

TNC Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2025

Rural Health Clinics

Ralph Duckworth and Rev. Austern Chepiri

- With the dedication of Chindenga, TNC has completed its rural health clinics rebuild program, which began more than 10 years ago.

Engineers Without Borders and Critical Vehicles

Kevin Riley, Christopher Kuwana, EWB CMU students, Dr. Larry and Gashi Chikonyora
Infrastructure & related items

- Field bore hole pump replacement: Casing corroded so new casing and pump are being installed now with Central Station funding. Lincoln updating his year old quote to add solar power. This \$8,000 project to be funded by TNC.
- Hospital Power: A proposal to update the non-functioning hospital solar arrays with new batteries and inverters (~\$20,500). Electrical contractor Lincoln is reviewing his proposal to see if the pricing is still good from 10 months ago. Now that solar would be the primary power source, and not just a backup, he is concerned about battery stress and longevity. He also recently expressed his concern about the safety of 1960s vintage hospital wiring which he will put in writing. I am requesting a Conaway-Munden grant to partially fund solar power for the hospital borehole.
- Christopher was requested to provide pricing for some maintenance and improvements to the Nyadire Guesthouse

Hospital & HOH Vehicles

- Funding of \$750 requested to replace the HOH tires. Should we proceed with the sale of two current vehicles and replace with one late model vehicle? The net cost should be around \$12-15,000.
- Sale of all “parked” vehicles at the Shop: no update this month.

EWB (Engineers Without Borders)

- EWB National now has the project plan and expect to finish their review no later than April 4. They claim low risk at this point to make travel plans so we hope the CMU Chapter agrees. Molly Michael is leading the cultural awareness training this week. A message was sent to key Mission leaders alerting them of our tentative May 8 (arrival) travels plans and needs.

Girl Empowerment

Bonnie Lawson, Charity Horiro, Crescencia Dangarembga

Ongoing Program

- Resupply requests received and purchasing plan in development. This will include a PUL order from China and Zimbabwe marketplace purchases.

Girl Empowerment Garden Pilot

- ABI has failed to respond to team members' requests Dorothy traveling to ABI office in Harare to seek resolution.

Looking Forward

- Inspired Women Funding Cycle: June 2025

Home of Hope, Home of Hope Outreach, Scholarships

Mary Beth Zollars

HOHO – 22 schools in all

- Fees sent for **O-Level Exams**.
- Marie has submitted a proposal for a Conaway-Munden grant for O-level exam fees.

S.Y.STEM

Coding Club Star: Mrs. Portia Mambwere – Math teacher at Nyadire Primary

They meet once a week.

HOH

- **Mar/Apr funds** have been sent.
- **2 more outdoor kitchens** have been built; funds needed for appliances & silverware needed for last kitchen.
- **Fencing** around the **fishponds** has been requested for safety reasons.
- **Collaborative and Joined Hands for the Needy:** This is a group of former HOH children who are working together to provide support for others like them. They have been helping to support each other, when issues arise. They submitted a report for TNC Newsletter.
- **Dutilh Preschool's Hop-A-Thon** is going to raise money again for the HOH.

SISTER RUT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

MB submitted the BP-USC Rotary Grant application for the scholarship students.

Congratulations:

- **Campion Mujuru** University of Zimbabwe; medicine; passed all exams; awaiting graduation; now hired at Parirenyatwa Hospital in Harare.

Professional Licenses:

- **Raymond Chimbwanda**, recent graduate in Real Estate, has applied to a variety of districts and is interested in getting his real estate license. We have offered him some funding to get his license to be repaid in part and includes community service.

Finished awaiting graduation:

- **Lorraine Kapembeza:** Africa University, Accounting, 4.2, has finished all requirements and has received her transcript. Graduation next June is the next step!

Fourth Year students:

- **Tinashe Mapfumbidze**, (MSU) 4.2 student; Midland States University; Business Management; funding for his education ends in June 2025.

- **Rutendo Mupfawa**, University of Zimbabwe, Honours Program for Accounting and Finance; 4.2 student; Her dissertation topic: creating a model of reducing the effects of exchange rate fluctuations on trade.
- **Blessing Mabii**, accepted at Midland States University, Business Studies, 4.s, working on dissertation.
- **Panashe Mafemera**: Bindura University, Peace and Governance (tuition only) – 4.2 student.

Third Year students:

- **Nyasha Given Katema**: Zimbabwe Institute for Legal Studies. Finishing his attachment as a prosecutor; starting next-to-last term.
- **Praise Mashumba**, Midland States University, Human Resources Management (tuition only); 3.2 student, found attachment at Zimbabwe Space Agency!

Second Year:

- **Praise Josi**: (tuition only) Midland States University, Data Science, 2.2
- **Morejoy Madzika**, University of Zimbabwe, Medicine, 2.2 (tuition only)

First Year:

- **Josphat Nyatoro** (HOHO): Nyadire College of Education, 1.2
- **Precious Muripo** (HOH): Kushinga Phikelela College, electrical engineering, 1.2; attachment from August 2025-July 2026 will follow to complete program.
- **Tawanda Makope** (grew up in Sister Rut's home); Harare Institute of Technology, Computer Science, 1.1

Graduate Students:

- **Tsungirai Makoni**, University of Zimbabwe, Actuarial Science, Masters; last of 3 semesters.

TABUDIRIRA VOCATIONAL CENTRE:

- **Onias Chengai** (HOHO), Tabudirira Vocational Centre, electrician training, attachment

NAKHIWA VOCATIONAL CENTRE:

- **Theresa Nyadempera**, attachment in 2025 pending last term's results and community service
- **Nyasha Alfabeti** (HOHO), building, started in 2024, will finish coursework in 2024

AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP:

- **Tinashe Katsuro**: agriculture at Africa University, 3.2. Current courses are: Project Appraisal and Evaluation, Pasture and Range management, Community Based Natural Resources Management, Management of Drainage Basins and Water Resources, and Ecotourism.
- **Delight Katsata**: BSC Honours Program in Crop Improvement and Seed Systems at the University of Zimbabwe, 3.2 student. Doing attachment at Kutsaga Research.

- **Praise Tsaurai**, agricultural engineering CUT (Chinoyi University of Technology); 2.2 student. Current courses: Fluid Mechanics, Engineering Hydrology, Engineering Numerical Analysis and Modelling, Thermodynamics and Heat Transfer
- **Yvette Mutize**, Agriculture; Kashinga Phikelela Agricultural College; already completed horticulture at Kashinga Phikelela Polytechnic School; 3.2 student, doing attachment. (3-year program). Her diploma in agriculture covers five sections: agri-business, animal science, crop science, horticulture, and engineering. Her area of greatest interest is horticulture, followed by engineering.

NOTEWORTHY:

Stephen Chadamoyo has paid off his **loan** for his physiotherapy license.

Possible new candidates:

- **Joseph Visent**, Midland States University, Accounting (on hold)
- **Malvin Katsande**, Speciss, IT & Secretarial School, Harare (on hold)
- **Kudakwashe Nyamunda**, Nyadire College of Education (on hold)
- **Jeremiah Nyabote**, Nyadire College of Education (on hold)
- **Vimbai Kativhu**, AG, Kashinga Phikelela Polytechnic School (on hold)
- **Gamuchirai Chidsvondo**, AG (on hold)
- **Ashmore Chitsuro**, (HOHO), Nyadire College of Education, August intake
- **Mathilda Matirasa**, AG, Chibero Agricultural College, pre-college attachment
- **Abel Kubombo**, AG, (HOHO), Veterinary Medicine

Craft Sales:

- Spring Craft Fair at Christ Church, Sat., April 26, 9:30-3. Looking for volunteers.

VIM

Molly Michael/Mary Beth Zollars

- MBZ leader of ZIM VIM June 2025, 1 June – 19 June, 12-14 participants.
- Emmanuel welcomes the idea of a team coming during the school holidays, as well.
- Deborah is leading an H-I trip 19 June – 2 July.

Hearing Innovation

Deborah Swineford

- The HI department received Valentines from TNC and sponsors which Ralph delivered. Deborah received a "happy dance" video from Simbarashe which will be shared with sponsors.
- Funds were sent to cover the cost of continuing sign language instruction for the HI teachers and staff. This holiday in addition to Evajoyce, Simbarashe, and Charity taking advanced classes. The school Head Tracy, and the school chaplain, Rev. Jo will take a beginner class. Simbarashe made arrangement for the facilitator to come to Nyadire to provide instruction.

- Four learners completed their training at the Danhiko vocational training center in Dec. They have not yet found attachments. Simbarashe is working on this and has found a possible site for all. Over the holiday he will travel to Harare to check on the arrangements and accommodation possibilities.
- Plans and preparations continue for the upcoming mission journey in June. Tickets have been purchased. Dates: June 19-July 2
- Email Lenten message sent to HI friends and sponsors with an attachment of a Lenten giving calendar; funds received from the calendar will help with the purchase of school supplies and towards a field trip for the Deaf children.

Communications

Tim Wesley

- Chindenga clinic dedication publicity
 - Newspapers: PG, Butler Eagle, Beaver County Times
 - Magazines: Mt. Lebanon, Pitt and CMU alumni
 - Mutoko Mudzi special newsletter (link on TNC website)
https://www.nyadire.org/uploads/4/7/6/4/4764398/mutoko_mudzi_district_-_chindenga_rural_health_centre_dedication_22_february_2025.pdf
- March newsletter in process
- Pittsburgh District Annual Conference
 - Submitted TNC update
- Network churches
 - Christ Church: Expanded presence
- TNC 20th anniversary, 2026
 - Debbie Little leading planning team ... will need others to join
 - Tentative date: April 2026
 - Location to be determined
- TNC Social: June 8, 2-5 pm, hosted by Kevin and Linda Riley (details to come)

Next Zoom call meeting: Monday, April 28, 6:30 pm