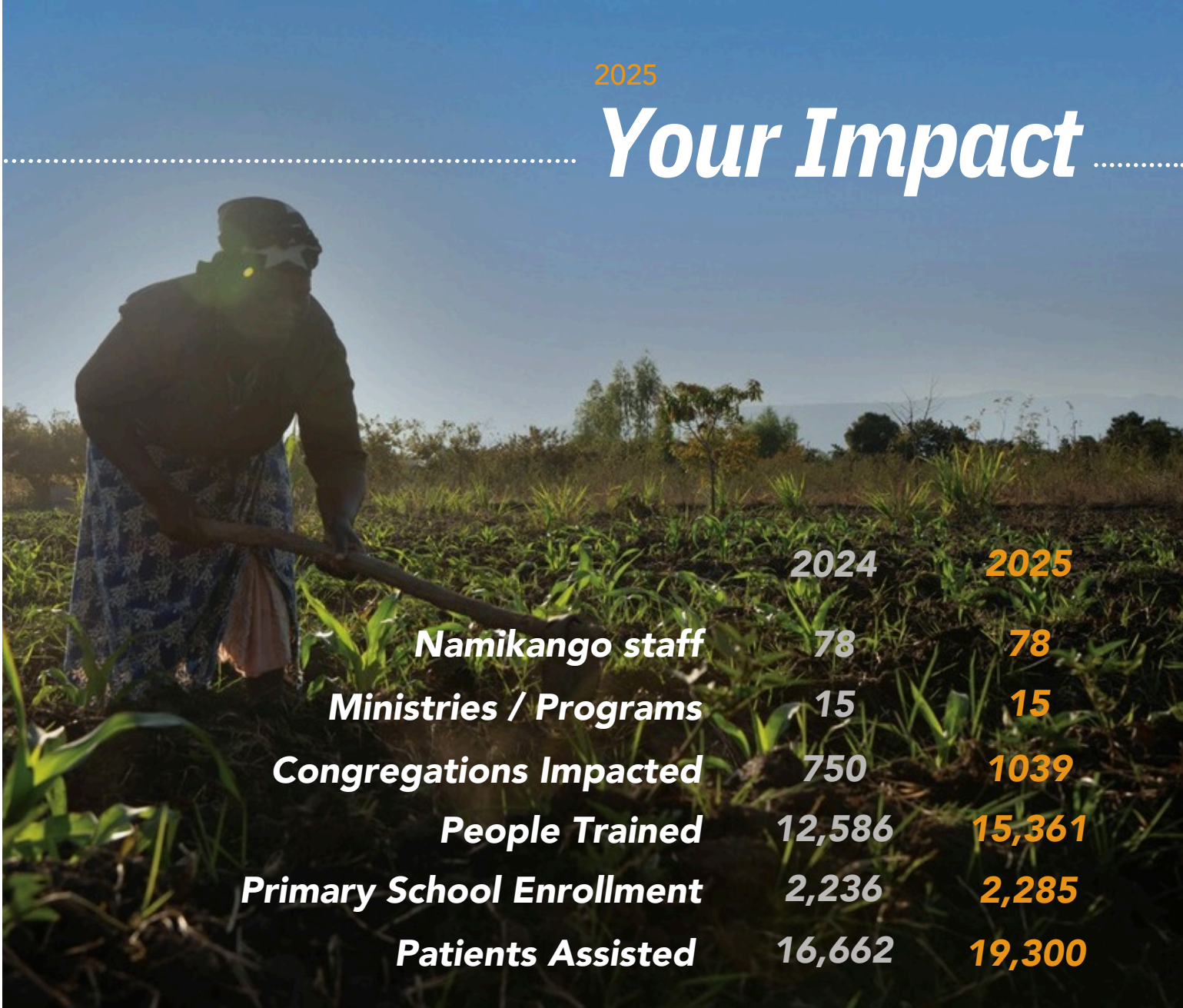
*This is not one program—it's a unified system of multiple parts working towards the transformation of the whole person and community.*

In all the ways mentioned above, and more, your partnership is helping to bring both the good news of Jesus and tangible, lasting change to many, many individuals and communities in Malawi. Thank you!

At its core,  
what Namikango does  
—**and what you help make happen**—  
is this:  
**training Christ-centered leaders  
who are breaking cycles of poverty  
and transforming communities  
through discipleship and  
development**

2025

# Your Impact



	2024	2025
<b>Namikango staff</b>	78	78
<b>Ministries / Programs</b>	15	15
<b>Congregations Impacted</b>	750	1039
<b>People Trained</b>	12,586	15,361
<b>Primary School Enrollment</b>	2,236	2,285
<b>Patients Assisted</b>	16,662	19,300

NAMIKANGO MISSION  
EXISTS TO  
EMPOWER AFRICAN COMMUNITIES  
THROUGH  
CHRIST-CENTERED TRANSFORMATION



TRAINING LEADERS WHO ARE EQUIPPED  
TO ENGAGE EVERY ASPECT OF LIFE

THROUGH AN EMPHASIS ON  
THEOLOGICAL FORMATION  
AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

STRENGTHENING CHURCHES  
AND  
BREAKING CYCLES OF POVERTY

## MALAWI

# MINISTRY INITIATIVE PILLARS



**Your support** has enabled 769 congregations to receive training or be visited, impacting more than 8,700 people.



**Because of your partnership,** leaders like Victor are not only being changed—they are becoming agents of change in their churches and communities.



**Because of your partnership,** these 53 students—and more than 2,000 others—have heard the good news of Jesus and been given a life-changing educational opportunity.

### Church Leadership

**The backbone of Namikango's ministry is the connection, support, and leadership training provided to over 2,000 congregations across Malawi.** While Namikango staff continue to engage the unreached, the heart of the work lies in equipping churches and individuals to do the same. In Malawi, relationships are built through presence—if you don't visit, there is no relationship. One great example of this in 2025 is the initiation of a pastors' fellowship, where 14 local congregations now meet regularly to share ideas and encourage one another, out of which the Kadzuwa Church acquired a plot of land to farm and use the proceeds to support church needs, with 10 other congregations now following suit.

It is the ongoing relationship with these churches that provides both a platform and launch point for Namikango's work, and the opportunity for spreading the gospel and addressing peoples' physical, spiritual, social, and emotional needs.

### Discipleship Training Institute (DTI)

While all of Namikango's ministries engage thousands of people with the gospel and practical tools for daily life, **DTI remains the core of the mission**—an intentional effort to “invest more time in a few.” Each of the initiatives described throughout this report is connected to DTI through its two-year cohort model, where 12–16 students, often as husbands and wives, are trained in spiritual leadership, biblical theology, community development, and personal identity.

**In 2025, DTI Cohort 2 graduated, and Cohort 3 began its first semester.** The goal of DTI is to equip leaders who can return to their home churches and communities to disciple others and multiply the impact of the gospel. **Victor Elliot is a powerful example of this vision**—and of how Namikango's ministries are deeply interconnected. After joining Namikango F.C. several years ago, Victor came to know Christ and was later invited to join DTI Cohort 2. Following his graduation this year, he continues to play with the football team while also discipling youth in his local church.

### Ntonda Primary School

Education is vital in a country where the literacy rate is just 68%. The continued growth in student enrollment at Ntonda each year means greater opportunity for more young boys and girls to learn—and to do so in a Christian environment. In 2025, Ntonda enrolled 2,285 students in grades 1–8, up from 2,238 in 2024.

This year also marked the largest number of students in the school's history selected to move on to secondary school, with 53 students advancing (compared to 37 the previous year). In recognition of this achievement, Ntonda was named the top-performing school in the district and received an award from the District Commissioner.

## Women's Development

**In 2025, more than 1,600 women received training across a variety of programs.**

Through this work, women are growing in their knowledge of Christ while gaining skills that are making a tangible difference in their families.

Nizia and her husband, Moses, are a powerful example of this impact. Through her involvement, she is now teaching her children the Bible and, together, they have used proceeds from orange sweet potato farming to implement solar irrigation and start a pig husbandry business.

Uplifting and empowering women was central to Jesus' ministry, and it remains a key focus of Namikango's work today.

## Village Savings and Loan (VSL)

In the Village Savings and Loans (VSL) program, **16 new groups began** saving money, accessing loans, and launching small businesses, bringing the total to 216 groups. In 2025, the program also **celebrated its largest share-out to date.**

Started by a group of women in Machinga, the Mtendere group completed a **savings cycle totaling over \$28,000—an incredible milestone.** What began as small weekly contributions has grown into a powerful example of community-driven transformation. Trained by Namikango in 2015, the group has progressed from individual businesses to a shared enterprise selling rice. As one representative shared, "This is not just a financial achievement—it is a symbol of resilience, cooperation, and hope."

## Health Center

**With over 1,000 maternity admissions and more than 16,000 people receiving care** this year, the Namikango Health Center continues to meet a critical need in the region. While clinics are available, access to facilities with adequate staff, reliable equipment, and necessary medications remains a significant challenge.

Conditions such as hypothermia, a leading cause of neonatal mortality in Malawi, make quality care life-saving. **Atupele, born prematurely at Namikango,** struggled to regulate her body temperature, but through attentive care and equipment such as a baby warmer, **she was able to recover and grow stronger.**

## HIV Ministry

Beyond challenges of physical poverty, HIV remains one of the most significant issues affecting communities across Malawi. Through youth education, couples counseling, training DTI students, and equipping churches, our HIV ministry continues to promote both health and hope, addressing physical and spiritual realities of HIV.

**In 2025, nearly 1,000 people received HIV education, and over 4,600 individuals were tested** at the Namikango Health Center. In partnership with Malawian leadership and former missionaries Bruce and Beth Smith, 10 trainers have been equipped to help churches respond to HIV with both truth and compassion. In communities where individuals living with HIV are often treated as outcasts, Namikango staff are following the example of Jesus—walking alongside those affected and offering knowledge, support, and hope for restoration.



**Your support** enabled 35 existing women's groups to harvest over 44 tons of sweet potatoes, valued at over \$15,000.



**With your partnership,** healthy babies are being saved, and families have a consistent, trustworthy place to receive care.





**Your support** provides a powerful platform to engage the community through sport while training and discipling young leaders.



**Because of your partnership,** 10 new groups were launched, enabling believers to meet physical needs along with reaching out to the community.

## Football Club (F.C.) – Soccer

**The Namikango F.C. Lions are competing in the Premier League for the first time in the club's history.** This opportunity to play at a semi-professional level brings increased visibility to Namikango and creates new opportunities for young players.

This year, the team was invited to play in the opening match of a new stadium in nearby Zomba city, where players had the honor of shaking hands with the President of Malawi. Namikango also hosted one of the country's most well-known professional teams, the Big Bullets, on campus for a training session.

Beyond generating income to support Namikango's ministries, Namikango F.C. provides a powerful platform to engage the community through sport and to train and disciple young leaders who might otherwise be missed. Perhaps one day, we will be competing alongside the Big Bullets.

## Coffee

The coffee initiative at Namikango is preparing to **officially launch in 2026**. Over the past year, a comprehensive business plan was developed, funding was secured, and relationships were established with local farmers. **In 2025, Namikango's plantation produced 1,000 kilograms of coffee.** Combined with beans sourced from partner farmers across Malawi, this will form the foundation for launching the coffee business.

While coffee will serve as an important source of income, its impact extends beyond financial sustainability. This initiative will increase Namikango's visibility within Malawi, while also creating opportunities to support local farmers by providing fair prices and strengthening agricultural partnerships.

## Conservation Agriculture

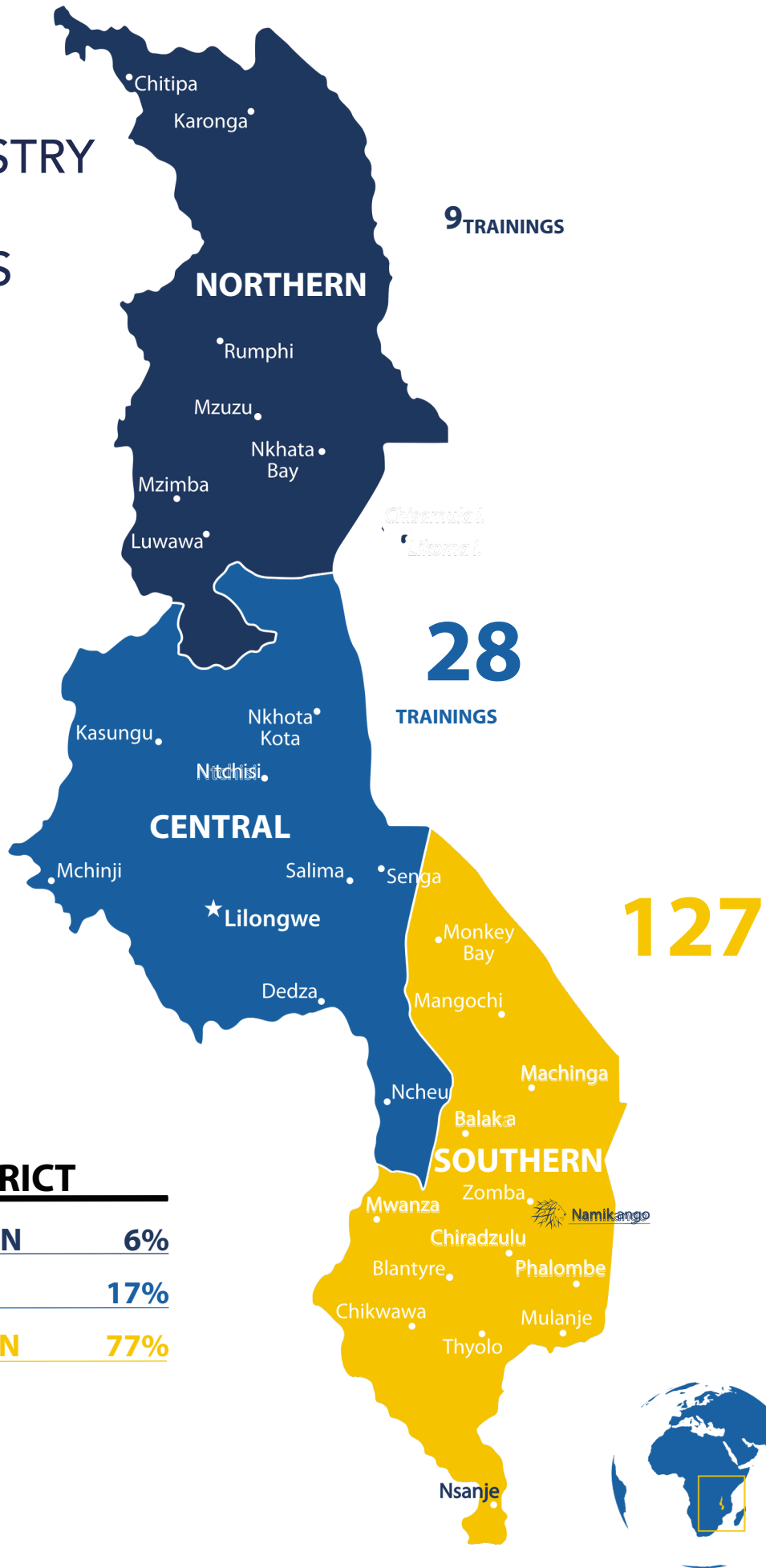
In a country where nearly 80% of Malawians rely on subsistence farming, our Conservation Agriculture and Permaculture initiatives remain vitally important. By equipping local farmers with training to maximize yields using available resources—as well as teaching forest care and beekeeping—**Namikango trained over 1,000 people in 2025, more than ever before.**

The goal was to start 5 new groups, but through the partnership of supporters like you, 10 were launched. These groups are led by local churches, enabling believers to meet physical needs in their communities while also creating meaningful opportunities for outreach. Asiyatu, a Muslim woman who joined the Liundi group, is one such example. She is learning how to care for her garden, steward the environment, and study Scripture. During a three-week dry spell that caused crops to wilt across parts of Malawi, Asiyatu's garden—and those of many in her group—remained strong.

These groups are not only providing sustainable solutions but also displaying the love of Christ to their neighbors while addressing deeper spiritual needs.

MALAWI

# 2025 MINISTRY INITIATIVE TRAININGS



## BY DISTRICT

<b>NORTHERN</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>SOUTHERN</b>	<b>77%</b>

FINANCIALS

**TOTAL RAISED**

**\$978,882**

General Fund Donations

**\$695,651**

Designated Fund Donations

**\$258,232**

Board Restricted Estate Gifts

**\$25,000**

**TOTAL SPENT**

**\$750,199**

Operations

**\$357,873**

Program Initiatives

**\$295,547**

Special Projects

**\$71,000**

Fundraising

**\$25,779**

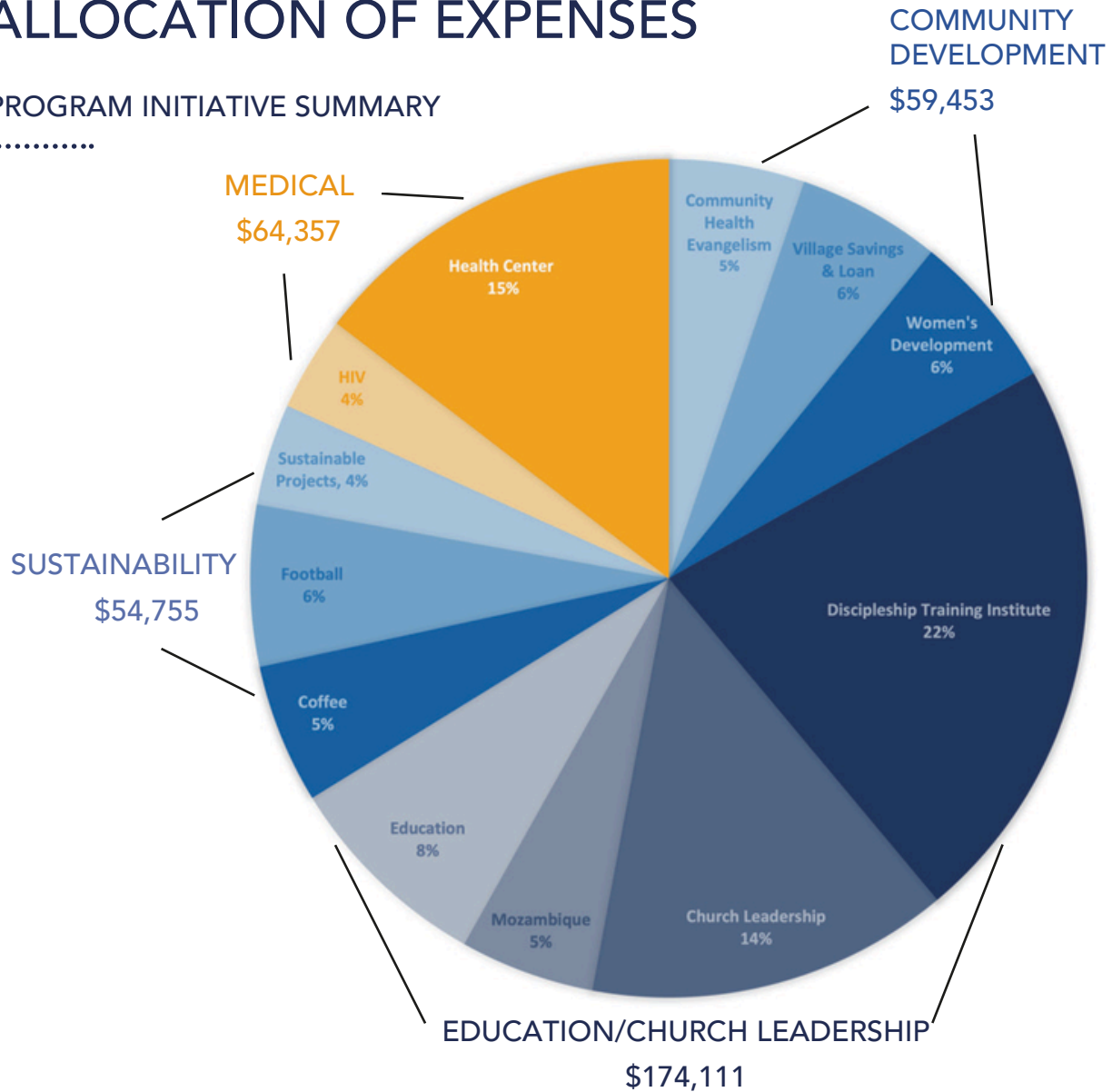
THE SIDNEY & ANITA VAUGHN  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

FINANCIALS

# ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES

PROGRAM INITIATIVE SUMMARY

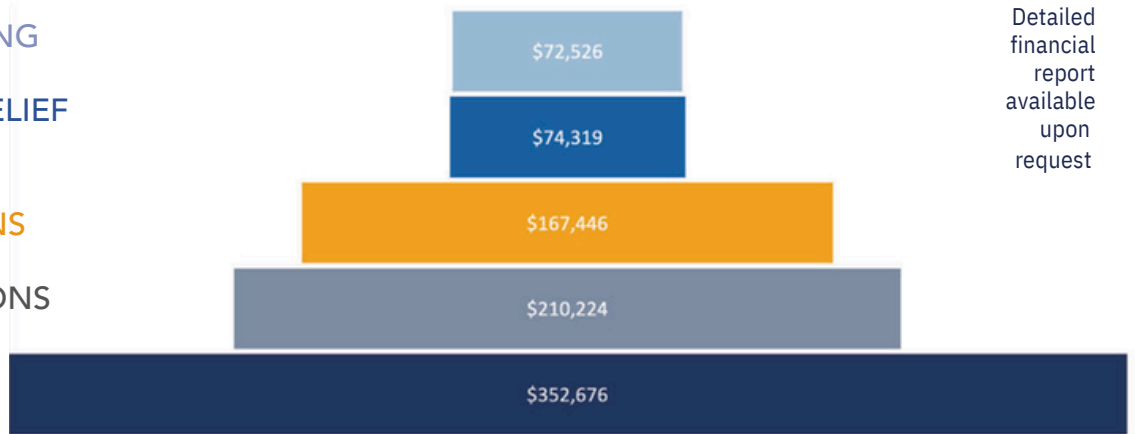
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TOTAL EXPENSES

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- 8% FUNDRAISING
- 9% HUNGER RELIEF
- 19% MALAWI OPERATIONS
- 24% US OPERATIONS
- 43% PROGRAM INITIATIVES



Detailed financial report available upon request

2025

## HONORS & MEMORIALS

We are so thankful for the following gifts that were given in 2025 in honor of or in memory of a friend or loved one:

**Clarissa Baker** in memory of *Frances Baker*

**California Lane Church of Christ** in memory of *Neita Horton*

**Carole Fleming** in memory of *Darrell Fleming*

**Don Lacy** in honor of *Ava Lacy*

**Lovee Sherwin** in honor of *Ben and Becca Hayes*

**Mary Chris Wilks** in memory of *Sidney Vaughn*

**Lynne Williams** in memory of *Darrell Fleming*

**Suzanne Wright** in honor of *Bob & Lynne Williams*

**Kalith & Vaughn Brown** in memory of *Truman Hayes and Otha Brown*



THANK YOU

## WITH GRATITUDE

As we reflect on a year of growth, challenge, and development in 2025—students excelling, babies being born, leaders being discipled and becoming disciplers, and communities experiencing the joy of abundance even in difficult times—**we are deeply grateful for you.**

If the Kingdom of God is a song, then there are many instruments at play, and what is happening in Malawi is happening **because you are a faithful part of that song.**

Please receive our sincere gratitude—from those of us in the U.S., and from all those in Malawi: Namikango staff, board members, and the many individuals whose lives are being forever changed because of your partnership.

**Blessings to you all as we move through this new year.**

# ***WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN 2026***

## NAMIKANGO MISSION

**Discipleship Training Institute** – Integrate skills training into the curriculum—including sign language—and take steps toward accreditation while equipping Cohort 3 and future students with practical trades for their home communities.

**Health Center** – Attain a 4-star rating from the Ministry of Health and launch a new health insurance plan for staff and patients.

**Local Income Generation** – Successfully launch the coffee roastery and honey operations while increasing in-country income to 13% of the total budget.

**Namikango F.C.** – Maintain our position in the semi-professional league and continue developing Albright Stadium to support larger teams and increased attendance.

**Village Bible Schools** – Expand by launching six additional schools and increase female enrollment to 50%.

**Staff Development** – Strengthen spiritual growth through regular gatherings for staff couples and spouses as well as implement a team-building session for middle and senior management.





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