

**CHURCH OF CENTRAL AFRICA PRESBYTERIAN  
SYNOD OF LIVINGSTONIA**



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**ENGALAWENI HEALTH CENTER STORMED**



## The short lived joy!



### ***Inkosi Ya Makhosi M'Mbelwa rejoicing during the opening ceremony of Engalaweni Health center***

It was all joy in August 2022 when Engalaweni Health center was opened to the public. Traditional, Religious and government leaders all stormed to Engalaweni to witness the opening of the facility. The church and church partners who funded the construction were showered with praises as people sung and danced with joy to have a health facility close to them. Engalaweni is located 30 kilometers south of Mzimba District Hospital, Engalaweni Health Centre serves a population of at least 12,000 people. The health facility is located 15, 12 and 8 kilometers from nearby health facilities of Edingeni, Kamteteka and Manyamula respectively and 30 kilometers from Mzimba District Hospital. It was constructed by the Engalaweni community led by Engalaweni CCAP Church with financial support from Mountain View Presbyterian Church partners in Colorado - USA.

The fate befell the facility on the evening of 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023 when there was a heavy storm which blew off the roof of the maternity wing and the pharmacy part of the Out patients wing. Everyone was at ease and rejoicing that the rains have come and that was a sign that the community will have food. That joy and the joy of having the facility did not last long enough when the storm came and blew the roof.

There were pregnant mothers and their guardians in the building and a mother who had just given birth. The goodness and faithfulness of God was seen as all left the building unharmed.

As of now, the maternity section of the health centre has been closed and people will have to travel between 8 to 30 kilometers to get the labour and delivery services.



At the moment, the hospital management is assessing the extent of the damage so that it can be costed. All what is known is 61 iron sheets of 19 feet each, planks, ceiling boards, glasses and many other things have been damaged that they cannot be put back on the roof. **The cost for repairs is approximately MK25 million= \$24 000 and GBP 23 000.**

## **Conclusion**

This is a desperate and urgent disaster situation that we are in and we are seeking for support to work on the building so that we can continue providing the services to the community. This is the rainy season and most of the roads are impassable more so roads connecting Engalaweni to other health facilities. The rivers are difficult and mostly impossible to cross during this time. This will put lives of pregnant mothers at risk as they may end up having home or road side deliveries. Please pray with us that God can send our way those who are able to support.

## **Some pictures of the building:**



***Pharmacy section***



***The corridor and the linen store***



***Pre-natal and labour wards***

**Thank you for any kind of support and prayers inclusive.**