CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal Details

Name: Mkandawire, Mac Bain Happy Joel
Sex: Male
Marital Status: Married with two sons and one daughter
Birth Date: July 31, 1965
Nationality: Malawian
Profession: Development/Youth Worker/Human Rights Defender

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C/o Youth Development Centre. Along Zomba Lilongwe Road, Next to Calvary Church,
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Education Qualification

May 2011
Masters in Leadership and Change Management, Leeds Metropolitan University, United Kingdom

July 2004
Certificate in Leadership and Management, Centre for Leadership Studies, Exeter University, United Kingdom

December 2004
Certificate in Fundraising and Resource Mobilization,
FAHAMU/Oxford University, United Kingdom

October 2000
Certificate in NGO Management, Wye College, University of London, United Kingdom

January 1991
Bachelors of Education (Science) from Chancellor College, University of Malawi, Malawi

July 1987
Malawi School Certificate of Examination from Rumphi Secondary School

July 1985
Malawi Junior Certificate of Examination from Rumphi Secondary School

Leadership Skills and Work Experience

September 1999 to Present
Executive Director for Youth Net and Counselling in Zomba – a leading local Non – Governmental Organization serving youth, women and children in Malawi

September 2011 to Present, Vice Chair, Social Welfare Technical Working Group, Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare

January 2026 to current
Member, Africa Advisory Group on Localisation, Network for Empowered Aid Response (NEAR)

January 2021 to December 2025,
Member, Partner Advisory Group, Trocaire, Ireland supporting the Regional Hub

June 2023 to present
Co – Chair, Humanitarian NGO Committee in Malawi reparenting the Local NGOs

September 2014 to March 2018,
Board Chair, Governing Council, Council for Non-Governmental Organisation in Malawi

September 2014 to 2021,
Trustee, Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) Malawi, representing NGOs

September 2014 to December 2017,
Member, Local Development Fund Steering Committee and Chair, Finance and Administration Committee - LDF

March 2013 to Present, Chair,
Task Force on Ending Child Marriages Campaign in Malawi, Multi Action Activity

November 2012 to 2014,
Moderator for Southern Africa and Chair, Finance and Administration Committee, Africa Network Campaign on Education for All-ANCEFA

February 2012 to Present,
Custodian for Southern Africa, Africawide Movement for Children (AMC)

May 2012 to Present,
Board Chair, Parenting in Africa Network (PAN)

July 2012 to 2014,
Board Chair, Executive Committee, Civil Society Education Coalition (CSEC)

February 2010 to July 2012,
Vice Chair, Executive Committee, Civil Society Education Coalition (CSEC)

November 2011 to 2012

National Representative and Contact Point, Southern Africa Child Rights Reference Group, Save the Children Initiated Reference Group

April 2010 to present

National Coordinator, National Child Helpline Services, Malawi – Government of Malawi Programme

April 2011 to 2012

Taskforce Member, Case Management Development Task Team, Ministry of Gender, Children and Community Development, Malawi

November 2008 to 2011

Regional Representative for Africa and Board Member, Child Helpline International, Network of Child Helpline Worldwide, Amsterdam

July 2008 – December 2011

Regional Coordinator, Pan Commonwealth Civil Society Network on HIV and AIDS, Africa Region

October 2009 – December 2012

Executive Board Chairperson, Transhaven Schools Trusts, Zomba Transhaven Schools, Zomba, Malawi

July 2009 to December 2015

Board Chair, TEEM Development Centre, Theology Education by Extension in Malawi

January 2007 – March 2009

Board Member, Technical, Educational Vocational, Entrepreneurship, Training Authority (TEVETA), Malawi

November 2001 – December 2003

Governing Council Member for Council for Non Governmental Organizations in Malawi (CONGOMA) an umbrella organization for non governmental organizations in Malawi

September 2001 – September 2003

Board member, National Youth Council of Malawi, an umbrella organization for youth organizations in Malawi established under the National Youth Council Act of Malawi (1996)

January 1997 - December 2000

Lecturer in Chemistry and Chemistry Education, Domasi College of Education a government of Malawi Secondary School Teacher Development Centre

January 2000 – December 2001

Coordinator for the Zomba Juvenile Justice Forum – a Juvenile Justice Reform Project in Malawi sponsored by UNICEF - Malawi

January 1997 to December 2000

Part-time Chemistry Laboratory Supervisor at Chancellor College (University of Malawi) in Chemistry and Chemistry Education in the Department of Chemistry

September – December 1996

Deputy Science Camp Director for the Science Camp for Secondary Students organized by the Science Teachers Association of Malawi

January 1994 – December 1996

Head of science Department, Katoto Secondary School, P/Bag 36, Mzuzu

March 1994 – December 1996

Regional Representative and Executive Member of the Science Teacher Association of Malawi

Achievements and Engagements

1. **National Child and Youth Helpline Services 116:** In September 2006, I initiated the first ever Helpline services in Malawi under the number 80001234. In 2010, the line was developed into the national helpline services adopted by the Malawi Government under the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare. The line is one of the strongest child protection system in Malawi and operated by YONECO. In 2015, the Malawi Government through Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA) provided the toll-free number 116. The initiative has resulted in development of safe places in Malawi across the country. The helpline provides the youth, children and women with information on various issues including SRH&R, child protection among others.

2. **GBV Crisis Line 5600:** In 2013, I initiated the establishment of the Gender Based Violence (GBV) Crisis Line following the issues of increasing GBV issues. The line is a key component for reporting on gender-based violence and counselling support for the survivors of GBV in Malawi. The line received an average of 15 calls per day. The crisis line is also used for the support to the survivors of trafficking and responding to other social injustice issues in Malawi.
3. **Drug and Substance Abuse Crisis Line**: In 2016, noting the challenges of the children and young people using drugs, I initiated the crisis line to respond to issues of drugs and substance abuse. The line received an average of 15 calls per day. The line is meant to respond to young people, parents and those affected by drug and substance abuse issues in Malawi.
4. **National Juvenile Justice Forum.** In 2000, with support from UNICEF, I initiated the Zomba Juvenile Justice Forum to respond to the issues affecting the juveniles in Malawi and Zomba Police Station and Zomba Maximum Central Prison. The forum was translated into the National Juvenile Justice Forum which is now called National Child Justice Forum. This is a multi-stakeholder forum that responds to issues of the child justice issues including abuse and violence against children.

Research Experience and Publications

Between Rhetoric and Practice of Localisation in AID and Development: Poetic Interventions: Development in Practice Journal, Volume 35, Issue 8, 2025

Centre for Research on Children, Women and Youth - January 2010
Established the *Centre for Research on Youth, Women and Children* as a Unit within Youth Net and Counselling (YONECO) to provide Monitoring and Evaluation function as a management tool. I am leading the centre and provides services on baseline surveys and monitoring and evaluation internally and externally.

Understanding Community and Service Providers Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices on Child Sexual Abuse in Malawi - February 2010 – July 2011
Principal Investigator, *Understanding Community and Service Providers Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices on Child Sexual Abuse in Malawi* in

Partnership with Addis Continental School of Public Health, with financial support from International Centre on Research for Women (ICRW) in United States of America

HIV and AIDS and Youth Mental Health Research January 2006 - December 2007
Young Malawians Interaction with Mental Health and HIV and AIDS, AJAR, with Jerome Wright and Fred Ruben, University of York. The publication won the Inaugural OXFAM Suzie Smith Memorial Award 2008 presented by former President of the Republic of Zambia, Dr. Kenneth Kaunda in August 2008

Protecting the Next Generation (2004 – 2007)
Member of the Research Team for *the Protecting the Next Generation Project* – A national study on Adolescent Youth Reproductive Health Services in Malawi with leadership of Centre for Social Research (CSR), University of Malawi and Guttmacher Institute in the United States of America. Co – authored the *Protecting Next Generation in Malawi: New Evidence on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs* – a monograph from the study

Government of Malawi Technical Working Groups Memberships (2006 to present)
I am on various technical working groups on HIV and AIDS, women and gender. The technical working groups provide technical leadership in the processes of engaging the various actors in development work.

Professional Experience in Facilitation and Training

- Facilitator, *Regional Conference on Best Practices on Human Trafficking in Africa*, Lilongwe, Malawi, October 25 – 29, 2011
- Facilitators, *Child Trafficking Workshop for the Media,* Lilongwe Hotel, Malawi, June 2011
- Presenter, Access to All, Reproductive Heath Supplies Conference, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, June 19 – 24, 2011
- Facilitator and organiser, *Regional Conference on Child Help lines in Africa*, September, 2009

- Facilitator, *Strategic Management for Africa Regional Youth Networks*, June 8 – 14, 2009 Harare Zimbabwe organised by the Africa Union division of the Human Resources Division
- Facilitator, *Strategic Management for Counselling Adolescent Youth Organisation (CAYO),* contracted by Canadian International Development Agency – GESP Project to help in the development of the Strategic Plan for CAYO, October 2008
- Facilitator, *Strategic Planning for Restored Hope for Community Development (REFORD)* in Mulanje district contracted by Southern Africa AIDS Trust in March 2008
- Established the *Child Helpline Facility for Young People in Malawi* in August 2006 and currently the facility is being rolled out as a major SRH provider in Malawi
- Facilitator, *Resource Mobilisation for Community Based organisation* in South Africa, A Workshop organised for the Community Based Organisation supported by Engender Health in South Africa to build their skills in resource mobilisation, Engender health South Africa, May 10 – 15, 2007
- Community Participation in Juvenile Justice, Plan International Paralegal Training, September 16 – October 4, 2002, Co – facilitated with the Malawi Human Rights Resources Centre, Kasungu Inn
- Developing Youth Programmes in Community Policing, 18 – 20 July 2002, Mphatso Motel, Mzuzu
- Regional Training on Management of Community Based Programmes on HIV/AIDS – co – facilitated with Nonhlanhla Matosi from Family AIDS Caring Trust – Zimbabwe, 3 – 17 May 2002, Sun Village Hotel, Liwonde, Malawi
- Baseline survey Training for Community Based Programmes on HIV/AIDS, 25 – 28 November 2002, Mzuzu Hotel, co – facilitated with Mirriam Nahriwa of Bulawayo City Health Project
- Peer Education Training for Programmers from Community Based Programmes supported by the Southern Africa AIDS Training Programme in Malawi, 21 – 25 May 2001, Chancellor college co facilitated with Miriam Nahriwa, Bulawayo City Health Project
- Training of training for Juvenile Justice Workers in Malawi, Sun and Sand Holiday Resort, February 28 – March 1, 2001, co facilitated with Ricardo Mukonda from Legal Assistance centre in Namibia

- Training of Screeners for Juvenile Justice in Malawi, Gymkhana Club, March 11 – 14, 2001, co – facilitated with Ricardo Mukonda, Legal Assistance Centre – Namibia
- Gender workshop for students at Domasi College of Education
  - HIV/AIDS Counselling Training for Lecturers at Domasi College of Education – May 2001
  - Drug and Substance abuse Counselling for Teachers – May 2001
  - Life skills for commercial sex workers, December 2001
  - Youth Life Skills development facilitation, June – December 2001
  - Stepping stones for Teachers – October 2002

Membership and Associations

1. ISPCAN
2. GBV Prevention Network
3. AMC
4. Men Engage
5. Mental Health Association of Malawi
6. Association of Social Workers – Malawi
7. Internet Society
8.

Referees and their Contact Addresses

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2. Ms Catherine Mbengeu,
   Independent Consultant

3. Aaron J. Miller, MD, MPA
Director, Lincoln Child Advocacy Centre, Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Centre, 234 East 149th Street, Suite 4A Bronx, NY 10451, United States of America
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