



## **CAMA Speeches**

29 September 2019

Lilongwe, Malawi



Your Royal Highnesses, I'm Rose Alexander from Neno District. I'm the CAMFED Association District Chair. As CAMA, we work to address all the barriers that keep girls out of school in our communities. We speak to children and parents about the importance of girls' education, and how early marriage ends a girl's chances in life.

I train other CAMA members to deliver life skills and sexual & reproductive health lessons. And I work with social services and the police, reporting child marriage as child abuse cases to the Social Welfare Office.

I have already ended 8 child marriages. It is our pride as CAMA to support child brides to return to school. I have managed to pay school fees for 7 girls to attend secondary school, 4 of whom have now graduated.

The Queen's CAMA Commonwealth Fund is adding to the resources we manage to raise, so that we can reach more vulnerable children more quickly.

It is making a big difference. For example, the Fund recently allowed us to help a 15-year-old girl who had been a child bride. We annulled her marriage and she returned to school. We used the money to pay her school fees, buy her uniform and school supplies.