Every once in a while, we at Outreach International have to take a few steps back from our work to really appreciate its impact. To consider the totality of every successful project, every empowered mindset, every new generation born into a world more capable of ensuring its success is to witness the awesome power of what happens when we care for one another.

It starts with you. Your capacity for love and enduring belief in the potential of all persons continues to make possible every single thing we do at Outreach. Your generosity continues to truly, measurably change the world for the better every single day. Your gifts support our mission in every way – far beyond practical and material needs; you inspire all of us with your enthusiasm and partnership, and offer comfort and encouragement to our community partners, who know that you care enough about their wellbeing to help them reach their fullest potential. You matter so much to all of us at Outreach, and by extension, mean so much to the future we all share.

This partnership update represents some of the latest ways you have touched the lives of our community partners, and provides a closer look at why you matter so much. From everyone in the Outreach family, thank you for your trust, partnership, and love. You make so many good things possible.

One Hand Washes the Other in Malawi

Our friends in Malawi have made the most of every moment to work together to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Since Outreach-affiliated communities are located in rural locations, far from reported cases in the country’s capital, members still have a degree of flexibility in their social interactions than those living in more densely populated areas. Seizing this opportunity to work together and support their neighbors, community-led teams have dedicated themselves to ensuring every household has its own hand-washing station and supply of soap for the weeks ahead.

Hand-washing stations are as simple to construct as they are effective when used. Step 1: Acquire buckets. Step 2: Modify buckets to add spigot. That’s it! Of course, Outreach communities are all about follow-through, so the story continues to Step 3: Distribute hand-washing stations and soap to community members, including door-to-door visits from community leaders to make sure no one was left out. Step 4: Everyone uses their new hand-washing stations regularly, stays healthy, and goes on to incorporate them into their daily lives, providing long-term benefits.

Work continues daily on the construction of more hand-washing stations throughout Outreach-affiliated communities in Malawi. So far, nearly 300 stations have been built and distributed, with more to come, until everyone has reliable access to maintain their healthy habits.