

TNC Meeting Minutes Nov. 27,2023

No TNC meeting in December - Merry Christmas! Next meeting via Zoom: Monday, January 22, 2024 at 6:30 EST

December 9, 2023 from 9am-noon - Mary Beth Zollars and Bonnie Lawson will be at Mt. Lebanon UMC for the "Cookies by the Pound" Sale. MB will host a TNC table with Zimbabwean crafts for sale and Bonnie will showcase/sell her pottery.

Communications Tim Wesley

December newsletter to feature mission trip. Send stories & photos by Nov. 30

TNC Winter social: Hosted by the Wesleys Jan. 14, 2024, 1-5 pm. Details to follow

Rural Medical Clinic Renovations: Ralph Duckworth, Rev. Austern Chepiri

The total project budget is \$350 680.58.

Through the end of October, TNC has wired a total of \$213,781 to project vendors. Included in the latter amount were October disbursements of \$47,786 to Halsted and \$3,500 to the consultant.

Moonshot: Although the amounts are not yet final, we believe that TNC has raised enough funds to complete the clinic

Work at Chindenga during October included finalizing Phase 2.3, which is now 100% completed. Work on Phase 3.1 continued during the month: the MCH Building and the Toilet Block are 50% completed, the Borehole is 55% completed and the Two-Family Staff House is 25% completed.

To date, the local communities have delivered 160,000 farm bricks, 75 cubic meters of river sand, 65 cubic meters of stones, 250 cubic meters of gravel, and 175 cubic meters of pitsand to the project.

Work planned for November includes:

MCH Waiting Area:

- Roofing the building
- Electrical 1st fix
- Skimming to walls
- Painting to internal & external walls
- Tiling to walls & floors

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5.3.5 Toilet Block

- Roofing the building
- Electrical 1st fix
- Plumbing 1st fix
- Skimming of walls
- Painting to internal & external walls
- Tiling to walls and floors

Duplex Two-Bedroomed House

- Superstructure brickwork to lintel level
- Ring beam
- Superstructure brickwork to wall-plate / gable level
- Plastering of walls

Borehole Drilling and Equipping

- Procurement of borehole system materials
- Construction of borehole pump room
- Fabrication of solar panel stand structures
- Excavation of trenches for water pipework reticulation

On November 7, 2023, Sue McCann, Jim Gourley and Ralph Duckworth visited Chindenga, where they had an update meeting with Rev Austern Chepiri and Livingstone Garikayi from the Conference Center, Rev Godwell Dzika, the Chindenga Station Chair, Rev Lancelot Mukundu, the Nyadire Station Chair, the Head Nurse at Chindenga, and two representatives from the local communities.

A tour of the project site was taken after the meeting. The project is proceeding nicely and should be completed by mid-2024.

Nyadire Coding Club Mary Beth Zollars: November, 2023 VIM Team update

2 Nov. 2023 Nyadire Primary School Meeting w/ Coding Club leaders

Present:

Mary Beth Zollars

Mrs. Portia Mambwerere (Coding Club Leader, Math Teacher) Mr. Dereck Mazengeza (new I.T. teacher)

Ms. Pride (not sure of surname) (new Science Teacher)

Discussed:

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- Funds for fuel for generator: Coding Club leaders did not request that sent funds be used.

Mushapaidze did not request the monthly budget from Chiimba. Funds are now in the hands of Primary School leadership.

- Scheduling of Coding Club:

Mrs. Portia Mambwerere has received permission from Mushapaidze to:

- be allowed to conduct Coding Club during sports time.
- allow Coding Club students to attend Coding Club during sports time. This now means that the Coding Club meets 3 times per week!
- Plans to meet for 2 weeks (2 hours at a time) during December holidays.

3 November 2023: Coding Club during sports time 2-4 pm

Present:

5th-7th grade Coding Club students

Mrs. Portia Mambwerere, Mr. Dereck Mazengeza, Mary Beth Zollars

Mr. Michael Milondi (Manhembra Secondary School Computer Teacher)

Students worked with great enthusiasm in pairs or small groups.

MBZ delivered fuel for the generator.

MBZ conducted small group interviews with grade 5 girls and grade 7 boys.

Mr. Milondi observed the coding of the primary school students. He concluded that he could easily initiate this coding program into his already established Computer Club held 2 times per week at Manhembra Secondary. Manhembra has good power supply due to being near the Nyadire Waterworks (hydropower). Milondi says he needs: software for Windows, flash drives, robots, and student registration codes.

MBZ attempted to re-boot two desktops with fog-server. Difficulties were encountered. Dereck said that the desktops were actually functioning, but the CS-Academy would not load. Kim Kleiven sent instructions to re-load. Waiting to hear if anyone has attempted the re-load.

9 November 2023: Coding Club during sports time

Present:

5th-6th grade students, Mrs. Portia Mambwerere Mr. Dereck Mazengeza Mary Beth Zollars

MBZ spoke to Charity Horiro (deputy head) regarding the MOU. She agreed that it could be done. MBZ explained the MOU to Portia and Dereck. Both signed.

MBZ surveyed two groups: 5th graders and 6th graders with updated version of survey. The interest and enthusiasm were very evident!

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8 Nov. 2023: met with Samuel Musariri at Nyadire High School

Note: funds had been sent to Musariri to added burglar bars to the windows and entry to the classroom that has been dedicated for the Coding Club.

- Status: Outer burglar bars are deemed too thin and must be exchanged for better ones. Room now has good lighting and sufficient outlets. Room still needs to be cleared out to be made suitable for pop-up classroom.
- Pop-up Classroom: parts are being stored in secure storage area behind Musariri's office space. Desktops are set up in the lab each time Coding Club has been held.
- Coding Club met last time in July 2023. Musariri has had a very busy schedule. He has not been able to hold any sessions this last term. It is not clear why Bruce and Mabel have not been involved. A few students popped in to express their enthusiasm. Musariri said that he could open up the Coding Club during December holidays.
- No MOU (Memo Of Understanding) was discussed at this time. It was made clear that High School must move forward in order to get SYSTEM Coalition support.
- Action items: MBZ will reach out to headmaster to finish classroom. MBZ will reach out to Coding Club leaders individually to encourage meeting during the December holidays.

S.Y.STEM

STEM COMMITTEE:

Chair: Mr. Musariri – Head of Science Department at Nyadire HS Secretary: Mrs. Portia Mambwere – Math teacher at Nyadire Primary Plus: Bruce (mathematics teacher HS), Mabel (computer teacher HS), and Maria (ECD teacher at PS).

HOH/HOHO/Scholarship Mary Beth Zollars, Emmanuel Chiimba

Home of Hope Outreach program – 22 schools in all

Marie Hunt and her team of Sponsor Coordinators organized all the letters to the children in the Outreach Program. The November ZIM-VIM Team delivered letters to 8 schools in person, Lindarose and Tinashe delivered to 4 more and arranged for the delivery of letters to the remaining schools. Lindarose collected all the letters from the Outreach children and the Team has delivered them back to Marie. At each school, 2 children were selected for Marie's more in-depth interview papers. Photos were taken of these children to match the written interviews. These children will be featured in Marie's periodical updates.

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Outreach Committee:

Chairperson: Noreen Chitengu (Manhemba Primary)

Vice Chair: Tawanda Muswe (Rudawiro Primary) Secretary: Esnath Zimbira (Nyadire Primary)

Treasurer: Nicodemus Bandira (Nyadire High School) Finance Secretary: Fiona Chiroroma (Nyakabau Primary)

Home of Hope

Nov/Dec funds have been sent.

A battery for Lazarus (4-seater pick-up) was purchased to have a vehicle available for the November ZIM-VIM Team. It started most of the time at the beginning of the trip, but needs more and more pushes to jump start the engine. The starter may be bad.

Charity Shumba (dental therapist now at Murewa) came for dental checks for the HOH children on 8-9 Nov. She was paid for transportation, extractions, and fillings. All the exams were conducted free of charge. We are very grateful for Mrs. Shumba's efforts.

The dental chair needs a small pipe.

Bicycle parts were purchased for Buffalo Bikes. Robb Montgomery assisted with repairs. Thank you! A list of repair parts for smaller bikes is needed. A Buffalo bicycle is being donated to the HOH. It will go to FreeJohn*, the night guardsman, who walks a considerable distance to work. A member of St. Paul's has generously offered to purchase the bike. There may also be a matching gift available from Trek bikes - TNC to investigate the possibility of receiving funds from Trek for additional Buffalo Bikes, as needed. Note; The Buffalo Bikes are specially designed and built to withstand use in the extremely rugged African terrain.

*Buffalo bikes made available to staff at the HOH still belong to the HOH. Retiring/ leaving staff are to return bikes to the HOH upon their departure. Status of Tsitsi's (retired) bike is to be determined.

MB and Gogo Elsa prepared a small satchel of gifts for the HOH staff. TNC provided \$10 each towards a pair of shoes.

Marjorie Dold collected funds from her church and other interested donors to start a library of carefully selected books for the HOH. Marjorie took the children

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aside for storytelling. Pockets and library cards were attached to the books for signing out. Tinashe Chiimba will provide a quote for bookshelves.

Fun Day at the Primary School: while the Team was in Harare with the Scholarship Meeting, the HOH children were given \$2 each (by team members) to attend the Fun Day. It was a fundraiser for the Primary School. Boarders' parents were invited, as well as the community. Special activities included food games, face painting, and a bouncy house.

HOH/H-I Party: On 11 November, the HOH staff and the Team prepared the food and activities for the HOH and H-I learners. The HOH slaughtered a pig and three chickens, donated tomatoes and sadza. The Team purchased and prepared other food items including rice, cole slaw, drinks, cookies, and watermelon. Thank you to ALL!

Elina Nyabote, HOH administrative assistant, is leading the GEP program for the HOH. She will divide GEP efforts between the few girls who are old enough for the program and the 13 children who are bedwetters. She will be making absorbent pads for those children in need. No update.

Sister Rut Scholarship Program:

The BP-USC Breakfast Rotary Club held its annual BBQ Chicken Dinner on Saturday, 28 October. Many thanks to Phil Himmler, Scott Churchill, and the supporting churches. TNC sold 745 tickets, 400 of which were donated to SHIM. In the spring of 2024, the Rotary will announce the awards it will grant from the proceeds of the dinner.

Scholarship Meeting was held on 4 November at the UMC West Conference Head Office (HRE). Seventeen students came (out of 18 invited). Rev. Alan Gurupira, Rev. Austern Chepiri, Dr. Ronald Nyabareka, and Chenhayi Kumuterera from the Head Office were present and assisted with the interviews. Emmanuel and Tinashe Chiimba from Nyadire assisted with the financial questions. Lincoln Nyamusara arranged the catered lunch and assisted with the interviews. Scott Sanford interviewed the AG- students. Deborah Swineford, Ralph Duckworth, Jim Gourley, and Sue McCann led stations for interviews. Marjorie Dold took photos of the individual students and recorded videos of each student giving a short thanks to TNC.

Scholarship Students in other than university programs came to Nyadire to meet with the Team. They included: Theresa Nyadempera (GEP), Shelton Chitewe (AG), Bright Mumanyi (Building), Yeukai Gwati (Hospitality), Yvette Mutize (AG).

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Students finishing in 2023:

Lovemore Mbozvi; Manicaland State University, Mining Engineering; has taken his final examination and has submitted his dissertation; passed both; GRADUATION SET FOR DECEMBER!!!!

Bernard Madyauta University of Great Zimbabwe, Regional and Urban Planning; 4.2 student, has passed all requirements!!! GRADUATED ON 27 OCTOBER!!!!

Fungai Chigumbura MSU, Human Resource Management, 4.2 student. GRADUATED ON 24 NOVEMBER!!!

Finishing in June 2024:

Tinashe Mapfumbidze, (MSU) 4.2 student; Midland States University; Business Management; needs to retake 3 modules next semester.

Lorraine Kapembeza: Africa University, Accounting, 4.1, has found attachment.

Ruth Makoni: HOHO/O-Levels/A-Levels: Catholic University, Business Management and Information Technology; 4.1.

Takunda Pedzayi: Midland States University, Human Resources Management; 4.1 student.

Raymond Chimbwanda: HOHO/O-levels/A-levels: University of Zimbabwe; Financial Economics and Trade; Real Estate; 4.1 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. 2nd year student.

Third Year students:

Rutendo Mupfawa, accepted at the University of Zimbabwe, Honours Program for Accounting and Finance; 3.1 student; found an attachment at a small accounting firm.

Blessing Mabii, accepted at Midland States University, Business Studies, 3.1, has found an attachment.

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Stephen Chadamoyo: O-levels/A-Levels: University of Zimbabwe, (tuition only); Physiotherapy; 3.1 student, received certificate of excellence for group presentation on community health.

Panashe Mafemera: O-levels/A-levels: Bindura University, Peace and Governance (tuition only) – 3.1 student.

Second Year:

Praise Mushamba, accepted for 2022 September intake, Midland States

University, Human Resources Management, tuition only; 2.1 student.

Medical Student (5-year program)

Campion Mujuru University of Zimbabwe; medicine; 4.2 student - MBZ to confirm graduation date - 2024?

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 in 2023.

TABUDIRIRA VOCATIONAL CENTRE:

Leeroy Nyamukapa (O-levels Nyadire High School); Building Studies, doing attachment; perhaps in Harare; no communication

Finishing in 2024:

Yeukai Gwati (HOHO) has applied to various lodges for her attachment for Hotel and Catering; found attachment at The Pumpkin Hotel.

Last Chindoto, sponsored by Pittsburgh District, carpentry, 1.3.

Bright Mumanyi (HOH); building; preparing for attachment in January.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP:

Tinashe Katsuro: agriculture at Africa University, 2.1.

Delight Katsata, graduate of Katsukunya Secondary (O-levels) and Nyadire High School (A-levels) BSC Honours Program in Crop Improvement and Seed Systems at the University of Zimbabwe in August, 2.1 student.

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Praise Tsurai, agricultural engineering CUT (Chinoyi University of Technology); 1.1 student.

Shelton Chitewe (HOH); Tabudirira Vocational Centre, agriculture; will do attachment at the Home of Hope.

Yvette Mutize, Agriculture; Kashinga Phikelela Agricultural College; already completed horticulture at Kashinga Phikelela Polytechnic School; 1.1 student. (3-year program)

Engineers Without Borders: Kevin Riley, Christopher Kuwana

The CMU EWB student chapter will make a decision about whether to continue to partner with Nyadire by the end of their school term in December. They are being asked to partner with CMU Rwanda where they are being offered travel and project financial support. In the meantime, Scott Sanford gathered the data they requested for the bio-gas generator during his recent trip. Thanks Scott!

Hospital Vehicles: Kevin Riley, Christopher Kuwana

- Fleet consists of four Land Cruisers of various models and years along with two trucks (one not operational).
 - The ambulance is operational
 - One Land Cruiser has not been operational for several years.
 - The remaining two have been repaired and reconditioned except for shock absorbers (trying to locate replacements) and seat reupholstering of the one vehicle. We are waiting for the receipts and expenditure summary from Nyadire Central Accounting.
 - Scott estimates the above expenses to total \$2800, leaving approximately \$700 of the \$3500 total previously provided by TNC.
 - TNC will likely need be asked to advance additional funds to complete the work on the two reconditioned Land Cruisers.
- December 5 Zoom call organized by Ralph Duckworth will cover:
 - Current status of hospital vehicles- report by Robb Montgomery and Scott Sanford.
 - Status of draft Hospital Vehicle Maintenance Agreement that was prepared by Christopher and Kevin. Review and approval by the Station Chief, Hospital, Shop and TNC is sought so there is a clear understanding of hospital vehicle responsibilities going forward.

Hearing Innovations Deborah Swineford, Tendai Mushapaidze

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Deborah interacted with learners and teachers while in Nyadire the first two weeks of November. Summary of activities below.

The Deaf learners signed the two songs that Leah had taught them in January.

Lessons taught: Science, Health, Reading/Vocabulary, Bible stories

Simbarashe and Deborah met in Harare with learners at Danhiko and Emerald Hill. Fees for learners at both schools were paid for the coming year/term. Met vendor contacted by Simbarashe for the purchase of satchels and bed sheets.

While in Harare, met with Tonderayi, the interpreter for the first Deaf graduate of Africa University, to make connections with the greater Deaf community, continuing education courses, and a Zim Sign resource.

Gifts and donations of educational materials were unpacked—math manipulatives, posters, pencils, paper, composition books, dry erase markers, workbooks, slates. Each learner received a pocket folder with a book, donated by Deborah's book club, a puzzle, and some coloring sheets to coincide with the Bible lessons. Donated toothbrushes and toothpaste were distributed and used as part of the Health lesson. Sponsor mail and gifts were distributed.

The desire for new whiteboards and electric power was realized. Lincoln and his team installed 8 electrical outlets and overhead fluorescent lights in the two HI classrooms. During installation the classes met outside. Simbarashe and Deborah picked up the boards from First Pack in Mutoko. Robb hung the boards and gave care instructions.

A quote of \$4,347 was provided by Lincoln for the installation of solar panels to power the two HI classrooms, and two adjacent offices. It is thought that the panels would provide enough power for the lights, but not for the operation of computers.

Deborah taught some basic signs to the Primary School teachers.

Tentative plans for instruction to continue on a monthly basis with lessons taught by Simbarashe, Evajoyce, or Moyo.

Discussed possible continuing education/ sign language refresher courses for Simbarashe and Evajoyce. Simbarashe sent a price quotation from Sunrise Sign

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Language Academy. Deborah to see if Simba and Evajoyce have lodging available near the continuing ed. school and may submit a funding request to TNC.

A barbecue was held with the Home of Hope and the HI learners. The HI learners had never been to the HOH. They are limited to their dorms, the dining hall, church and school. All the learners enjoyed the feast, the games, and the free playtime.

The Deaf learners memorized John 3:16 and also the song "Hallelu, hallelu..." and performed both during the welcoming time on Sunday.

Agriculture Program: Scott Sanford VIM Trip updates - see separate attachment

Faith Geer Memorial Eyeglasses Program: Natalie Geer, Gashi Chikonyora

November VIM team to provide updates on December 5 regarding eyeglasses storage needs and plans for future clinic.

Girl Empowerment Program: Bonnie Lawson, Charity Horiro

Many thanks to Marjorie Dold, VIM team member, for providing so many wonderful pictures!

Partial shipment of imported supplies has been received. Will await delivery of full shipment prior to delivery to Nyadire so as not to duplicate transportation costs.

Knowledge is following up on missing items, which have been delayed due to apparent issue with train transportation.

Awaiting results of UWF grant application. Bonnie will follow up and develop 2024 funding options.