

MALAWI MATTERS NINE MOTORBIKES FOR NINE GUYS...



“Due to environmental challenges that rural communities face, like hills, valleys and long distances, there is need for efficiency and effective means of transport to reach the remotest areas. As MMI operations, 95% covers remote areas where public transport is impaired. So that we should achieve and maintain the scheduled programs, it is essential in any organisation to achieve its goals.”

| James Soko
RR Kolowiro, Malembo, Mvera
James below with his Area Reps



... MEET THE NINE GUYS — AND DAVID!

From left to right: Kennedy Zintambira (teacher), Franklin Gwengwe (teacher), James Soko (head teacher & child protection worker), John Kaliwamba (teacher), Peter Banda (head teacher), Yoweri Desman (farmer), Bleston Kalebe (farmer), Coordinator David Chilataya, Mike Dzombe (teacher) and Alfred Mwale (orphan program coordinator). These remarkable individuals cover all nine districts of Malawi’s Central Region.

WHAT THE NINE GUYS DO

The Nine Guys (our Regional Representatives) coordinate 60 Area Reps, 188 Local Reps for Creative Methods, 188 Local Reps for Women/Girls, and thousands of Certified Instructors. The job of the 9 volunteer RRs is to **VISIT EACH VILLAGE** in their assigned area for a two-day period once every six months to educate, evaluate, and encourage the local people. And, it’s working. Well, most of it is... and then there’s transport.

THE NINE GUYS’ CHALLENGE

These nine guys **COVER NEARLY 14,000 SQUARE MILES** — by foot, hiring bikes or motorcycles, or finding minibuses to take them part of the way. That’s potentially over 1,500 square miles per guy, twice a year! (And they have day jobs.) Now — you can probably guess what those “roads” are like. (Think surface of the moon....) And it only gets worse during the rainy season from November — April making some impassable. So, on our February/March trip, they asked for motorcycles and on our July trip, we mapped out a strategy to make this happen for them.

WHAT THE NINE GUYS WILL DO

They are so emphatic about the need for bikes that they each offered to raise 1/4th of the cost of a bike. *James just sold a cow to contribute part of his share!* And, the RRs have committed to each doing **80 HOURS OF TRAINING** on theory and practice of motorcycle operation to ensure safety and affirm their commitment.



september 2017

RAIN AND THE “ROADS” ...



“I am writing in appreciation for the support Malawi Matters to provide in my region. Due to the distances that I have to reach a village from the other becomes a problem. The villages are very far from each other. Some areas cars do not go due to bad conditions of the roads. Therefore, having a motorbike will solve this challenge. More especially, when we are in rainy season, from a place to another is a problem.”

| Beleston Kalebe
RR Chileka & Mang’a
Bleston below with Emily, Margaret & Tim

WHAT YOU CAN DO

We are launching a **“30 FOR 30 CAMPAIGN”** for the month of September — a person gives a dollar a day (quick math says that’s \$30 for the month.) Here’s where you come in. We’re hoping you can skip a few Starbucks treats or a dinner out and give \$30 (or more) to our effort! We need to reach the finish line by September 30 to be able to supply them with bikes by the rainy season — so the race for the funds is on!

You can:

- go to malawimatters.org and click on the **“Donate Now”** tab — please note **“Motorcycle Fund”**
- write a check to Malawi Matters — again, please note **“Motorcycle Fund”** and send to:
P.O. BOX 11694
South Bend, IN 46634
- **“Like” us on Facebook and “Share” our info**

Don’t forget Emily’s blog! Emily, Jordan and Ben are living and working in Malawi for the next nine months! You can follow their adventures on [The Maiden Voyages](#).

MORE ABOUT OUR TRANSITION FROM A CONGREGATION MODEL TO A COMMUNITY MODEL

COMING UP NEXT.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT

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ZIKOMO! | THANK YOU!

Visit our website malawimatters.org | Like us on Facebook

AND WATCH FOR OUR NEW WEBSITE COMING THIS FALL!

