



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1. Our Executive Director Shine at the Presidential Youth Engagement**
- 2. Menstrual Hygiene, A Human Rights Issue.**



COMING UP IN JUNE

- 1. Tadala abc Primary School Library Launch**
- 2. Mental Health Coalition with Global Health Corps**
- 3. International Day of African Child Tennis Challenge**

PRESIDENTIAL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

In a historic event on May 31st, 2024, Malawian youth leaders held a significant dialogue with the President at the Kamuzu Palace at the inaugural Presidential Youth Engagement. Over 100 young leaders from across the country voiced their concerns, which included limited access to quality and transformative education, poor infrastructure in youth friendly healthcare, and high unemployment.

MATCH Foundation's executive director, Tadala Kandulu Ngosi, was selected as a youth representative in the technical steering committee. Her role was to produce a youth-led documentary which showcased young Malawian game changers in mining, agriculture, education and social enterprise.

The Executive Director also participated as a panelist, where her key contribution urged the President and development partners to collaborate more effectively with young people and create an enabling environment for their success. Her message resonated powerfully, emphasizing the importance of increased opportunities and partnerships. She also emphasized that the biggest challenge at the moment is lack of transformative education which leads young people to be less empowered to create their own initiatives.

The president pledged his commitment to establish an interministerial committee comprised of young people and all ministries aligned with youth work. This committee will fast track all youth related projects and address critical issues such as increased national youth funding, an expedited National Youth Service program, and a noteworthy commitment to implement 30% youth participation in governance structures.

The event later ended with a celebratory dinner fostering a spirit of unity and optimism for the future. This gathering marked a turning point, with Malawian youth establishing themselves as key players in shaping their nation's path.

KEEP GIRLS IN SCHOOL –GIRLS EMPOWEREMENT PROGRAM

On 28th May, MATCH Foundation took Menstrual Hygiene Day far beyond a symbolic commemoration. The team traveled to Pheleni Community Day Secondary School, a Lilongwe rural west secondary school with a mission to empower young girls and dismantle the barriers periods can create.

The initiative provided comprehensive menstrual hygiene education as well as distribution of sanitary cups to ensure that the girls had the resources they need to manage their periods with dignity and confidence.



MATCH Foundation facilitated a dialogue about menstrual hygiene as a human rights issue. Girls ought to have access to clean water, conducive and supportive environment where they can access resources easily to reduce disruption in their studies.

This holistic approach is what makes the MATCH Foundation's work so impactful. Equipping girls with the knowledge and resources they need allows them to stay in school, participate in activities, and live their lives to the fullest, unhindered by menstruation. By focusing on education and empowerment alongside access to sanitary products, MATCH Foundation is not just addressing a present need, but investing in a brighter future for these young women. A total of 181 girls walked away with sanitary cups.