

TNC Meeting Minutes - Sept. 28, 2020

1. Prayer
2. General Zimbabwe Situation
3. Health -
 - Eyeglass Program; Container Shipments; Empowerment Pads; Medical Supplies; Rural Health Clinics; Medical/Doctor Support
5. Education / Volunteer in Mission Trips - Molly Michael
 - EWB; HI; Scholarships; VIM Trips; General
6. Orphans - MB Zollars
 - HOH; HOHO
7. Fund Development - Debbie Little
8. Promotions - Communications- T. Wesley
9. Finance - Richard Dickey
10. TNC Organization / Misc - D Harvey

Next TNC Meeting - Monday, Oct 26 - again via ZOOM

TNC Meeting Minutes

Sept 28, 2020 - remote meeting via ZOOM

I. General

- A. COVID cases and deaths in Zimbabwe were 6412 cases and 196 deaths a month ago at our last TNC meeting. Cases have increased to 7812 and deaths to 227. The Lockdown continues and has been in place for more than 180 days. Guidelines and enforcement are somewhat relaxed.
- B. Driven by drought, the pandemic, and the lockdown, hunger continues throughout the country. The World Food Program states that much of southern Africa is facing a famine of "biblical proportions" and Zimbabwe specifically is facing "desperate levels of hunger". The World Food Program has recently launched a \$4.9 billion "Global Humanitarian Response Plan".
- C. A phased reopening of schools was announced with exam classes beginning Sept 28 and all classes started by Nov 9.

II. Health -

A. Container Shipments - (Drew Harvey & Rev L. Mukundu)

- 1. No shipments to Zimbabwe are currently planned. We generally hope to send or participate in a Zimbabwe shipment in early 2021.

B. Eye Glasses - (Don Ziegler & Dr Larry Tanyanyiwa)

- 1. Don picked up many eyeglasses that have been collected during the COVID shutdowns. Additional bags are now at CUMC. Glasses will be delivered to Mission Vision for cleaning and organizing.
- 2. Additional eyeglass clinics await the opportunity to travel to Zimbabwe.

C. Girl Empowerment Pad Program - (Bonnie Lawson & Charity Horiro)

- 1. Nyadire

- a) Bonnie Lawson continues to be in touch with the Charity, Crescencia and Annamore.

2. Pittsburgh

- a) GEP Update and Hunger Appeal: Email blast with a program update has been completed. Emails with more details have been sent to the regional team leaders and groups. The appeal letter has been posted on Facebook.
- b) We are now accepting in kind donations by appointment.
- c) A Facebook update showing the modification of the solid balance wheel modifications to sewing machines was completed. Eight hand cranks have been purchased and are ready for installation.
- d) Organizing and packing of Master Kit are planned for October at Surma storage.

D. Medical Supplies - (Irina Sheyko & Wilson Nhamoinesu)

- 1. Funds for purchase of drugs to be used in the last quarter of 2020 will be transferred soon.

E. Rural Health Clinic Rebuilds - (Ralph Duckworth & Rev Austern Chepiri/Hannah Mafunda)

1. Mashambanhaka Clinic

- a) Phase 1 work at Mashambanhaka is now complete and came in about \$2000 under the budget of \$115000.
- b) We have advised that \$50000 is now available to begin Phase 2 and await direction as to what portion will be first initiated.

Principal component Phase 2	Amount
Toilet Block	\$16 532.98
Quadruple One Bedroomed House	\$44 966.08

Toilet Block Mothers' Waiting Home	\$16 427.98
Mothers' Waiting Home - completion of outstanding works	\$11 470.17
Borehole Siting, Drilling, equipping, tank and stands and pipework reticulation	\$22 680.88
General Services (Fencing, Landscaping etc)	\$46 909.41
Total	\$158 987.44

- c) Ralph Duckworth submitted a grant request for \$126,597 to the United Methodist Foundation of Western Pa for completion of Mashambanhaka. We were awarded \$25000 with an additional \$25000 available as a "challenge grant", meaning that if TNC raises \$25000 this additional \$25,000 is awarded. If successful, the total would be \$75000.
- d) Plans are working to conduct a "Virtual Fundraising Event" in early December. Video of clients and staff at Mashambanhaka as well as others will be developed and included with an agenda to tell the Clinic Story and request financial support. The event will be promoted throughout the district and conducted via ZOOM Webinar. The objective is to raise at least \$25,000 which will then be matched with \$25,000 by the UM Foundation challenge grant.

F. Medical & Hospital Support - (Sue Bower & Dr Larry Tanyanyiwa)

1. Joyce Sihwa, a Zimbabwean living in London, contacted us explaining that her mother, Mary Kowo, recently died and left funds for use at Nyadire. Mary Kowo trained at Nyadire Nursing School, and worked at Nyadire for several years as a nurse and midwife. We connected Joyce with Crescencia Dangarembga to determine how the funds could be best used. Initial suggestion was to purchase fetal heart monitoring machines for the labor ward to help reduce fetal mortality.

III. Education and VIM Trips (Molly Michaels)

A. Engineers Without Borders/CMU - (Drew Harvey & Rev L. Mukundu)

1. EWB students are meeting each Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 7:00 via ZOOM.
2. We received notification from Nyadire that EWB should proceed with design of a biogas digester that is sized for the waste available. Considering the number of cattle currently at Nyadire, this waste will generate 1/3 to 1/2 of the biogas required to cook all meals at the Nyadire Primary School. This allows the project to go forward, and for Nyadire to learn about operation of a biogas digester and consider future possibilities for expansion.

B. Sister Rut Scholarships (Molly Michael)

1. Graduation at Nyadire Teachers College will be postponed for Kudakwashe Mbozvi and Progress Mutandwa. Graduation fees were sent.
2. Alice (HOH/Tabudirira) completed her practicals in cosmetology and will receive a certificate of competence. She did not write exams as such would have been too difficult.
3. Beauty (HOH/Tabudirira) has begun her attachment at Mutoko Luxury Lodges (hospitality).
4. Winnet (HOH/Tabudirira) is doing her attachment with a seamstress in Mutoko. The Scholarship Program provided her with the necessary machinery and notions.
5. Godknows (HOH/Tabudirira) has returned to his village after completing his attachment in hospitality/cooking at Nyadire Teachers College. Several potential employers were unsuccessful in reaching him due to phone network issues. We hope that the next opportunity will come his way soon.
6. Tinashe Mapfumbidze(MSU) is staying in Gweru, doing work online, exams will be in October with new classes beginning shortly thereafter.
7. Tsungirai Makoni's attachment in Harare has resumed.

8. Champion Mujuru (University of Zimbabwe) has completed his exams from the last semester and the beginning of next semester will be announced soon.
9. Lovemore Mbozvi's program of Mining Engineering is totally online.
10. Bernard Madyauta is back in Harare and doing classes via Google Classroom.
11. Fungai Chigumbura is in Harare doing online studies, via Google Classroom.
12. Maryleen Dandira (Nyadire Teachers College) has reported that her teaching practice started today.
13. New recipients:
 - a) Lorraine Kapembeza: Africa University, Accounting; enjoying her on-line studies.
 - b) Ruth Makoni: HOHO/O-Levels/A-Levels: Catholic University, Business Management and Information Technology; started classes online.
 - c) Takunda Pedzai: Midland States University, Human Resources Management; tuition paid; starting in October.
 - d) Raymond Chimbwanda: HOHO/O-levels/A-levels: University of Zimbabwe, Mining & Mineral Engineering - will wait till next semester
 - e) Panashe Mafemera: O-levels/A-levels: University of Zimbabwe, Sociology, Market Research Analyst (tuition only) - waiting for next semester
 - f) Angeline Mujuru (Champion's sister): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Agriculture
 - g) Lorraine Chipembere (Fradreck's daughter): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Agriculture
 - h) Stephen Chadamoyo: O-levels/A-Levels: University of Zimbabwe, Pharmacology (tuition only) - waiting till next semester

C. Hearing Innovation (Molly Michael & Tendayi Mushapaidze)

1. Headmaster Tendayi has requested \$7000 for the installation of a solar borehole that will allow the irrigation of crops to be used for the benefit of the HI Students. Food grown will either be eaten at the school,

or sold with proceeds benefitting the HI students. The \$7000 would also be considered advance payment for some amount of HI school fees. HI students would also work the garden and learn some agricultural skills. M. Michael and D Harvey will review and advise what support TNC is able to provide.

2. M. Michael and MB Zollars will determine if "clear masks" or "face shields" should be included for HI students as part of the materials being provided to reopen schools.
3. Misc:
 - a) Myra Mann put together an announcement for BCUMC's newsletter with regards to TNC's Hunger Relief Initiative. Thank you, Myra!
 - b) Sarah Flowers contacted me about the pen pal program at Avonworth. One of the high school teachers is interested in continuing this collaboration with his 11th graders who have been corresponding for some time. The idea is to hopefully connect the teachers/students virtually. We are working out possibilities.
 - c) Dickson Zumba emailed me. After several exchanges he requested the following items: whistles, pumps, some soccer balls and a soccer kit.

D. VIM Trips - Molly Michael & Rev Mukundu

1. Leaders needed for trips to be scheduled in 2021 and 2022. Single leaders, co-leaders, or group leadership is all possible! Please contact M. Michaels if interested.
2. Anyone interested in leading a team in 2021/2022? Molly will reach out to a few people.
3. TNC is on Instagram @thenyadireconnection and many from Nyadire are participating.

IV. Orphans - (MB Zollars & Emmanuel Chiimba)

A. **Overall:** Schools re-opened Sept 28 for candidates, which means grade 7, form 1, and form 4. Grade 7 will begin writing their exams 1 December, then the O-level exams will start spilling into January, yet A-level students will finish in December. Other grades will be added in stages.

B. **HOHO - Marie Hunt & E. Chiimba**

1. During lockdown: ON HOLD: work on the roof at Manhembra Primary School.
2. During lockdown: ON HOLD: pricing, purchasing, and distributing of the backpacks and school supplies in Zimbabwe.
3. Marie Hunt and the sponsor coordinators have sent out an update with the renewals. Big job!
4. Funds for 3rd term are ready to be sent as soon as school fees are set
5. The Outreach Committee has successfully received \$10,000 and has purchased fabric and materials needed for masks, jik (bleaching agent), liquid soap, and thermometers. Part of the money will be paid to the Nyadire Workshop to make handwashing stations.
 - a) Chairperson: Noreen Chitengu (Manhembra Primary)
 - b) Vice Chair: Tawanda Muswe (Rudawiro Primary)
 - c) Secretary: Esnath Zimbira (Nyadire Primary)
 - d) Treasurer: Nicodemus Bandira (Nyadire High School)
 - e) Finance Secretary: Fiona Chiroroma (Nyakabau Primary)

C. **HOH - Debbie Soles & E. Chiimba**

1. September/October funds have been sent.
2. The United Methodist Church of Finland has contacted us regarding some funds to go to a playground. They are now coordinating with Emmanuel Chiimba.

3. Alice Bopoto has been re-integrated by the Social Welfare Office. Alice has cognitive challenges. She is staying with her uncle's wife in Murewa.
4. Young entrepreneurs: Anenyasha and Shelton have created their own gardens. Emmanuel allows them to sell their produce and pocket the money.
5. Lindarose has joined the Home of Hope as a volunteer. She has completed her degree in Social Work, but could not find employment. She is living at the Home and will continue the lessons for the children and offer psycho-social support to the children, as well as those in the Outreach Program.
6. HOH Rummage Sale will not be able to be scheduled at CUMC in 2020. Scheduling for 2021 is on hold.

D. Other

1. Big Tino, who married last year, has had a baby boy. Congratulations!
2. Tafadzwa Katonha, who was re-integrated many years ago, stopped by the Home of Hope to visit. He is now in Form 5! A very clever chap!
3. Sister Rut's children are well, some of whom will be helped with the TNC Hunger Relief Package.

V. Fund Development (Debbie Little)

- A. A "Virtual Fund Raiser" event to raise \$25,000 for the Mashambanhaka Clinic rebuild is being prepared. Date is probably in early December. The objective is to raise these funds in order to receive matching funds of \$25000 from a challenge grant by the UM Foundation. Event will use videos from Zimbabweans at Nyadire, Mashambanhaka, and Harare.

VI. Promotion / Communication - (Tim Wesley)

1. Hunger Appeal email sent Sept. 9; posted on website/Facebook
2. TNC/hunger appeal highlighted in local Rotary newsletter
3. Working on October newsletter: send stories/photos/ideas
4. Website - Send updates to Tim
5. Brochures - Working on TNC overview brochure

VII. Finance - (Richard Dickey)

- A. As of 08/31/2020, TNC had \$122,174 in restricted funds and \$18,017 in unrestricted. Preliminary, not final, results for 09/24/2020 has \$104,404 in restricted accounts and \$39,477 in unrestricted.
- B. Funds recently transferred
 1. Sept 14 - Reimbursement of \$7,770 to D Harvey for funds sent via World Remit to Nyadire for purchase of food.
 2. Sept 15 - Reimbursement of \$4,025 in process to D Harvey for funds sent via World Remit to Nicodemus Bandira for purchase of items enabling the HOHO schools to safely reopen.
 3. \$6,075 to MB Zollars for reimbursement of funds sent via World Remit to the HOHO schools
 4. Sept 14 sent \$1,200 to Livingstone Garikayi for payment in advance of administrative fees of Phase 2 rebuild of Mashambanhaka Clinic.
 5. \$6,206 sent Sept 23 for the HOH budget for Sept/Oct.
 6. Sept 28 - Doctor stipend for Oct/Nov/Dec.
- C. Soon to be processed - \$3,000 to company PCD for 4th quarter drug purchases.

- D. St Paul's UMC sent \$9930 which will be used for the HOH Solar Borehole, or for Hunger if needed.
- E. TNC broadly sent out an appeal to raise \$45000 to cover continued food distribution at \$7360/month for six months. As of 9/24, \$21,116 has been recorded but considering other known incoming contributions we now have at least \$30,000. Contributions have been from an estimated 50 - 70 donors. As the appeal was to be complete by Oct 1, we will send out a "Thank You" which includes a reminder for anyone to make a final donation
- F. Funding Priorities:
 - a) Additional ongoing food support at \$7300/month
 - b) Add solar powered borehole at the HOH to increase food production
 - c) Use HOHO funds to equip schools for reopening

VIII. [TNC Organization / Miscellaneous - \(Drew Harvey\)](#)

A. **HUNGER CRISIS**

1. Food shortages and hunger throughout Zimbabwe, including Nyadire, continue as a major concern. Working with the Nyadire Social Committee, TNC has sent \$45,300 and food has been distributed for June, July, August, September, and Oct. Continued food assistance is now a "minimum food bundle" of mealie meal, cooking oil, sugar, and beans which helps provide food for a family of five for one month. Cost for each bundle is \$18 and distribution is for 407 families including those who live or work at Nyadire, the pastors of Mutoko-Mudzi district, the staff of the 6 rural health clinics, and a few selected individuals.
2. TNC hopes to continue providing \$7300/month for the next six months if we can raise the funds. A funding appeal letter was broadly distributed on Sept 9 and we have received approximately \$30000 as of Sept 28.

3. Rev Tom Parkinson of Dutilh UMC sent out a compelling "Pastors Blog" advocating for the hunger program, and has also spoken about the program several times from the pulpit. Many Thanks!

B. HOH crops- new Solar borehole

1. Scott Sanford is working with Emmanuel Chiimba and Lincoln Nyamusara to clarify funds needed to add a second solar powered borehole at the HOH. The objective is to install a robust irrigation system that is adequately sized and independent of the ZESA electrical grid. Working out these details has taken some time, but we hope to move forward with implementation as soon as battery type, size (10KVA or 5KVA?), drip irrigation requirements, storage tanks, etc can be finalized.

- C. The Rotary District 7305 September newsletter included an article provided by Jim Howell suggesting that each club consider TNC as an international project, and specifically to help with the Hunger program. Jim also placed an ad in the Rotary booklet which is distributed at the annual conference which could also generate interest and support.

- D. Christmas Connection - Christmas cards are now complete and stored with JM Simmons at CUMC. We will transport to Nyadire at the first opportunity. D Harvey has TNC cards that will be sent to US based supporters.

- E. Steve McPherson continues to work on providing a tractor for the HOH. He has rebuilt a donated tractor that could possibly be sent to Nyadire via BBF container. Steve is evaluating the option of selling the tractor here and utilizing the funds to purchase a used tractor in Zimbabwe.

IX Recent and Upcoming Events

- Mar 1 - Construction begins on rebuild of Mashambanhaka
- early March- Both containers arrive at Nyadire
- Mar 30 -Ongoing COVID19 Lockdown initiated throughout Zimbabwe.
- May 21 - 29 - Hunger Relief funding appeal and Nyadire food distribution

- June 4 - Food distributed at Nyadire for 329 families
- July 6 - Food distributed at Nyadire for 407 families
- Aug 25 - Food distributed at Nyadire for 407 families
- Aug 31 - TNC Meeting
- Sept 15 - Scheduled completion of Mashambanhaka Clinic
- Sept 23 - items purchase enabling HOHO schools to safely reopen
- Sept 28 - TNC meeting via ZOOM
- week of Sept 28 - Schools reopening in Zimbabwe in phases
- Oct 26 - TNC meeting
- early December - Virutal Fund Raising Event for Mashambanhaka Clinic