As youth continue to understand the need to impact on the lives of others, many of them have joined CorpsAfrica Malawi, becoming part of the solution to the challenges affecting their communities.

Corps Africa is a non-profit organisation founded in 2011 by a former Peace Corps volunteer seeking to recognise and build on Peace Corps enormous success by offering the same transformative experience to emerging leaders in Africa.

Celebrating the holidays with her community recently, CorpsAfrica Malawi volunteer Ireen Kanjala partnered with Child Legacy, 77 Group Limited and Peach Tree Foundation to hold an event for primary school children.

The event was focused around health, nutrition and environmental education for those who attended.

The pupils drew pictures, sang songs, wrote poems and performed drama to bring awareness to living a healthy life and protecting the environment.

At the end of the day, the pupils received a nutritious meal and a holiday gift.

As part of the integration project, she recently had a meeting with girls and young women and set up a make-up booth with the theme, Promoting and Protecting Sexual Reproductive Health for Girls.

“The aim of the booth was to discuss how girls and young women can protect and promote their Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights [SRHR]. I invited all the girls and young women in the villages around by collaborating with the women’s group and the youth club. We discussed SRHR issues as we shaped each other’s eyebrows and painted nails,” she explained.

Chisomo Mathamanga, 17, from Boni Village was part of the exercise and was positive it would help her to make the right choices in life.

“We learnt a lot and from the knowledge, we will be able to make more informed choices. For instance, we will stay away from early marriages because now we know that early marriages lead to early pregnancies, which in turn lead to complications in child birth, such as fistula,” she said.

Hope Mawerenga, 24, from Lilongwe is also a CorpsAfrica Malawi volunteer. She explained that she learned from her mother that life is lived to the fullest if lived for others.

Going by that kind of thinking, she noted that being able to help someone become a better version of themselves is what everybody should be doing, and that being a part of CorpsAfrica Malawi volunteers will help her to do that.