

## **MANERELA+ DISTRIBUTED 30 GOATS TO ADOLESCENT MOTHERS IN DEDZA DISTRICT AS PART OF THE VIIV HEALTHCARE INITIATIVE.**

Harold Kachepatsonga, the programs manager for the Malawi Network of Religious Leaders Living with HIV/AIDS (MANELERA+), has called on stakeholders to make intentional efforts that might support the economic empowerment of people living with HIV/AIDS. Kachepatsonga shared his sentiments.

Kachepatsonga stated, "The project is aimed at improving the health of adolescent mothers. This livestock pass-on initiative is supposed to improve their lives by allowing them to own goats, receive manure, and share with others as they increase. Other organisations can help these folks alter their livelihoods."

Matilda Juma, chairperson of the Tiyanjane youth centre under the Traditional Authority Chauma, complimented the concept and stated that she and others will ensure that no goat is sold but rather serves its original purpose.

Juma stated, "We appreciate the organization's continued assistance. We will benefit financially from the goat pass-on project since it will allow us to sell and buy other essentials once they have multiplied."

Keniyasi Paulo, Chairperson of the Tambala support group network, agreed with Juma, saying it's unfortunate that some people still look down on those living with HIV/AIDS in their communities.

Paulo stated, "In our support group network, we urge each other to adhere to medications. We disregard anything others say about us. The goats we received will thus improve our meetings."