

# TNC Meeting Minutes

## Sept. 23, 2024

### Rural Clinics

Ralph Duckworth and Rev. Austern Chepiri

- The total project budget is \$350,680 with \$30,000 being funded by GBGM.
- Phase 3.4 was recently added as a result of ZESA's decision to bring electric service to the area. Phase 3.4 will cover connection fees, meters and other equipment for all of the buildings at the clinic. This is an unbudgeted cost of \$15,517; however, it appears that we have sufficient funds to cover these costs.
- The new projected cost of the Project is \$366,197
- Payments totaling \$11,983 were made during the month as Phases 3.2 and 3.3 were nearing completion. To date, we have made payments of \$307,311 for the project.
- Work at Chindenga continued during the month and was concentrated on the development of external aprons, establishment of waste management pits, implementation of the 2nd fix for electrical and plumbing elements, inclusive of floor and wall tiling for the Toilet block at the Mother's Waiting Home. Additionally, activities such as mortar application to the external walls, internal painting, and installation of doors, together with associated ironmongery, were completed within the existing building structures. The Waiting Mothers Home Toilet Block is 100% completed and the Fencing and other General Services are 100% completed.
- Phase 3.2 is 100% completed and Phase 3.3 is 33% completed.
- To date, the local communities have delivered 190,000 farm bricks, 90 cubic meters of river sand, 75 cubic meters of stones, 260 cubic meters of gravel, and 120 cubic meters of pitsand to the project.
- Work planned for next month includes:
  - Re-painting of walls
  - Tiling to floors & walls
  - Remedial works to Electrical works
  - Remedial works to Plumbing works
- Monthly Financial Activity:

○ Balance beginning of the month	\$45,291.52
○ Contributions for the month	\$ 1,266.00
○ Disbursements for the month	\$11,983.37
○ Balance end of the month	\$34,574.15

### Engineers Without Borders and Critical Vehicles

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

- Mary Beth (through Tinashe) reports that Starlink is now approved for use in Zimbabwe! A plan must be developed for physical coverage, installation and monthly costs. Who?
- Field bore hole pump replacement and solar power addition: Update requested.

- Hospital Power Backup- A proposal to update all hospital solar arrays with new batteries and inverters (~\$20,000 or two ~\$10,000 phases) had been provided with a suggestion for the hospital to pursue Conference or other non-TNC funding.

#### Hospital Vehicles

- ACA was out of service for front leaf spring replacement. Ambulance was due for first TNC supported total inspection and fluid/filter change. Updates had been requested. Additional TNC funding has not been requested.

#### EWB (Engineers Without Borders)

- CMU students are back in session and held their first EWB meeting this past Monday. The focus was to educate potential members on the CMU chapter and the proposed Nyadire project. Over the summer, the student leaders researched and summarized a very detailed list of alternative solutions for keeping blood/vaccines at the Nyadire Hospital viable during frequent and prolonged power outages. Kevin was out of town and did not attend.

#### **Girl Empowerment**

Bonnie Lawson, Charity Horiro, Crescencia Dangarembga

##### Ongoing Program

- Orientation meeting scheduled for new school leaders.
- Imported materials due to arrive in Zimbabwe mid-October.
- Final Update to GBGM Wash grant in progress

##### Girl Empowerment Garden Pilot:

- Estimates Reviewed: ABI selected for borehole/irrigation services. Wire transfer in progress.

##### Communication and Fundraising:

- Conaway Munden Grant Submitted
- Grant for GEP Supplies from Brother's Brother renewed

##### Looking Forward:

- Monitor Girl Garden project
- Follow up with Rotary Contact
- Orientation
- Contact

## Agriculture

Scott Sanford

Nyadire River is all but dry. Note the crocodile appears well feed – for now. Emmanuel reported that folks in Mutoko are having to carry water. Normally the water is supplied from the Nyadire River to Mutoko.



Home of Hope report by Emmanuel Chiimba:

- Our water situation is still favorable and we are still carrying on with our garden projects.
- We have cabbages ready for the market but the market is a bit flooded with cabbages now
- The tomatoes that were hit by frost in July sort of recovered and are now flowering
- Watermelon is at flowering stage
- In the garden we have enough rape and sugarloaf (greens) for consumption and the market
- In a week's time, we will plant a new crop of tomatoes that should be ready for the market at the end of November or early December.
- Our fishery project running well so far, we have 3 harvests
- We are scaling down on the number of our pigs to caution on food costs as we did not have a substantial harvest to take care of many animals.
- Goat project is running well and we keep slaughtering some for the children.
- On 30 September we are awaiting the delivery of our 175 pullets for egg production.
- Our citrus trees are at flowering stage and it is at this point that they need more water, we are trying to balance things up to share this now precious resource.

- This coming planting season we intend to utilize only 6 hectares of corn, 1 hectare ground nuts and 1 hectare sugar beans. I will be working out costs and share with you as soon as I get quotations.



Figure 1 - Cabbage ready for market



Figure 2 - Goat Enterprise

#### Nyadire Farm Department report provided by Esnath

- Poultry Broiler Project
  - A well has been installed with elevated reservoir tank.
  - First flocks of broiler have been started – a flock of 200 birds is 5 weeks old and a second batch of 300 birds is 3 weeks old.
  - Information was not provided as to how they are marketing the birds
- 300 Cabbage has been planted near the new poultry house.
  - I am assuming to take advantage of the new well for the poultry barn
- They have dug 3000 holes or pockets in one of the fields to help capture rain water. This is a method of conservation agriculture.
- They planted 2000 onion sets and have peppers in bloom.
- The planting plan for the upcoming season is 15 hectares of maize and 10 hectares of Millet
  - They have purchased seed and fertilizer but will be requesting support for fuel and herbicides
- I have offered to pay for soil testing to ensure they are using the correct inputs – fertilizer & lime.



Figure 4 - Broiler chickens - 3 weeks old



Figure 3 - cabbage field near new poultry barn

#### Development of Irrigated land along river

- The Government is not giving out any new water permits at this time therefore this project is on hold and may not be viable long term especially with the current river conditions.
- Based on the current conditions, we need to move to drought resistant, short season crops as a hedge against drought annually.
- It might be better to focus on greenhouse or small plots of high value crops instead of large acreage of row crops.

#### Home of Hope - Poultry / Grain Storage building

- Building is done except for permanent connection of the electrical wiring. Currently the barn is wired temporarily to the boy's dormitory.

GEP Garden Project – consulting as needed

#### **Home of Hope, Home of Hope Outreach, Scholarships**

Mary Beth Zollars

HOHO – 22 schools in all

- Term 3 funds have been sent, including funds for mealie meal for each child.

#### S.Y.STEM

- Coding Club Star: Mrs. Portia Mambwere – Math teacher at Nyadire Primary
- The Coding Camp, that was to be held from 2 September – 9 September, was cancelled. No one showed up. The teachers expected to be paid for attending the workshop. The one teacher from Manhamba Secondary (the one that I had connected with previously) came and Portia gave him the flash drive and some finch robots.

## HOH

- Sept/Oct funds were sent.
- Funds for further medical examination of little Tanaka have been sent.
- Tables and benches are now complete!

## SISTER RUT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

- Committee meeting will be held Thursday, September 26, 7-8 pm, to discuss funding. Some grant proposals are being floated around.
- Stephen Chadamoyo and Raymond Chimbwanda have attended their graduation ceremonies from the University of Zimbabwe. All posted on Facebook.
- Finishing in August 2024:
  - Lorraine Kapembeza: Africa University, Accounting, 4.2, has finished attachment, dissertation complete. Graduation next June is the next step!
- Fourth Year students:
  - Tinashe Mapfumbidze, (MSU) 4.2 student; Midland States University; Business Management; retaking 3 modules this semester. His department supervisor will not allow him to finish this semester. He is taking a full load this semester (Sept – Dec. 2024) and finish his dissertation.
  - Rutendo Mupfawa, University of Zimbabwe, Honours Program for Accounting and Finance; 4.1 student; finished attachment at a small accounting firm.
  - Blessing Mabii, accepted at Midland States University, Business Studies, 4.1, finished attachment.
  - Panashe Mafemera: Bindura University, Peace and Governance (tuition only) – 4.1 student.
- Third Year students:
  - Nyasha Given Katema: Zimbabwe Institute for Legal Studies. Doing his attachment as a prosecutor!!!
  - Praise Mashumba, Midland States University, Human Resources Management (tuition only); 3.1 student, found attachment at Zimbabwe Space Agency!
- Second Year:
  - Praise Josi: (tuition only) Midland States University, Data Science, 2.1
  - Morejoy Madzika, University of Zimbabwe, Medicine, 2.1 (tuition only)
- First Year:
  - Josphat Nyatoro (HOHO): Nyadire College of Education, 1.1
  - Precious Muripo (HOH): Kushinga Philekela College, electrical engineering, 1.1
- Medical Student (5-year program):
  - Campion Mujuru University of Zimbabwe; medicine; 5.2 student
- Graduate Students:
  - Tsungirai Makoni, University of Zimbabwe, Actuarial Science, Masters 1.2
- TABUDIRIRA VOCATIONAL CENTRE:
  - Onias Chengai (HOHO), Tabudirira Vocational Centre, electrician training, 1.3
- Finishing in 2024:
  - Last Chindoto, sponsored by Pittsburgh District, carpentry, attachment in January in Mutoko at Katonha factory (make beds and wardrobes); new development: Last must now attend Tabudirira for 3 weeks for exams.

- Bright Mumanyi (HOH); building; attachment with Nyakudanga builders at Chindenga Clinic, finishing in August.
- NAKHIWA VOCATIONAL CENTRE:
  - Theresa Nyademvera, 2.2, doing excellent work. Doing community service with GEP, will do last term starting in September, then exams, then attachment in 2025.
- AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP:
  - Tinashe Katsuro: agriculture at Africa University, 3.1.
  - Delight Katsata: BSC Honours Program in Crop Improvement and Seed Systems at the University of Zimbabwe, 3.1 student.
  - Praise Tsaurai, agricultural engineering CUT (Chinoyi University of Technology); 2.1 student.
  - Shelton Chitewe (HOH); Tabudirira Vocational Centre, agriculture; doing attachment at the Home of Hope, finishing in August 2024; new development: Last must now attend Tabudirira for 3 weeks for exams.
  - Yvette Mutize, Agriculture; Kashinga Phikelela Agricultural College; already completed horticulture at Kashinga Phikelela Polytechnic School; 3.1 student, doing attachment. (3-year program)
- Possible new candidates:
  - Joseph Visent, Midland States University, Accounting (on hold)
  - Vimbai Kativhu, AG, Kashinga Phikelela Polytechnic School (on hold)
  - Malvin Katsande, Business Studies, Midland States University (on hold)
  - Kudakwashe Nyamunda, Nyadire College of Education (on hold)
  - Jeremiah Nyabote, Nyadire College of Education (on hold)
- Presentations:
  - September 21st, 2024, 8:30-noon, UWF Fall Gathering, discussion topic “about the woman at the well, the importance of water in our lives, and how the act of eating a meal can be elevated by the people around the table”. MBZ spoke about TNC’s role and the importance of water in Nyadire.
  - September 24th, 2024, 7pm, Beth Burke, Vice President of UWF of Trinity UMC, has invited MBZ to speak regarding TNC. (412-848-2892 bethburke531@gmail.com)
  - November 24th, 2024, 9am-10am, Faith & Justice Class, CUMC, has invited MBZ to speak about the trip.
  - BP-USC Breakfast Rotary, Saturday, October 26, BBQ-Chicken Dinner, to raise funds for the Sister Rut Scholarship Program.
- Craft Sales:
  - CUMC Craft Fair, Saturday, November 2nd, 9-3. MB and Karen will man the booth.
  - St. Paul’s Mission Mall, Saturday, November 23rd. Tom Greway and Kevin Riley in charge.

## **VIM**

- Mary Beth Zollars is willing to lead a 2025 team (June-ish).
- Emmanuel welcomes the idea of a team coming during the school holidays, as well.
- Deborah is considering leading an H-I trip in 2025

## **Hearing Innovation**

Deborah Swineford

- Received message from Tinashe on Tuesday that the bookshelves were complete and he intended to deliver them on Wednesday.
- Sent out email message and attached newsletter to sponsors and supporters
- Have one program scheduled for October 9 and a tentative program scheduled for St. Andrews UMC sometime in October.
- Received photos from Simbarashe of Danhiko learners at an outing
- School fees received with thanks

## **Communications**

Tim Wesley

- September newsletter
  - To be published this week
- New communications director at WPA Conference: Jeannie Schott
- TNC Social: Any volunteers for fall?
- Network churches
  - Christ Church mission/outreach plan
  - St. Paul's Mission Mall in November
- TNC 20th anniversary, 2026
- Monthly meeting minutes
  - Send to me by noon on Friday before the meeting
- Disbursement of funds requests
  - Allow 48 hours for review; please follow up if you don't receive a copy

**Next Zoom call meeting: Monday, Oct. 28, 6:30 pm**