

SPECIAL MESSAGE

Deafness is not inability. Give Deaf people equal opportunities 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, Open Society Initiatives of Southern Africa (OSISA) National AIDS Commission (NAC), The Malawi Government and individuals who are not mentioned here.

Make a commitment to support this worthy cause now.

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Funded by:

MFA of Finland through the Finnish
Association of the Deaf (FAD)



Ministry of Health's Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) staff in a group photo after basic sign language training.



Former Minister of Persons with Disabilities and Elderly admires products made by the Deaf during the international Deaf Week



Special Needs Education teachers for the Deaf display their certificates obtained after completing a basic sign language training course



MALAWI NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF (MANAD)

*Working towards improving the quality of
life and human rights of the Deaf in Malawi*



MANAD branches leaders displaying their certificates after a Finnish Association of the Deaf (FAD) sponsored leadership training

WHO ARE WE?

The Malawi National Association of the Deaf (MANAD) was formed in 1992 with the goal of promoting the rights and well-being of the deaf in Malawi.

BACKGROUND

MANAD, as an association, was formed by the Deaf persons themselves. Its members are drawn from branches spread across the country.

VISION STATEMENT

"A society in which the Deaf enjoy equal opportunities"

MISSION STATEMENT

MANAD is a registered Association of the Deaf. It exists to empower the Deaf by building their capacity, advocate and lobby for their rights throughout the country.

OUR VALUES

Impartiality, accountability and transparency, integrity, professionalism, equality, justice and fear of God.

MAIN OBJECTIVES OF MANAD

- To promote Malawi Sign Language as a means of communication
- To advocate for the rights, interest and welfare of Deaf people
- To build the capacity of Deaf people to claim, access, enjoy and defend their rights
- To work in cooperation with individuals, national and international organizations, interest groups and others to have a sustained agenda on the rights, interest and welfare of Deaf people.
- To promote income generating projects for the Deaf members and for the sustainability of the organization.

MANAD PROGRAMS

MANAD has programs which include: Malawi Sign Language (MSL) curriculum development, MSL training, MSL interpreters' training, Leadership training programs where we build the capacity of Deaf people at every level. We also work towards achieving partnership alliances with different organizations and stakeholders to ensure that Deaf rights are captured in the broader national agenda. At MANAD, we represent and advocate for the rights and aspirations of the Deaf community in Malawi. We do this by carrying out advocacy activities which include:

1. Awareness Campaigns and Sensitization Workshops

MANAD has been carrying out awareness campaigns which include Deaf Week commemorations since 2009 in all regions of Malawi. Under the same activity, MANAD has been organizing sensitization workshops with different stakeholders and policy makers.

2. Radio and Television Awareness Programmes

In order to reach as many people as possible, MANAD conducts radio and television programmes to raise awareness on many issues affecting the deaf such as health, education and communication.

3. District Executive Committee (DEC) meetings.

DEC is the champion of development in every district. In order for the deaf to be included in the district development plans, MANAD organizes and sometimes is invited to attend DEC meetings where presentations on challenges facing the Deaf are made.

4. Networking and Collaboration meetings

MANAD engages in networking and collaborations meetings with different organizations and stakeholders. Our doors are always open to any organizations that aspires to work with us.

5. HIV and AIDS Awareness programmes

Due to lack of consultation by organisations which carry out HIV and AIDS programs, MANAD has been carrying out different HIV and AIDS activities among the deaf such as:

- Focus group discussion with deaf members to share HIV and AIDS information.
- Peer Education– This program trains deaf peer educators to equip them with knowledge about HIV and AIDS.
- VCT Counselors' and Nurses Sign Language Training.

6. Sign Language and Interpreters' Training

This training is provided to eliminate communication barriers between the deaf and the hearing community which include the service providers.

7. Education

MANAD has lobbied for inclusive education from primary through secondary schools. MANAD consults and works with professionals on the development and implementation of a Deaf education system in Malawi.

8. Fundraising

MANAD relies on voluntary contributions in both cash and materials from individuals and organizations to carry out its programmes.

For more information visit MANAD offices or contact us on the numbers overleaf