

## **Stephen Lewis Foundation supports grandparents**

Stephen Lewis Foundation has been a major partner in support grandmothers that CINDI identifies for support. In 2010,2011 and 2012 Stephen Lewis in partnership with CINDI provided support to 50 grandparents aimed at building resilience through strengthening grandparents skill in income generating activities (IGAS)and education support for orphans and vulnerable children left in the care of grandparents.

Eleven grandmothers in Luangwa Malembeka received grants of one million (K1, 000, 000) each in order for them to startup or scale up their business ventures. The 11 grandparents where initially identified by the Luangwa Community leaders and verified by CINDI project staffs. These 11 grandmothers had earlier on received training in basic IGA management and had written simple business plans to communicate the IGA ventures they would embark on once given the funds.

The ceremony which received enough appreciation from the community members and community leaders was graced by the area counselor who up held CINDI works thanking it for its continued support for vulnerable groups. "As a person in charge of this community, I wish to appreciate CINDI and its partner- Stephen Lewis Foundation for it thoughtfulness in choosing to support one of the most disadvantaged groups in our society- the grandparents. You have also chosen to provide this support in my area where we have been faced with so many challenges of supporting OVC, health in relation to HIV AIDS and many more challenges. I am hopeful that these grandparents you have supported will definitely put the funds into good use so that the Orphans and Vulnerable Children under their care are taken care of and their basic needs are met". He also urged the grandparents to ensure that they put the resources into good use so that their livelihoods improve.

Also in attendance were the Orphans and Vulnerable children under the grandparents households who witnessed the ceremony and most importantly listened to the speech in regards to support that would directly get to them.



Figure 1: One of the grandparents- Margaret Mambwe receives her K 1, 000, 000 grants for her business