CHURCH OF CENTRAL AFRICA PRESBYTERIAN
SYNOD OF LIVINGSTONIA

DAVID GORDON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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LIVINGSTONIA

RUMPHI

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NEWSLETTER

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Our Vision is to be a leading centre of excellence in provision of quality and compassionate patient centred care for the glory of Christ by providing holistic quality healthcare services based on the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.

PRAYER ITEMS.

- We thank God for new hospital staff.
- We thank God for protecting us during this time of cholera outbreak and that no staff member has been affected.
- We pray for good relationship between staff members and the community.
- We pray for the good rains which will result in good harvest not be destructive.
- We pray for peaceful and fair elections and peaceful preparations for the general elections

Current DGMH Management members.

Ishmael Jonathan Nyirenda – Hospital Director

Daudie C Banda - Administrator

Erasmo Blessings Mbemba - PHC Director.

Wadana Mkandawire - Principal Nursing Officer

Andrew Chunga - Senior Human Resources Management officer

Dr Dennis Chauma –Head of Clinical Department.

George Massi—Senior Administrative Officer

Rev. N Longwe – Hospital Chaplain

Innocent Kayula—Staff Representative

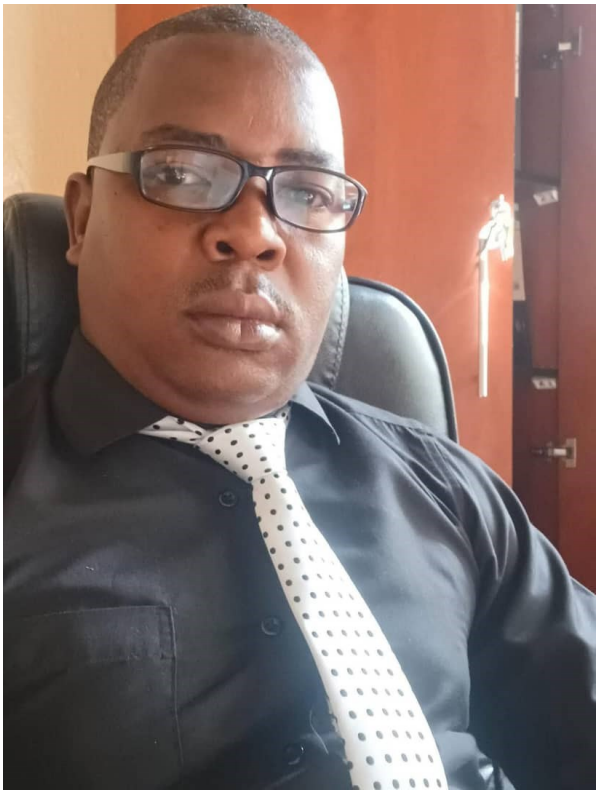
Lynet Kaluwa Kumwenda—Staff Representative

MANAGEMENT UPDATE

DGMH HAS A NEW SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (SAO)

DGMH is pleased to share an important update regarding our leadership team. As part of our ongoing commitment to strengthening hospital administration and enhancing service delivery, we have recently welcomed a new Senior Administrative Officer, George Wilson Massi, who joined us on 13th April 2025.

George brings a wealth of experience in healthcare administration, strategic planning, and operational excellence.



In his role at DGMH, Mr. Massi will oversee office services, and work closely with the Principal Hospital Administrator and the entire management team to ensure that our services continue to meet the highest standards of quality and impact.

We are confident that his expertise and leadership will further strengthen our mission to provide exceptional healthcare services to our community.

RESIGNATION OF THE HOSPITAL ACCOUNTANT

DGMH wishes to inform you of a development within our finance department. Our Hospital Accountant, Frank Nyirenda, formally resigned from his position effective 23rd May, 2025, during the course of our ongoing financial audit. This happened at a time the hospital needed most his expertise as he audit exercise was in progress.

While this transition was unexpected, we want to inform you that the audit process remained uninterrupted and was conducted with full transparency and cooperation. Our internal finance team, together with the external auditors, took immediate steps to ensure that all necessary documentation and financial records were accessible and intact.

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UPDATE ON AUDIT

We are pleased to share the successful completion of our comprehensive audit exercise for the fiscal years 2022, 2023 and 2024. This milestone reflects our unwavering commitment to transparency, accountability, and excellence in healthcare service delivery. The audit was conducted by AMG Global, an independent and accredited firm, and covered financial records, procurement processes, inventory management, and compliance with donor requirements.

The hospital has demonstrated commendable financial stewardship and operational integrity. Donor funds were being utilized effectively to improve healthcare access and quality.

The auditors issued an unqualified opinion, confirming that our financial statements present a true and fair view of the hospital's operations.

Internal controls were found to be robust, with significant improvements in procurement and expenditure tracking and recommended for a further improvement in filing system.

Medical supplies and equipment records were 90% accurate, ensuring efficient resource utilization.

All donor-funded projects were found to be in full compliance with grant agreements and reporting standards.

This achievement would not have been possible without your trust and support. Your contributions continue to make a tangible difference in the lives of thousands. We remain committed to upholding the highest standards of accountability and care.

REPLACEMENT OF THE ACCOUNTANT

We are currently in the process of recruiting a qualified replacement to maintain continuity in our financial operations and uphold the high standards of accountability and reporting that our partners expect. In the interim, oversight and support are being provided by Assistant Accountant to ensure that donor reporting and compliance obligations are met without delay.

THE PORTABLE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Installation of the Water Treatment System is underway and plans are to ensure the system becomes operational by November 2025. The system will have a capacity to treat 40,000 Liters per day for the hospital complex and staff houses. The project is being supported by Transform International.

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MEASURERS TAKEN TO ADDRESS ACCOMMODATION PROBLEM.

- All profits realized from Nkhuku project will be used to build new staff houses.
- Currently construction of semi -detached house is underway.
- Construction of the PHC Directors house is underway. This is a house which was just abandoned long time ago but through support from Mourne presbytery, it will be finished in the next 3 months.
- All funds corrected as rentals are being used to renovate staff houses.

MEASURERS TAKEN TO ADDRESS STAFF SHORTAGE AT THE FACILITY.

- Critical positions are being replaced and the hospital is responsible for the salary
- The facility is lobbying through CHAM that government should fill all vacant positions according to staff establishment.
- The facility is regarded as a learning centre for students where colleges sent their students and attach them to the facility.
- The facility has joined a surgical network under the CCAP, where specialists will be coming to conduct surgeries in the facilities within the network. The community will be able to get specialized services through at DGMH through this network.

Awareness Campaigns: The Primary Health Care preventive team has been running up and down the catchment area providing key messages regarding key issues in the catchment area. Areas such as Katochi, Phoka and Lwatizi have been reached. Approximately 2500 people were reached in all 3 areas.

CHAPLAINCY UPDATE

The chaplaincy department plays a vital role in hospitals by addressing the spiritual and emotional needs of patients, families, and staff. Chaplains provide comfort during times of fear, grief, and uncertainty, especially during serious illness or end-of-life care. They offer a safe space for patients and families to express their feelings, hopes, and concerns. Chaplains serve people of all religious backgrounds ensuring inclusive spiritual care.

Spiritual care reduces anxiety, improve coping, and enhance overall patient satisfaction. Chaplain contributes to a more comprehensive approach to health by addressing the spiritual dimension of healing. Chaplain helps staff manage stress, burnout, and grief, especially after traumatic events or patient loss. She collaborates with medical teams to ensure care plans respect patients' values and beliefs. The Chaplain assists in ethical dilemmas, such as end-of-life choices or treatment refusals, by facilitating respectful dialogue. She also helps to bridge cultural gaps and ensure care is aligned with patients' spiritual traditions.
This is a brief summary of the key activities which are taking place, Evangelism, Saline training, Holy Communion, counselling, overnight of prayers, charity work and Devotions and children Ministry

The main challenges faced by chaplaincy departments are, few staff members consistently attend the devotions and spiritual ministry activities, shortages of saline trainers, Little knowledge on spiritual psychosocial counselling.

The following are the planned activities to implemented: saline training in health centers, Faith flags/ bibles/ hymns, Spiritual Psychosocial training, Bedside Evangelism and Over day of prayer

In short, hospital chaplaincy is not just about religion—it's about human connection, dignity, and healing in its fullest sense

UPDATES ON PROJECTS

CHICKEN REARING PROJECT

Egg production is underway. Together with Banana Box we are implementing a chicken project, we have started with layers.

Currently, production is going quite well producing an average of 200 eggs per day. The eggs are being sold at the craft shop.

The money realized from this project will be used to construct staff houses as one way of alleviating the housing shortage

Eggs being displayed and sold at the hospital craft Shop

PHC DIRECTORS HOUSE

The PHC Director's House completion is underway. With support from Mourne, we started completion of PHC Director's House currently at 85%. We hope to complete it by December 2025.This is the house which was abandoned for 10 years

SEMI DETACHED HOUSE

In today's competitive labor market, DGMH is increasingly recognizing that employee well-being extends beyond the workplace. One of the most impactful ways to support staff is by offering affordable and accessible housing

Providing housing is a powerful tool for building a resilient, motivated, and loyal workforce. As organizations strive to deliver high-quality services, investing in staff housing is a forward-thinking strategy that pays dividends in performance, satisfaction, and sustainability

Semi detached house under construction

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

'Whatever you do, whatever kind of work you are doing, work heartily, with all your heart, diligence, integrity, humility as for the Lord and not for men'

Colossians 3: 23-24

"Give ,and it will be given to you, Good measure , pressed down , shaken together running over , will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you ."

Luke 6 :38

PRAYER ITEMS

- Pray for all our partners who assist us both in material and financially and not forgetting our prayer partners. God should give us good health and protect us.
- God must enlarge your territories in everything that you do to us .You have been assisting us in all our request and even in times when we were not expecting to receive we receive from you our brethren's.
- In the process to prepare for the enemy we decided to reach out to you our dear brethren for financial help for us to procure different materials required in preparing and fighting the pandemic you did not fail us.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL !!!!!

THE KATOCHI CLINIC PROJECT

Katochi Clinic Nears Completion. Last year we started building a health post in Katochi the clinic is currently at 90% we aim to finish by December 2025. The clinic is one of the hardest to reach areas in the catchment.

Above is the Picture of Katochi Clinic Building

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CENTINARY CELEBRATION

The CCAP Synod of Livingstonia celebrated its 150 years of existence on 17th August 2025.

During this celebration many activities were displayed through different departments under the CCAP Synod of Livingstonia.

DGMH was of the facilities which mounted a pavilion to display some of the service which are being provided at the facility.

DGMH displayed the services which are done under WASH program where water filters and hand wash facilities were displayed.

DGMH also displayed the eye services which are provide to its clients. Over 300 Free reading glasses were distributed on the day. On the right, the wash officer Loyna Nyirenda and Optometry technician, Sandress Jere on the DGNH pavilion.

Washroom facilities

Hospitals are places of healing, care, and comfort. While much attention is given to medical equipment and staff expertise, one often overlooked yet essential component of hospital infrastructure is the availability and quality of washrooms, including toilets and bathrooms. These facilities play a critical role in patient care, staff efficiency, and overall hospital hygiene

Washrooms in hospitals are not just a convenience, they are a vital part of the healthcare ecosystem. Their presence and upkeep directly affect hygiene, patient dignity, staff performance, and institutional credibility. Investing in clean, accessible, and well-designed washrooms is a simple yet powerful way to enhance the quality of care. The new washrooms are accessible to all, including individuals with disabilities and are incompliance with health regulations and promote equity.

The newly built washrooms behind Maternity Ward

MEASURERS TAKEN TO ADDRESS STAFF SHORT-AGE AT THE FACILITY.

- Critical positions are being replaced and the hospital is responsible for the salary
- The facility is lobbying through CHAM that government should fill all vacant positions according to staff establishment.
- The facility is taken as a learning centre for students where colleges sent their students and attach them to the facility.
- The facility has joined a surgical network under the CCAP, where specialist will be coming to conduct surgeries in the facilities within the network. The community will be able to get specialized services through at DGMH through this network.

SERVICE FOR GENERATOR

As you know, reliable electricity is the backbone of hospital operations from powering life-saving equipment to ensuring safe lighting and climate control for patients and staff. Unfortunately, our hospital's backup generator, a critical source of power during outages, is in need of immediate servicing.

Power interruptions are very common in our country, and without a functioning generator, our ability to deliver uninterrupted care is at risk. This affects emergency procedures, neonatal care, surgical operations, and even basic patient comfort.

DGMH is seeking funds to service and maintain our generator to ensure it remains a dependable source of backup power

THE COVERED PATHWAY BETWEEN FEMALE WARD & PHC BLOCK

The recent construction of a covered pathway connecting Female Ward and PHC Block marks a significant milestone in improving both patient care and operational efficiency. More than just an architectural addition, this structure represents a thoughtful investment in safety, comfort, and continuity of care

In essence, this is more than a corridor, it is a bridge to better care, smoother operations, a more

MODERN DIGITAL X-RAY MACHINE

DGMH has got a new modern digital Xray machine which was donated by Ministry of Health

In today's fast-paced healthcare environment, the integration of advanced technology is essential for delivering high-quality patient care. One of the most transformative innovations in medical imaging is the modern digital X-ray machine. Unlike traditional film-based systems, digital X-ray machines use electronic sensors to capture and process images, offering numerous advantages that significantly enhance hospital operations and patient outcomes. Some of these advantages are:

- Speed and Efficiency - Instant Imaging and streamlined Workflow.
- Superior Image Quality - High-Resolution Imaging and image Enhancement Tools which help clinicians analyze images more effectively.
- Easy Storage and Sharing

Modern digital X-ray machine is not just a technological upgrade at DGMH but it is a strategic investment in better diagnostics, improved patient care, and more efficient hospital operations. As healthcare continues to evolve, embracing digital radiography is essential for any facility aiming to stay ahead.

The newly installed Digital X-Ray Machine

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General condition of the DGMH Fleet

The condition of the road has affected the condition of the ambulances. The maintenance cost of the ambulances is very high.

Below is the ambulance which needs service especially the suspension and tyres

Colossians 3:23-24

[23] Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, [24] since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Readers Response

Should go to,

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In summary the following are the top major successes for the year 2024 – 2025;

1. Successful audit for the years 2022, 2023 and 2024
2. Partnership with Banana box plus on chicken project.
3. Construction of ablution block behind maternity block, theatre block and semidetached staff house.
4. Construction of covered walk way between Female Ward and PHC block.
5. Installation of the portable water treatment plant
6. DGMH has been rated as star 2 hospital by Ministry of Health

The following are the major challenges faced in the year 2024 – 2025;

1. High cost of drugs and other supplies due to devaluation of the kwacha
2. High staff turnover which has resulted in shortage of staff members. The vacancy rate is at 54%
3. High operational cost resulted in high wage bill for own cost salaries. The current wage bill is at MK22 Million monthly for employees recruited to cover strategic positions which were vacant.
4. Shortage of staff houses.
5. The heavy duty laundry machine is down, the laundry services are outsourced from Rumphi and Ekwendeni
6. Bad condition of Gordon (Golodi) road which connects the hospital to all its health centres which increase the cost of maintaining vehicles.

Way forward

1. To continue lobbying from CHAM (Government) to authorize replacement of all vacant posts
2. Construction of staff houses as one strategy of reducing staff turnover.
3. The facility is working on having an automatic price adjustment of services whenever the Malawi currency (kwacha) depreciates.
4. Appeal to our donor partners to continue supporting the hospital on operational cost.

DGMH ASPIRATIONS

1. To construct covered walkways connecting the new theatre to all hospital Wards
2. Refurbishment of Private Wards to Modern standards
3. Construction of the boat ambulance shelter at Mlowe Health Centre
4. Construction of staff houses.
5. To purchase a utility vehicle for the hospital

DGMH is therefore appealing to LHP for more support for it to fulfill its vision to be a leading centre of excellence in provision of quality and compassionate patient centred care for the glory of Christ.