SPECIAL MESSAGE

Deafness is not inability. Give a Deaf man a chance in life.

MANAD is grateful to partners and sponsors without whose support the association would not succeed. These include the Finnish Association of the Deaf, the Deaf Association of Scotland, Malawi Government and many more who are not mentioned here.

Make a commitment to support this worthy cause now.

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MANAD
MALAWI NATION ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

Our Vision

“...A society in which Deaf people enjoy the highest quality of life.”
Malawi National Association of the Deaf (MANAD) is a non-profit making organization of the deaf people in Malawi formed in 1992 and registered in 1996 with the aim of addressing various problems faced by the Deaf.

**Who Are We?**

Malawi National Association of the Deaf (MANAD) is a non-profit making organization of the deaf people in Malawi formed in 1992 and registered in 1996 with the aim of addressing various problems faced by the Deaf.

**Activities carried out**

- Strengthen capacity of MANAD to work and advocate for the rights and services for the Deaf, to mobilise the Deaf to form branches/Deaf clubs in all regions of Malawi, to train them how to participate and have influence in their association and to strengthen the sustainability of MANAD to act as national facilitator between the district branches and the matters concerning the lives of Deaf; improved status of Malawi Sign Language and recognition of Sign Language as the medium of education among the Deaf.

- Training the doctors on Sign Language skill so that they can serve Deaf clients.

- Training the Deaf trainers who studied to mobilize and train Deaf people in districts organizational management skills, economic and business skill.

- Holding Awareness Campaigns and Sensitization Workshops. This is a community awareness campaigns and rallies to sensitize the public on the Deaf issues. And lobbying government on the need for a national policy on Deaf matters.

**Deaf or Dumb?**

People who are not Deaf tend to call deaf person dumb because he/she do not speak or utter audible words. However, the term dumb is offensive term and is not tolerated in the Deaf community. A Deaf person is capable of communicating by means of Sign Language. Sign Language is a language on its own right. It is fully fledged language capable of expressing ideas. Since Deaf people communicate through Sign Language they can not be regarded as dumb.

**Main Objectives of MANAD**

- To promote Malawi Sign Language as a means of communication.
- To advocate for the rights, interest and welfare of the Deaf people.
- To build the capacity of Deaf people to claim, access, enjoy and defend their rights.
- To build a critical coalition of individuals, national and international Organizations, interest groups and others to have a sustained agenda on the rights, interest and welfare of Deaf people.

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Over the years MANAD has campaigned for the recognition of sign language as a medium of communication for the deaf.
- MANAD has been part of instrument in lobbying for legislation of Disability bill that would enhance the Deaf integration into the mainstream society.
- MANAD is now well known countrywide. This is assisting Deaf and general communities understand the Deaf issues effectively.
- MANAD has made some strides in combating HIV and AIDS in some Deaf communities in the country.

**HOW ONE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO MANAD**

- Sponsoring a deaf child with scholarship.
- Funding one of the MANAD projects based on its objectives.
- Providing employment to the Deaf.
- Incorporating Deaf people in mainstream society.