ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

1.0 INTRODUCTION
Passion for Women and Children is a non-political, nongovernmental charitable organization registered with the government of Malawi under the Trustees Incorporation Act Cap 5:03, registration number TR/INC 5160 of the laws of Malawi. The organization came into existence in the year 2007 to complement government’s efforts in improving the living standards of women and children at all levels for the attainment of its constitutional obligations and the Millennium Development Goals.

The organization is committed to ensuring that rights of women and children are realized, promoted and protected at all levels regardless of status

VISION
Malawian society where rights of women, children and young people are realized, promoted and protected at all levels for the attainment of sustainable socio-economic development.
MISSION STATEMENT
To promote rights of women, children and young people hence ensuring survival, development and happiness through education, livelihood support, advocacy for policy change and empowerment at all levels.

Governance
The board of trustees governs Passion for Women and Children, which is responsible for providing policy and strategic guidance to the organization. The Board is comprised of seven people who are technocrats of different professional backgrounds. The board of trustees meets regularly to plan and review the work of the secretariat as regards to implementation of the organization policies.

Management
The secretariat manages programs of Passion for Women and Children, which is headed by the executive director. The secretariat is responsible for implementation of policies developed by the board of trustees and day-to-day activities of the organization.

Partnerships
The organization is working in partnership with several government and nongovernmental organizations. It is also a member of different civil society networks such as the Malawi Health Equity Network, the Civil Society Coalition for Quality Basic Education, the Coalition for the Prevention of Unsafe Abortion, the White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood and the Country Monitoring Task force for the Implementation of the Maputo Plan of Action.

2- ORGANIZATION AREAS OF FOCUS
Passion for Women and Children has three main areas of focus, which are education, health and HIV/AIDS, women and children empowerment; the organization works to pursue the following objectives;
1- Education
- To build effective community structures and community based systems for promoting and supporting girls’ and boys education and health in Malawi through consolidation of existing institutional arrangements
  - The organization is implementing community mobilization activities in 33 primary schools in three educational zones of Dowa District. The three educational zones are Kanyenje, Mponela and Madisi.
  - In community mobilization, we strengthen the capacity of education decentralized structures such as school management committees and parents and teachers associations and facilitate formation of mother groups in schools where they do not exist.
- We also encourage tree planting activities in schools
- We also train school based HIV/AIDs clubs

One of the SMC/ PTA trainings

- We also raise community awareness for reinforcement of education policies such as the community participation on school management and governance, teacher code of conduct, readmission policy and uniform policy for the attainment of the National Education Sector Plan.
- We conduct these activities through theater for development, which is an interactive approach to problem identification and solution finding.
- On education programs, the organization is working in partnership with the Civil Society Coalition for Quality Basic Education, the District Education Network, CARE Malawi, USAID through Academy for Educational Development and the District Education Manager’s office for Dowa.

2- Health and HIV/ AIDS

- To promote reproductive health rights for women and girls:
  - The organization conducts awareness campaign for the promotion of access to quality reproductive health information and services including maternal and newborn health among women as a basic fundamental human right.
  - The organization also promotes male championship in maternal and newborn health services and information among the public
  - The organization conducts awareness campaigns on the reproductive health rights for women and the importance of delivering at health facilities in a bid to reduce maternal and newborn mortality.

- The organization is involved in advocacy initiatives for policy changes in the reproductive health spheres.
- We provide capacity building trainings to community based structures for the empowerment of women as regards to reproductive health.

- **To prevent the spread of HIV and promote care and support for those infected and affected by HIV, AIDS through behavior change communication, life skills and HIV testing and counseling services within the communities.**

- We conduct community awareness activities on the prevention of HIV/AIDS and support to those infected and affected.

> A community volunteers demonstrating the journey of hope during the HTC week

- The organization is also promoting access to HIV treatment among the infected people with emphasis on women and children who are regarded as vulnerable in the society

- On health program, the organization works in partnership with organizations like the Malawi Health Equity Network, the Reproductive Health Unit of the Ministry of Health, the White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood, IPAS and the District Health Office.
3- CHILD RIGHTS PROGRAM

- The organization is establishing and striving to strengthen the capacity of community based committees on child rights promotion and protection for their active participation in development programs.

- Child abuse is one of the very challenging issues in the organizations impact area due to high dependence on agriculture hence affecting children’s survival, growth and development.

- Children’s right to education is highly violated since in most cases they are engaged in faring activities and or business.

  - The organization has facilitated establishment of 10 community based child protection committees in 3 T/As.
  - We have reached over 4895 people with child rights messages during our outreach activities in all the 3 Traditional Authorities.

Passion for Women and Children is working with other development partners to promote the right to participation among children in different development programs. The organization believes in participatory development processes for the realization of sustainable socio economic development agenda.
A group of children attending a children’s corner session

- The organization has established three children corner centers where children gather to interact and get psycho socio support for their development.
- There are 246 children who attend the children corner from 6 community based child care center

Currently the organization is working with 6 community based child care centers
- There are 36 caregivers in the community based childcare centers.
4- WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

- To advance a broader view of economic empowerment of women and further the advancement of women and girls' rights to achieve gender equality, through civic education, good governance and advocacy.

Passion for Women and Children realizes the significance role women play in national development hence the need for their empowerment for the attainment of their potential.

- The organization has established 3 Women groups in two traditional Authorities and the work is still in progress.
- We conduct community sensitization campaigns on the rights of women

3- ACHIEVEMENTS

Passion for Women has made the following achievements since its inception in its quest to improve the living standards of women and children;

- Facilitated formation of 10 child protection committees
- Facilitated formation of 5 youth groups
- Trained 60 members from 20 school management committees with support from USAID through Academy for Educational Development
- Trained 50 members from 5 schools with support from TROCAIRE through the Civil Society Coalition for Quality Basic Education
- Reached out to 4895 people with messages on child rights with special emphasis on the right to education and participation
- Formation of 3 women groups
- Facilitated formation of 6 early childhood development centers
- Successfully got registered with the registrar general as a charitable organization
- Working in partnership with other civil society organizations and governmental organizations
- Being elected the chairperson of Dowa District Education Network, Malawi Economic Justice Network District Chapter.

4- CHALLENGES

Passion for women and Children faces some challenges that hinders effective implementation of its activities, to mention a few some of them includes the following:

- Inconsistent funding flow from development
- High demand of our activities to other area outside our area of jurisdiction
- Lack of reliable transport to enable us reach our working areas in good time
- Inadequate development partners supporting the organizations programs
- Development partners much interested in supporting project based activities than a long-term program.
- No funding to cater for program and administrative costs.
Passion for Women and Children realizes the importance of investing in women as the hub for attaining sustainable socio economic development and investing in children as laying the strong foundation for attaining the sustainable socio economic development. The importance of investing in women and children needs not be overemphasized. Activities implemented by Passion for Women and Children are a complementary effort to government’s commitment in the attainment of its constitutional obligations and other consensus agreements such as the Millennium Development Goals, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the CEDAW and the United Nations Convention on the rights of Persons with Disabilities.

For women and children to have a conducive and friendly environment where their rights will be realized, promoted and protected we need to effectively collaborate and ensure that resources are available where possible.

Passion for Women and Children is very eager to working with development partners with similar development agenda as of PAWOC; let us make a brighter destination of this child.