

# With Completion of Chindenga Clinic in Zimbabwe, The Nyadire Connection (TNC) Achieves “Moon Shot”

PITTSBURGH and ZIMBABWE, Feb. 11, 2025 – The Nyadire Connection (TNC), a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit, has completed a decade-long project to rebuild six rural medical clinics in Zimbabwe. TNC representatives plan to attend a dedication ceremony on Feb. 22 at the Chindenga Clinic to celebrate the occasion.

“We called it a ‘moon shot’ because when this project began, we had no idea if we could raise \$2 million to make it happen,” said TNC Chairman Ralph Duckworth of New Sewickley Twp., who plans to attend the ceremony. “Today, we can say ‘Mission Accomplished!’ thanks to the commitment, passion and support of our network churches\* and many individual donors.”

TNC ([www.nyadire.org](http://www.nyadire.org)) was founded in 2006, when 18 Pittsburgh residents visited the United Methodist Mission in Nyadire, Zimbabwe. Since then, TNC has sponsored several mission trips annually, built strong relationships at the mission, and provided administrative support and funding for its orphanage, hospital and farm.

“The medical clinics were in various states of disrepair,” said Drew Harvey of Mt. Lebanon, TNC’s first chairman. “They lacked electricity, running water and adequate space. The needs were so great, but we had a vision and a dream to rebuild all of them.”

The vision came into focus in 2013, when TNC toured each clinic, met with church and government health officials, and listened to stories from people in the local communities. They discovered the clinics were the first line of defense for thousands of villagers with diseases such as malaria, cholera and HIV; and that expectant mothers walked to the clinics from as far as 10 miles away to deliver. In the past 10 years, villagers handmade hundreds of thousands of bricks used in the projects, and local construction workers rebuilt the clinics on time and on budget.

Hannah Mafunda, health coordinator of the Zimbabwe Episcopal Area Health Board, previously documented many improvements in health care, including:

- With adequate staff housing, medical personnel at the clinics has more than doubled
- With more space for delivery rooms, at-home births have been reduced by half
- Clinics have adequate space to test and treat patients with malaria, and to ensure privacy and confidentiality for each patient
- More shelters for expectant mothers has led to improved birth outcomes
- Additional housing for staff has enabled the clinics to accept more student nurses, expanding opportunities for education and jobs

\*TNC’s network churches are: Christ Church, Bethel Park; St. Paul’s, Allison Park; Dutilh, Cranberry Twp.; Mt. Lebanon, Pittsburgh; Baldwin Community, Pittsburgh; Liberty, Washington; First Bethel, Bethel Park.

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