

TNC Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022

Meeting Date Change: The meeting day has been changed to every third Monday of the month. **Next Meeting February 21 at 6:30 via Zoom**

General Situation in Zimbabwe: Nyadire experienced quite a few COVID cases in December, including among hospital staff. They are now receiving booster COVID shots. Due to decreasing COVID infection numbers, COVID restrictions are being loosened.

Health Area

— **Hospital and Pharmacy Program:** Mark LaRosa, Dr. Larry Tanyanyiwa, Wilson Nhamoinesu

TNC has combined the Medical & Doctor Support and the Medicine and Drug Supply programs into this newly named program. Mark LaRosa, who has previously lead the health area for TNC, returns as the Program Leader for the Hospital and Pharmacy Program.

Mark has an extensive background in hospital administration and has been to Nyadire several times. Current topics Mark will be reviewing with Dr. Larry Tanyanyiwa include the necessary repairs to the School of Nursing ceilings, the breakdown of the Nyadire mortuary, a chemistry analyser machine that is in need of service, and the replacement of batteries for the hospital solar panels.

The hospital has received 10 oxygen concentrators from Natpharm. a government entity.

Dr. Larry reports that there have been hospital power outages due to load shedding plus a power line fault due to bad weather.

—**Eyeglasses Program:** Don Ziegler, Dr. Larry, Zim Eye Technicians Team.

A successful eyeglasses clinic led by four Zimbabwean technicians was held December 1, 2021-December 14, 2021 at Nyadire, Dendera, Chikwizo and Nyahuku. 1,072 patients were served.

Help Wanted: Don will retire from his leadership role at TNC at the end of March. If you know of someone who is passionate about sharing the love of Christ with others by providing clear vision, please contact Don at don.ziegler@icloud.com / (412) 956-2660. The technicians in Zimbabwe organize and carry out the clinics. This job centers primarily around communicating with Dr. Larry and the Zimbabwe technician team members; coordinating groups that collect and prepare eyeglasses in the US and sharing the story of this ministry with others in order to help raise funds and volunteers.

—**Container Shipments:** Drew Harvey & Rev L. Mukundu

- A 40 'ocean container departed Pgh on June 23 and arrived at the port in Beira, Mozambique on Sept 20. It has now been in storage awaiting

TNC Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022

customs clearance for more than 4 months and continues to accumulate significant storage/demurrage fees. The total cost of these fees is as of yet unknown. There are numerous reasons for this extensive and expensive delay, one of which is that the Zimbabwe ministry recently implemented a new clearance process with new requirements. Shutdowns over the Christmas holidays also caused delays. We have been in daily communication with the Zim UMC leadership attempting to expedite clearance and release the container.

- As of 1/28/2022, all documents have been provided to the ministry, processing fees paid, and expectation is that the duty free license should now be awarded. Upon license receipt, the container will be released and the shipping company will transport directly to Nyadire. Hopefully delivery will be during the week of 1/31.
- Concerns voiced about the condition of the container contents; particularly as tropical storm Ana has swept through Mozambique.
- Contents of the container:
 - 38 boxes of backpacks, school supplies, science/agricultural books (for distribution), jackets, weed whacker cord, seed storage bags, and a sewing machine for the HOH.
 - 17 boxes of reading books, teaching supplies, & Hearing Innovation supplies for the HOHO program
 - 55 boxes medical supplies including shower & toilet chairs, crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, IV stands, gloves, diapers, shoe covers, syringes, dental supplies, blood pressure cuffs, books for the nursing library, knitted blankets/caps, nebulizers, stethoscopes, bandages, paper stock, sterilizer pouches, and more.
 - 1600 Sutures specified by Dr Larry and purchased from Global Links
 - 43 boxes for the Girls Empowerment Program including 11 sewing machines, female hygiene supplies and sewing supplies.
 - 70 boxes of eyeglasses for the Eyeglass Program
 - 6 boxes of Theology Books, church robes, devotional materials
 - 19 boxes of handmade knitted blankets and caps for newborn babies.
 - 2 boxes of TNC Christmas Cards and blank envelopes
 - 3 boxes of Hearing Innovation supplies
 - 4 boxes of tools including a chain hoist, engine analyzer, socket set, tire patch kits, and misc hand tools.

TNC Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022

- Seven “Pop Up Classrooms” purchased from Computer Reach (\$10,700), each with 8 computers, a projector, screen, tables, chairs, 220 volt wiring strips, and transport cart.
 - In addition to the above items provided by TNC, BBF filled all remaining space in the container primarily with furnishings for Mashambanhaka Clinic, plus various other items. This included school desk chairs, benches, office chairs, exam tables, reception chairs, cabinets, medical tables, walkers, crutches, thermal blankets, mattresses, 63 boxes of medical supplies, feminine hygiene pads, sewing accessories, and a pallet of books.
- TNC does not currently plan to ship additional containers to Nyadire. Smaller items will be carried over in the luggage of VIM teams.
 - In 2021, BBF sent 106 containers to 27 countries with contents valued at \$118,329,289.

—**Girl Empowerment Pads (GEP)** Bonnie Lawson & Charity Horiro

Program continues at Nyadire Waiting Mothers.

Covid outbreaks continue to slow or pause the program both in the USA and in Zimbabwe. Charity reports that the schools are not in session; she is unable to be updated by outreach schools.

Bonnie has become a new Brother’s Brother Foundation board member.

—**Rural Medical Clinics** Ralph Duckworth, Austern Chepiri, Hannah Mafunda

- Awaiting cost estimates and specifications for the Chindenga Clinic from the conference engineer in Harare.
- Met with Pittsburgh DS Debbie Ackley-Killian on 1/31/22 to discuss, among other items, funding for the Chindenga Clinic. Presentation to be made to the Pittsburgh District pastors on February 27, 2022.

EDUCATION

—**Engineers without Borders (EWB)/ Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)**

Drew Harvey & Rev. L. Mukundu

- The objective of the project is to replace firewood as the method for cooking meals at the Nyadire Primary School. Firewood is increasingly more expensive, in short supply, environmentally destructive, labor intensive, and contributes to extensive deforestation. The plan is to install a pilot biogas digester which will primarily use cow waste, with supplements of human and food waste. The available amount of waste is calculated at 104 kg/day which will produce enough biogas to cook slightly less than half the meals required. The primary school feeds 250 students three times/day. A 25 m³ digester will be installed which can produce more

TNC Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022

biogas as increased waste is available. The digester will be connected to a new cooking stove located inside the primary school dining hall.

- The CMU students have been away on winter break and will be starting with weekly EWB meetings sometime the week of Jan 31.
- A 3 person leadership team of Cara Yi, Shivank Joshi, and Kacy Liang now leads the project. Katherine Nie was on the team but has now graduated and is replaced by Kacy Liang. Shivank and Cara continue.
- The EWB process requires documentation to be reviewed and approved by EWB Nationals at specific milestones. Just prior to winter break, the students completed and submitted a 36 page “pre-implementation report” and now await approval. Once this is approved, work with the contractor will proceed with implementation planned for summer 2022.
- As travel possibilities are uncertain, the project is planned for “remote implementation” meaning that a student team will not travel to Nyadire this summer. Christopher Kuwana will be the contact at Nyadire for the installation.
- The EWB student chapter will completely fund the project.

—Scholarships Mary Beth Zollars

- Revitalizing the Scholarship Crowdfunding Campaign to generate interest and obtain more funding
- Exploring a grant through the Rotary Club of Upper St. Clair - Bethel Park. could **Help Needed:** Would anyone be willing to volunteer at the annual Chicken BBQ which raises the grant funds?

—HOHO Marie Hunt & Emmanuel Chiimba

On Hold: pricing, purchasing, and distributing of the backpacks and school supplies in Zimbabwe. A person has not been identified to take on this task.

Winnet is working on school uniforms for Musanhi Primary girls.

Schools are set to re-open 7 February. Full school calendar for 2022 has not yet been announced.

St. Paul's UMC finished its renewal with 108 orphans sponsored. Many thanks to Tom Greway.

TNC Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022

HOH Mary Beth Zollars, Emmanuel Chiimba

Jan/Feb funds have been sent, along with funds for formula for the orphaned baby, staff uniforms, and school uniforms.

Christ Kids (CUMC Sunday School & Youth) collected \$500 for a dairy cow for the HOH. CUMC Outreach contributed another \$500. Emmanuel is looking into the purchase of a dairy cow and into orientation for the staff. **CONCERNS RAISED AT MEETING:** Proper feed that will enable the cow to produce milk is very expensive. Feed available at Nyadire may be inadequate.

SISTER RUT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Mary Beth Zollars

Funding strategies are being explored. Former sponsors have been contacted. The Rotary Grant has been completed. Molly Michael is working on bringing the online giving for the Scholarship Program back.

Rutendo Mupfawa, accepted at the University of Zimbabwe, Honors Program for Accounting and Finance; began October 2021

Blessing Mabii, accepted at Midland States University, Business Studies, 1.1; began September 2021.

Tinashe Mapfumbidze(MSU) is staying in Gweru; online learning; 3.1 student; looking for attachment

Tsungirai Makoni 4:1 student in Actuarial Science at the University of Zimbabwe; waiting for exams; only one more semester before graduation!

Campion Mujuru (University of Zimbabwe; medicine; 3.1 student) is starting his clinicals.

Lovemore Mbozvi on attachment with Mashava Mines near Gweru. He is studying Mining Engineering. He is a 4.2 student. His program is 5 years.

Bernard Madyauta University of Great Zimbabwe, 3:1 student; beginning attachment at the Harare City Council.

Fungai Chigumbura MSU, Human Resource Management, 3:1 student, found attachment at the Ministry of Agriculture.

TNC Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022

Maryleen Dandira (Nyadire Teachers College) is in her last term and is preparing for exams.

Lorraine Kapembeza: Africa University, Accounting. 2:2 student.

Ruth Makoni: HOHO/O-Levels/A-Levels: Catholic University, Business Management and Information Technology; 2:2 student.

Takunda Pedzai: Midland States University, Human Resources Management; 1:2 student.

Raymond Chimbwanda: HOHO/O-levels/A-levels: University of Zimbabwe; Financial Economics and Trade; 1:2 student.

Stephen Chadamoyo: O-levels/A-Levels: University of Zimbabwe, (tuition only); Physiotherapy; 1:1 student.

Panashe Mafemera: O-levels/A-levels: Bindura University, Peace and Governance (tuition only) – 1:1 student.

Nyasha Given Katema: (HOH) O-levels/A-levels: Zimbabwe Institute for Legal Studies. The school offers a variety of certificates and degrees, leading to careers from paralegal to lawyer. Nyasha will proceed from year to year, based on his interest, needs, and success. 1:2 student.

WORK/STUDY:

Lindarose Chibinge: Lindarose is enrolled in Social Work at Midland States University for a master's degree specializing in Children's Rights and Protection. She has completed her second semester. She has agreed to work at the HOH throughout her studies.

On hold: Josphat Nyatoro (HOHO): O-levels: changed intention to pursuing 3 more O-level subjects in order to attend Harare Polytechnic. His scholarship will be re-visited a year from now.

Candidate: Praise Mushamba, provisionally accepted for January 2022 intake, but have no update

Update re: Precious Muripo (HOH) has been accepted into the Prison Officer Training Program. Scholarship funds were sent to purchase supplies and materials necessary for this training.

TNC Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022

TABUDIRIRA VOCATIONAL CENTRE CANDIDATES:

Leeroy Nyamukapa (O-levels Nyadire High School); Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Building Studies, began September 2021

Angeline Mujuru (Campion's sister) (HOHO): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Hotel and Catering, in last term before attachment

Lorraine Chipembere (Fradreck's daughter) (HOHO): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Hotel and Catering, in last term before attachment

Tinotenda Kadyautumbe (HOH): O-levels: Tabudirira Vocational Centre, Hotel and Catering, in last term before attachment

New Applicant:

Yeukai Gwati (HOHO) has applied for a scholarship to attend Tabudirira Vocational Centre in Hotel and Catering.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP:

John Sperry (VIM) has engaged with TNC in building an agricultural aspect of the Scholarship Program.

Elvis Mtandwa has applied for an Agricultural Scholarship for Tabudirira Vocational Centre. Approval is pending.

Tinashe Katsuro has been accepted for an Agricultural Scholarship. He is looking forward to starting his studies in August 2022.

Rodney Matonga (Rev. Forbes and Nyaradzai's son) is a leading candidate for an agricultural scholarship. He seeks financial assistance in completing his diploma at Blackfordby Agricultural Institute in Agribusiness and Farm Management.

—**Hearing Innovation** Molly Michael & Tendayi Mushapaidze

TNC Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022

- Sponsors
 - No feedback for the “Give the Gift of an Education Holiday Initiative”. Molly may try this again in the spring.
 - The program is in need of more sponsors, especially because we are now trying to assist learners with secondary schooling.
 - Collecting items for a “boarding kit” to be carried over with a 2022 team. Items would include essentials such as socks, underwear, toothbrushes, hand towels, deodorant, etc.
- Finances
 - Money was sent for Charles Niwitia’s studies at Emerald Hills, Simbarashe Mandaza’s studies at Great Zimbabwe, and education & boarding fees for HI students.
- Development
 - Simbarasha to visit the Beatrice Vocational Center; a government sponsored vocational unit which trains adults with a disability in a course of their choosing. This would be a great tertiary opportunity for the HI Students/Scholarship Program.
 - Otilia, a former student at Nyadire, finished her studies at Emerald Hill. Plan to explore tertiary opportunities for her.
 - Victor has leveled out at Nyadire and is in need of a secondary opportunity.
- Goals
 - Conduct another ENT clinic on site as well as hearing testing
 - Deaf Culture Workshop via Zoom to boost program awareness/sponsorships in the Pittsburgh area
 - 2022 Field Trip Adventure in Zimbabwe?

—Mutoko Special Education Program Molly Michael & Joseph Muzondo

- This is an outreach sponsorship program which serves students with varying disabilities such as an intellectual disability. Students are day schoolers and sponsorship costs are low.
- Hope to initiate a program here soon

—Volunteers in Mission Molly Michael & Reverend Mukundu

- Three week late June/early July 2022 VIM team is in the preliminary stages of organization. There are 2 interested volunteers new to travel. Others prefer to wait until a more certain time. Announcements posted.
- Donation list of items for the VIM Team to carry over.

TNC Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022

- Several hand knitted caps donated by Diane Morris for eventual carry
- over by VIM teams.
- The “Dress A Girl” group will have dresses/britches available for our
- next large team to carry over
- If you are interested in leading or co-leading a future team, please let me know.
 - There are no VIM Team Leader Trainings at this time, however I will update the group as soon as dates are announced
- Adding a “timeline” to the VIM Team Leader Manual in regards to trainings, announcements, packing, etc. Also considering having VIM travelers sign a contract and adhere to certain expectations during travel with TNC.

FINANCE Karen Cahall, Treasurer

As of 12/31/2021, TNC accounts had \$88,647 in restricted funds and \$61,458 in unrestricted funds. Preliminary amounts for 1/25/2022 are \$81,318 and \$54,535, respectively.

January, 2022 Funds Transfers:

Jan 11: \$2,405 to Africa University for Lorraine Kapembeza’s studies
Jan 11: \$3,501.73 via World Remit for 14 scholarship students
Jan 20: \$1,240 to HOH to cover school fees for 4 students
Jan 20: \$3,000 to PCD for 1st quarter funding of pharmaceuticals
Jan 25: \$7,055 to HI for Simbarashe, Charles and school/boarding fees

LONG RANGE FINANCE STRATEGY Chuck Billerbeck

Continuing to review budgets with program leaders. Brainstorming on long-range funding possibilities and alternatives

NEW VINES INTERNATIONAL: NEW MICRO LENDING OPPORTUNITY

Chuck Billerbeck, Sandy McKnight and Ralph Duckworth met with founder and CEO, Virgil Hughes and Bill Orga of New Vines. Their model centers on Christian-based financial training. Rev. L Mukundu has been asked for his input as TNC considers with our Zimbabwean partners if undertaking a micro-loan or savings co-op program is right for Nyadire and the surrounding region. Considering various models.

INREACH / CHURCH NETWORKS Debbie Little

Per Mary Beth Zollars/ Debbie Little:

- Christ UMC providing opportunity to tell about TNC and programs at February 20, 2022 services.

TNC Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022

- Dutilh UMC Opportunity to offer HOH/ HOHO sponsorships at Dutilh UMC May 8 and May 15, 2022.
- Meeting held with DS Debbie Ackley-Killian

I. [Promotion / Communication - \(Tim Wesley\)](#)

A. Writing February newsletter

1. Review of 15th anniversary event
2. New leadership team
3. Program updates
4. “Help wanted” and ways to get involved

B. Developing plan to update website

1. Review all text and photos
2. Consider using paid search terms to drive readership

C. Ongoing communications with network churches, other UM communicators

1. Working with Debbie Little to follow up with event attendees