From the Executive Director's Desk:

Coming together is the beginning; Keeping together is progress: ‘Working together is success. Teamwork makes the dream work. Let’s continue working towards achieving our Mission statement’

Current Project Highlights May to June 2021:

- Women Business Summit representation at BICC—A study on Public Procurement show only 1% of procurement funds are accessed by women.
- Empowering women living with HIV and AIDS in Salima and Lilongwe districts supported by Stephen Lewis Foundation.
- Community outreach, training and community-led research on the Salima Solar project in salima district supported by Both Ends
- Tsogolo la lamulo lochotsa pakati live discussion: Rape victims should be given the right to safely abort their pregnancy!
- Youth & Society and CHRR called for the speedy release of the task-force report on reforming the system of allowances, procurement and employment contracts from President Lazarus Chakwera.
- Enhancement of citizen’s capacity to demand for health rights project being funded by Oxfam in Malawi, implementation districts Dowa and Karonga.
- The projects team conducted training on Open Contracting in Lilongwe, were 20 Community Monitors and CSOs were trained on social accountability monitoring of public contracts in health and education sectors with support from William an Flora Hewlett Foundation.
- With support from Munakata Foundation of Japan, are providing nutrition support to LGBTI asylum seekers and refugees. We are also conducting capacity building meetings with UNHCR to provide support to the LGBTI
- We identified and trained women human rights defenders in the Eastern and Southern Region in partnership with Human Rights Defenders Coalition.
- Our team conducted training for NGO board and State Regulators on implementation of Non-Governmental Organizations Law in Malawi in line with applicable norms and good practices with support from International Centre for Not for Profit making Law (ICNL).
- CHRR in collaboration with Accountability Research Center and Bank Information Center, conducted monitoring of citizen/stakeholder engagement and inclusion of marginalized/vulnerable groups and to what extent the commitments to involve citizens, marginalized/vulnerable groups and other stakeholders are being implemented in the Malawi COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems preparedness project that is being funded by the World Bank.

- Community-led research on the Mpatamanga Hydropower Project supported by International Accountability Project and Social Environmental Entrepreneurs.

- We launched the Power to Youth Consortium comprising of CHRR, CYECE, AMREF Health Malawi, MSRHR, Youth Wave and MHRRC with support from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The 5 year project envisages to end unwanted pregnancies among adolescent girls and young women, harmful practices and Sexual Gender Based Violence. The project will also incorporate advocacy to ensure youths voices are heard and young people are meaningfully engaged. The project

**Sector Stakeholder Support**

- We attended the launch of the Break Free Alliance led by FAWEMA, Plan Malawi and SAT Malawi at Nsakalu Primary School in Machinga. The theme of the launch was: #Young peoples education is key to positive health seeking behavior's.

- We commended the Malawi Government for a great initiative of committing K400 million in the 2021/2022 National budget for the construction of houses for persons with albinism to enhance their safety and security.

- Sexual Reproductive Health Rights advocacy with special focus on Safe abortion, Sexual Orientation Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE), Universal Health Coverage and HIV prevention with support from ARASA under BAI (Bodily Autonomy and Integrity Project).