



Nyadire Connection

The Nyadire Connection (TNC), based in Pittsburgh, PA, is a faith-based non-profit volunteer organization that seeks to support and sustain the United Methodist Mission in Nyadire, Zimbabwe.

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www.nyadire.org

October 2020

Virtual Event Planned To Meet Clinic Funding Challenge By Year End

Can you help TNC meet the challenge?

The **United Methodist Foundation of Western Pennsylvania** (“UMF”) is providing a \$25,000 grant for the ongoing rebuild of the **Mashambanhaka** medical clinic. Here’s the challenge: In addition to the grant, the UMF will also match up to \$25,000 of clinic donations received by TNC by Dec. 31.

To help meet the challenge for the matching grant, TNC will host a **Virtual Fundraising Event at 7 pm U.S. eastern time on Wednesday, Dec. 2.** The one-hour event will be a Zoom webinar and will include testimonials from several

Zimbabweans, who will attest to the importance and life changing/life-saving capabilities of the rural clinics that TNC has been successfully helping to rebuild since 2013.

To join the event, please click this link:

<https://dentons.zoom.us/j/93323866570?pwd=TmY2T29lYkwanNCQ1ZDajVxd3c1QT09>

Or, join by phone by using a U.S. toll-free number (1-877-853-5247 or 1-888-788-0099), along with a Webinar ID (933 2386 6570) and Passcode (107848).

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Tatenda! TNC Reaches Goal To Provide Food Through April 2021

For most of 2020, TNC has worked with the **Nyadire Social Committee** to help meet the critical need for food during the COVID-19 pandemic. In September, we reached out to our supporters with an emergency appeal to raise an additional \$45,000 so that we could continue to provide basic food bundles through April 2021. Now, we’re pleased to say “Tatenda!” (“Thanks!”) to you, for helping us to reach that critical goal.

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Virtual Event Planned...

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If you cannot participate in the event, you can still donate through the following link on TNC's website:

<http://www.nyadire.org/donate.html>

Please specify that your donation is for Rural Medical Clinics. As always, donations to TNC are tax-deductible.

TNC began helping the Nyadire Mission to refurbish its six rural medical clinics in 2013. The overall objective has been rebuild the clinics to allow them to provide basic healthcare and life-sustaining services to thousands of villagers who live in rural Northeast Zimbabwe. The clinics are particularly needed to provide maternity and delivery services to women in a safe and clean environment. Each of the six rural clinics in Northeast Zimbabwe serves between 5,000 to 8,000 people who walk as far as 12 miles to a clinic to deliver their baby or to receive treatment for malaria, cholera, hepatitis, and other infectious diseases. However, until the renovations, most clinics did not have indoor plumbing, a reliable source of electricity, separate wards for men and women, and separate waiting areas for people with infectious diseases.

To date, four clinics have been rebuilt at a cost of about \$330,000 each; the fifth, Mashambanhaka, is currently being refurbished.

The staff of the **UMC Conference in Harare, Zimbabwe** ("UMCZ") provide oversight of the project and control of the funds provided by TNC. A TNC mission team was in Zimbabwe earlier this year and spent time at Mashambanhaka reviewing construction plans with the main contractor, UMCZ officials and the clinic staff. Other teams are expected to visit and inspect the refurbished clinic after completion. Project management has been excellent, with all projects completed on schedule and under budget. UMCZ project managers and other officials let all contracts after competitive bids have been received and control the payments to the successful contractors. They also make periodic visits to the clinics to check on the status and quality of construction, and issue monthly progress reports to stakeholders and to TNC.

So don't forget to join our event on Dec. 2! We hope to have a very large audience participate, as you can join from anywhere by phone, tablet, or computer. It will be a unique and compelling story; you can simply watch and listen, or send questions via the chat function. The donate button will be displayed throughout the program. Please join us and encourage others to join by sharing the link.

And thanks for helping TNC to meet the challenge!



Tatenda! TNC Reaches Goal...

(Continued from page 1)



The food you are helping to provide goes to 407 families who live or work at Nyadire Mission plus the pastors of the Mutoko-Mudzi district and the staff at Nyadire's six rural health clinics. All year long, we have received heartfelt messages of appreciation for your life-enabling generosity. The Nyadire Social Committee has administered and monitored the program. The Committee developed a minimum food bundle that helps to sustain a family of five for one month at a cost of just \$18.

We offer abundant thanks to donors and Committee members who have put in long days to purchase and distribute food. We see God's hands in action!

We would also like to share excerpts from a congregational message from **Rev. Tom Parkinson**, Senior Pastor at **Dutilh**, one of seven TNC network churches in the Pittsburgh area:

"In July, the United Nations released a sobering report detailing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on worldwide hunger. Worldwide, 132 million people are at risk of becoming chronically hungry as a result of the pandemic ... What the report makes clear is that in addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is also a pandemic of hunger in our world. The difference between the COVID-19 pandemic and the hunger pandemic is that we already have the cure for the hunger pandemic. We are not awaiting the development of a vaccine, nor are we searching for clues to answer the puzzle to hunger. We know exactly how to cure hunger: by getting food into the bellies of those who need it. The world produces more than enough food for every person of every age in every nation to eat, and yet everyday 25,000 people, including 10,000 children, die of hunger-related causes.

"As followers of Jesus, we are called to share God's love with others. There is no more tangible way to share God's love than to share food with someone who is hungry. Feeding the hungry is a theme of the Bible, and has been a basic expectation of God's people since the earliest days of the people of Israel. To deny food to the hungry is to violate the will of God ... When Jesus taught us to pray, he told us to ask God to "give us today our daily bread." Right now, in the midst of a hunger pandemic, you and I have the opportunity to be the answer to that prayer for our brothers and sisters in Zimbabwe."

Tatenda, for answering that prayer!



Sister Rut Scholarship Benefits Students Such As Campion

By Mary Beth Zollars

TNC designed the **Sister Rut Scholarship Program** to help former **Home of Hope Outreach** children attend college, university and vocational programs. Nothing in Zimbabwe ensures a job upon graduation, but this program gives them a better chance.

Campion Mujuru is a shining example of the program's success. Raised by a single mother who worked at Nyadire's farm until she passed away in 2015, Campion and his sister, **Angeline**, moved in with their aunt at the Mission. The siblings then entered our School Sponsorship Program. Campion became a straight A student, finishing with the highest score ever achieved at Nyadire High School. He wants to honor his mother by doing well in school, passing his exams, and becoming a doctor. Campion became the first recipient of a Sister Rut Scholarship in 2019. He is now nearing the end of his second semester of Medicine at the University of Zimbabwe.

Campion was known for his athletic prowess as a basketball player at Nyadire High School. After completing his A-Level Exams, he was hired as a tutor at Nyadire High School to help others with their studies until his university studies commences.

The Station Chair at Nyadire United Methodist Mission, **Rev. Mukundu**, rewarded

Campion and his achievements with a laptop donated by TNC. The Scholarship Program has supplied him with a small smartphone for communications with TNC, his professors, and his family. A TNC donor gifted him a printer. Campion is overwhelmed with these gifts, as they are signs of our belief in him that he will continue to achieve great things.

For his community service, Campion has written several letters to the inmates at Allegheny County Jail, encouraging them to believe in God and to strive toward better days, never to give up hope.



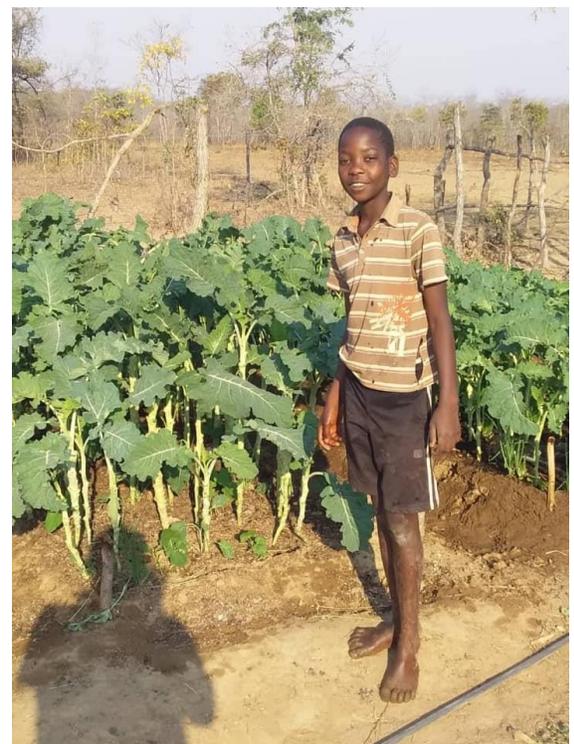
Campion in his last year of high school standing in the school's courtyard in his school uniform.



Campion with study group at UZ.

Home Of Hope Students Still Smiling In 2020

Although COVID-19 has curtailed our travel to Zimbabwe, we're able to keep in touch with our friends by using communications tools such as Zoom and WhatsApp, and through pictures. Amid the challenges created for everyone, we are blessed to see the many smiling faces of our 2020 **Home of Hope** students. Sixth-grader **Anenyasha** (below right photo) is becoming a master gardener at the Home of Hope!



Rotary Clubs Provide Valued Support To TNC

(Note: The following story is reprinted from the September 2020 issue of the Rotary District 7305 newsletter.)

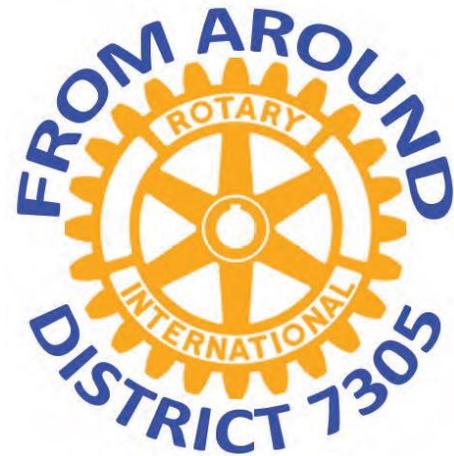
By Jim Howell, Dormont-Mt.Lebanon-Castle Shannon Rotary Club

The lockdown in Zimbabwe, due to COVID, has led to an emergency need for food in one of the poorest countries in the world. This generates an opportunity for Rotary Clubs to perform acts of service for people who are in desperate need of help. The Nyadire Connection (TNC) has supported the needs of the people and institutions in Nyadire, Zimbabwe for more than a decade and has arduously developed the networks that are necessary to purchase, transport, and distribute commodities in Zimbabwe. TNC is in the enviable position to promptly implement donations for emergency food in Nyadire. TNC has already provided emergency food to residents of Nyadire for several months but now needs support from generous donors to meet the \$45,000 cost for six more months of food “rations”. This is a perfect project for Rotary clubs that want to make a timely difference in this world at this crucial moment as our new Rotary International President promotes.

The Nyadire Connection “discovered” the Nyadire community more than a dozen years ago when the rural service community, originated by the British in the 1920s, was on the verge of collapse, threatening thousands of underserved people in this remote, rural corner of Zimbabwe. TNC was founded in 2006 as a Pittsburgh-based, all-volunteer, nonprofit organization and it proceeded to revive the Nyadire community and its service institutions with the generous support of funds from individuals, businesses, service organizations such as Rotary clubs, churches, hospitals, and in-kind donors like Brothers Brother. Several District 7305 Rotary clubs have teamed up with TNC during the past decade including the Bethel Park-Upper St. Clair Rotary Club that provides \$5,000 annually to pay school fees for the orphan outreach program and for a post-secondary scholarship fund.

Rotary clubs in District 7305 have worked with The Nyadire Connection to make real improvements for the lives of residents in Nyadire. There are numerous programs in the community, developed jointly by TNC and Nyadire residents, that provide ample opportunities for Rotary clubs, including: hospital equipment and supplies, medicine for the hospital, vehicles, water wells and pumps, water storage structures, solar power, construction projects, library volumes, support for hearing impaired students, providing eyeglasses and dental services, pregnant mothers’ huts, repairs to plumbing systems, school supplies, school books, school grade-level test fees, an ambulance (wheelbarrows and ox carts are the prevalent transportation to the hospital), etc.

Per our new Rotary International President, Holger Knaack, “ ...there are greater opportunities than ever for Rotary to thrive... ” And I have found, in my visits to Nyadire with TNC, the most extreme needs for help that I have seen anywhere are in Zimbabwe.



Program Highlights From TNC's September Meeting

Health Area

- Eyeglasses: We have collected many eyeglasses, and they'll be delivered to Mission Vision for cleaning and organizing...we will schedule additional clinics when we can travel again to Zimbabwe.
- Ocean Container Shipments: Due to the pandemic, no shipments to Zimbabwe are currently planned, but we hope to participate in a shipment early next year.
- Empowerment Pads: We have maintained close contact with our leaders in Nyadire (**Charity, Crescencia** and **Annamore**)...In Pittsburgh, we continue to collect and modify sewing machines, and have purchased eight hand cranks for installation.
- Medical Supplies: Transferring funds for purchase of drugs to be used in the last quarter of 2020.
- Rural Health Clinic Rebuilds: See page 1.
- Medical and Hospital Support: **Joyce Sihwa**, a Zimbabwean living in London, contacted us to say that her mother, **Mary Kowo**, had died and left funds for use at Nyadire...Mary trained at Nyadire Nursing School and worked there for several years as a nurse and midwife...We connected Joyce with **Crescencia** to determine how funds could be used.

Education and Relationships Area

- Engineers Without Borders/CMU: Students meeting each Wednesday via ZOOM...Nyadire has requested that EWB proceed with design of a biogas digester to provide fuel for cooking as much as half of the meals for the primary school.
- Hearing Innovation: We are evaluating a request by Headmaster **Tendayi** for \$7,000 for the installation of a solar borehole. This would allow the irrigation of crops to be used for the benefit of the HI students, who would also work the garden and learn some agricultural skills.
- Volunteer-in-Mission trips: We are looking for leaders for trips that we plan to schedule in 2021 and 2022...Contact **Molly Michael** at mollyalice.michael@gmail.com if you're interested in leading or joining teams.
- Sister Rut Scholarships: See page 4...Scholarships have been awarded to eight new students, while others continue in their studies.

Orphans Area

- Home of Hope: See page 5...September/October funds sent...**Lindarose** has joined HOH as a volunteer, after completing her degree in Social Work...she is living there and will continue lessons for the children and offer them psycho-social support.
- Home of Hope Outreach: Funds for the second term have been sent...The Outreach Committee received \$10,000 to purchase fabric and materials needed for masks.