

IREACHAFRICA



Annual Report 2020

www.ireachafrika.org

info@ireachafrika.org



A Note from

Tracy Evans



How to land with your butt in the butter...

A friend beautifully summarized their response to the trials and traumas of 2020. We all have our share of personal obstacles, but this year was “special”. The entire world shared a pandemic. That, plus a political roller-coaster, nation-wide riot, unemployment and fires made for a challenging year for us all.

So, this was my friend’s beautiful, Africa proverb: It’s about a mouse that falls into a vat of cream. Fearing he’s about to drown, he frantically swims around and around in circles. His panicked scrambling churns the cream into butter, buoys him up and then provides him a delicious, buttery snack! Thus, the saying goes: when you trust that God will “work all things (even bad things) together for good...” Rejoice! You are “landing with your butt in the butter” In time, God will right every wrong, heal every wrong and give “beauty for ashes.” So, I asked my wise African friend: “What if you’re lactose intolerant?” She said, “Well, if you still find yourself tumbling, tumbling, tumbling downhill, know that there is an end to it. You will eventually reach the bottom, only to find yourself in a blueberry patch. So, get up, dust off and get busy eating blueberries!” What great advice!

So, for all who are still in the throes of tests, trials and tribulations, hang on! It’s not over yet. Our prayer for you is that your vat of cream-whipped-into-butter and blueberry snack are forthcoming. May all your deserts be turned into desserts!

Despite the challenges this year, we’ve also witnessed an abundance of the goodness of God. Check out the following program reports of our activities in 2020.

Our registration in Mozambique was stalled for two years (due to bureaucracy). Our visas were expiring, and we were not allowed to bring new staff into the country. Then Mozambique locked down tight when Covid hit. We then lost two nurses, which meant the baby nutrition program could still give out milk and weaning food to the babies but, without nurses, not medicine. But we soldiered on.

Thankfully, our registration process recently advanced to the point of now allowing us to invite new missionaries into Mozambique, so recruiting has resumed. With Covid being worldwide, however, people are less inclined to jump into a third-world nation. *“When he (Jesus) saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” Mat. 9:36-38.*

Meanwhile, our Children’s Program continues to grow. Anna, Abi and their building team were able to complete the building of a new classroom at our second school property. This expansion will accommodate the growth in that region (see report). And now we’re drawing up plans to build new office space at the primary facility. So, Covid, storms, and some local, violent political unrest made way for public health, relief efforts and other ways to share God’s goodness and love.

Read on to see the rest of the news!



Community Development Discipleship Program

Submitted by
Mariah McGlothlin



Some of the activity in the Community Health Education and Discipleship Program went on hold in January 2020 for two reasons: 1) Mariah shifted focus to the new finance and administration responsibilities of Africa 180, and 2) As she overcame the learning curve of those new responsibilities, the Coronavirus pandemic began to affect Mozambique.

CONAVIRUS EDUCATION OUTREACH After the first few cases of coronavirus were reported Mariah started a coronavirus awareness and prevention outreach to strategic areas in which the virus was most likely to spread. Between May and July, she and her assistant and educated roughly 200 families from 15 neighborhoods about the danger of the coronavirus and what individuals and families can do to prevent its spread. After alerting people that coronavirus was real and posed a risk to their communities, they demonstrated how to make a simple mask from available material, and how to build a handwashing station (tippy tap) for their homes. They also held some informal (and socially distant) gatherings around wells, and the majority of people responded with great interest.



The Biosand Filter fabrication site, which started construction in December 2019, and was completed in early 2020.

BIOSAND FILTER FABRICATION In August they began training a small team of Tariro Technical School graduates in biosand filter fabrication and installation. They were able to build seven filters, each as an experiment in technique and varying materials, with the aim of discovering best practices before we increase production. They also installed 3 of the filters in homes of colleagues, conducting periodic follow-up visits to verify how well the filters work over time, and to reinforce the maintenance procedures with the filters users.



Tariro Technical School
Graduates working on Filter
Fabrications as part of Mariah's
Outreach Team.

The other branches of the Community Health Education project are the facilitation of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) lessons and Discovery Bible Studies (DBS) in communities, so the team members are also being trained as trainers. Each week the team participates in Effective Facilitation Skills training, then they turn around and practice what they've learned as they prepare and deliver WASH lessons to peers.

SAWYER FILTER DISTRIBUTION In September the team learned of populations being displaced from the bush due to political unrest, who are settling into newly available land in the town of Goldola. These settlements do not have access to clean drinking water, they have started a weekly outreach to one of those new neighborhoods, called Bucurusi. In 9 weeks they have gradually distributed about 50 sawyer filters to families, providing hands-on training on how to use them, and following up with each new filter user. The follow-up visits have proven vital to the success of the filter users. The weekly outreach is also a valuable practical experience with community engagement and community development.



OUTREACH *Our consistent presence in Bucurui has established a level of trust between community members and ourselves. This has opened doors for us to start a discovery Bible Study with these community members each Friday afternoon. As the team becomes more confident leading the Bible Studies and engaging with the community, I will gradually step back and let them take the reins. I'm so very proud of my team; for their willingness to learn and grow, and for their compassion toward the people we reach out to. ~Mariah McGlothlin*

NumbersBetween May - July 2020



200 Homes in 15 Villages Heard about COVID-19 Prevention
25 Presentations in Public Gathering Places
50 Tippt Tapps were installed in Rural Homes and Public Spaces



Education Program

Submitted by
Anna Capener



PRESCHOOLS:

We had a good start to the year with many preschool students registered and attending our programs at both sites. Our Chipindaumwe school, which is now in its third year of operation had a much higher demand for students than expected. To meet this demand we were able to open one extra class, raising our student numbers from thirty to forty-five.

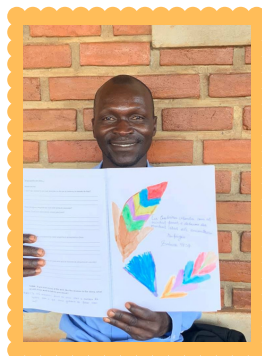
Sadly, on March 23rd the government announced that all schools would be closed for a period of thirty days due to the situation with Covid-19. At the end of the thirty days the situation was reviewed, and the closure extended for another thirty days. This has continued throughout the year; so, for the majority of the year we have been unable to run our programs.



A positive outcome of the closure of our preschools has been the discipleship classes that we have been able to run for our teaching staff. We ran a 'freedom in Christ' style course that ran for seven weeks followed by a study of the Beatitudes that ran for nine weeks. We received very positive feedback from the teachers, saying that they felt greatly encouraged and strengthened by the teaching. Many testimonies came back of how they went home and shared the teaching with their families, communities and churches. It has been wonderful to have the opportunity to invest in the spiritual lives of our teaching staff.



PRAYER POINTS: Due to Covid-19 our preschool registration process had to be put on pause as many government departments were closed. These documents have now been handed in and we are waiting to hear if we have our approved registration under Social Services



CHIPINDAUMWE



In July of this year Anna received a sum of money from a fundraiser that took place in the UK. She decided to use this money to help improve the government Primary School building that is adjacent to the preschool site in Chipindaumwe. During the time that we have been working in Chipindaumwe this school building has been in a very poor state, meaning that children cannot attend classes when it is raining or windy. The community built a simple structure which we were then able to help complete. The interior and exterior of the building were plastered to help extend the life of the walls which the community had joined with mud. Cement floor were poured, and a new roof was put on. Desks and benches were also made. The community were very grateful for the work that we put into this building. It will make a big difference to our preschool students who go on to study at this school when they leave our program.

During the year Anna has considered the growth of the preschool student numbers in Chipindaumwe and considered logistically how we can continue to cater for these numbers in the coming years. The two classrooms that we have at the site will limit the number of preschool students that we can teach going into 2021, as the graduate classroom will be in use all day. This will limit our preschool numbers to 30. With this in mind we are going ahead with a small building project, to build one extra classroom to house our graduate program. This frees the two original classrooms up to be used as preschool rooms, meaning that in the future we could potentially receive up to sixty students. It is hard to predict what will happen with the number of people living in the surrounding areas, but due to people fleeing the conflict in neighboring Pinanyanga, it seems likely that this area could continue to grow in population. People will also be attracted to the area by the developing infrastructure from Africa 180's work there (water pump, preschool, improved government primary school classrooms).

YOUTH CLUB

Our existing youth club continued meeting each week this year where the group of 15/16 year-olds came to learn about Jesus in a safe, secure and fun atmosphere. A second youth club for those slightly younger, 13/14 year-olds, also began. However, these clubs only ran for one month until Covid-19 restrictions.

OUTREACH & HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB

Our weekly kids' club continued at the Mussunsa site and was well attended and enjoyed by lots of children from the community until Covid-19 restrictions were implemented. This year, we decided to take the kids' club to a new locality, 6km down the road, in order to provide opportunity for a range of different children to learn about Jesus in fun and engaging ways. We were able to do one kids' club at this new location before the Covid-19 restrictions.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

The classes for primary-aged children were well attended when we started at the beginning of the year. Literacy and Bible classes continue at both sites, as well as mathematics at our Chipindaumwe site. Our two graduate teachers are now in their second year of teaching this program. It is pleasing to see how both are demonstrating more confidence in their teaching ability and are implementing strategies learned from the previous year. Due to Covid-19, this program has been unable to run since March. It has been a good opportunity to carry out some building maintenance due to not having children using the classrooms. Abi also received money from a primary school's fundraiser in the UK which she was able to use to re-paint the graduate rooms in Mussunsa and Chipindaumwe.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY CLASSES

We were unable to run our sex education classes for teenagers in our communities due to Covid-19 restrictions.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that everything our teachers have learnt through the discipleship program would impact them and that they would be filled with a great hunger and thirst for more of Jesus.
- Please pray that very soon in 2021 we are able to restart our programs. There is often a great deal of bureaucracy here.
- Pray we have favor from the right departments to reopen without delay.
- Continue to pray for our relationship with the Muslim community at our Mussunsa site. Pray that we have favor with the leaders and families and that their children are permitted to continue attending our programs.
- Pre-school registration - please pray we receive this without any problems. Also pray that after we receive registration we can continue to function as normal without any demands made (like having to alter our curriculum or approach).
- Continue to pray for great wisdom for Anna and Abi as they lead their educational programs. Pray that they would continue to have many opportunities to demonstrate the love of God and that eyes, ears and hearts would be open to receiving Jesus.

Numbers are status in program 2020 before closures



Creche students attending our education programs: 26

Preschool students attending our education programs: 98

Graduate students regularly attending our education programs: 115

Current Number of staff (full & part time) employed through the education programs in 2020 : 17



Tariro

Submitted by
Terri Cash



While the school year has been suspended since March 23rd, we have accomplished many tasks that have been set aside “for another day”. The following report will outline those projects completed and highlight student activities, amid a global pandemic.

We began this school year February 4, with a total of 58 students:

- 8 Agriculture students including 1 female student
- 50 Welding students including 5 female students

Uniforms, safety equipment and shoes had all been ordered, but not yet delivered.

In order to be as Covid compliant as possible we built cupboards for student uniforms, shoes and personal belongings per class group. We also built the same type of cupboard for the guards, securing 1 cupboard per person. Tippy-Taps were installed at every entrance to a classroom or workshop, a thermometer was purchased, and masks are required upon entry of our gate.

Not knowing how long the class suspension would last, we did the basic general maintenance on the 21 acres of property. By April we knew this was not going to end soon. Taking advantage of available recent graduates and the newly admitted students we replaced the entire 25 year old electric system on Tariro compound new cables, new poles, new connectors. This project took about 3 weeks and ended with a small celebration.

I started dividing the senior students and the junior students into teams with a graduate student as the leader and appointing a different student as “boss” every day. The boss is responsible for the keys to the storeroom and everything in it. He must sign out the needed material for each team as well as sign them back in at the end of the day. He is also required to oversee the kitchen, ensuring that is cleaned properly before leaving and returning the keys. This has been successful in preparing them to work with different people and be responsible for clean-up of their work site and the kitchen area.

Together these teams replaced the entire perimeter fence, including new posts, 5 strands of barbed wire. This job took about 2 weeks. These same teams cleaned the bush from our 18 acres of hard-wood forest. The forest is immaculate and now better resistant to fires.

The “rainy season” and “hunger season” was approaching, as well as an influx of new people in the community due to displacement by military unrest in a Paranyanga. The students spent a week in the community helping “widows and orphans” with home repairs, new plastic roofs covered with grass basically being the hands and feet of Christ.



The very next week a tornado-like storm hit our neighboring community to the west of us near the pipeline. The Tariro students quickly organized and eagerly helped repair roofs and homes. They were able to repair 77 houses. They also volunteered some time.

We have been practicing using our biggest muscle: the brain. We encourage them to recognize a need or opportunity, THINK about a project, make a plan, and then put the plan into action. In many ways it has been a difficult year, not know when things would return to normal or what normal will look like after 2020. Yet in many ways it has been a productive season!

We decided to add to our fruit grove. The Agriculture students, under the guidance of Alberto Julio (2019 graduate) has added 10 litchi trees and 10 Avocado trees. They have harvested seed from the forest and begun a nursery of hardwood trees soon to be ready to plant or sell. They also have plans to plant some pineapples in the next couple of weeks, weather permitting. A team of welding students have been busy designing and building an outdoor firepit and walkway at the main residence. While another team fenced a small veggie garden and built a kennel.

The main house has undergone a face lift as well. We're preparing to open the doors to travelers and train some students in the area of hospitality.

The national electric company is upgrading the nationwide system, but alas we are low on the list of connects and their line coming into our transform was damaged by a storm in November. This caused a surge to our borehole pump and power-box. Both needed to be replaced and are in good working condition.



2020 Student Stats

58 Total Number of Students
8 Agriculture Students
50 Welding Students



Baby Clinic Program

Submitted by
Tracy Evans



Presently, the Nutrition Program is joyfully serving about 450 babies. The clinic however, suffered some setbacks this year due to the following reasons:

- 1) For over two years we've been unable to issue new resident permits, as our re-registration process was incomplete. This stalled out a nurse that was planning on coming out to serve as well as our ability to recruit any new missionaries.. Due to government offices being closed during storms and Covid our re-registration process is still incomplete. However, we are far enough along that we can issue visa invitation letters. That is a major breakthrough and we rejoice in it!
- 2) We then lost two of our long term missionary nurses, both on November 17, 2019. This left our clinic with no medical expertise.
- 3) Having no registered nurse on site, we had to close the medical services at the clinic and proceed only with the milk/nutrition services and hospital transport.
- 4) More storms ripped through our region, flooding the area, which blocked several patients from traveling to the clinic.
- 5) Covid hit and Mozambican borders and public transportation closed.



We currently have about 450 babies on the Nutrition Program. The caregivers of these babies are still able to make their way to the Nutrition Program. Marta and Dionisia (two Mozambican ladies who have worked for years in the clinic) are managing as best they can until a new nurse comes to serve in the clinic. We have begun recruiting for nurses and other missionaries again as we know we can now issue visas, hallelujah!

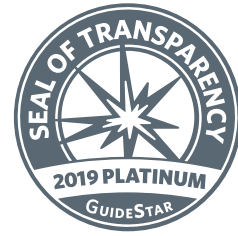
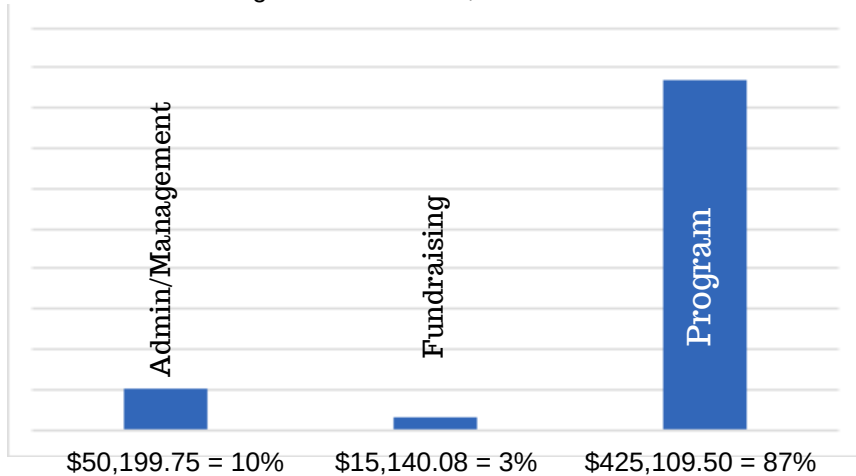
Despite these setbacks, as well as Covid, illness and storms, Mozambican staff and missionary staff morale is strong. We attribute the strength of our programs to God's goodness and grace. We have also restructured the staff this past year, and added discipleship classes to enrich the Mozambican staff.

Prayer Requests and Needs:

- **New Missionary Nurse(s)**
- **For our clinic Mozambican Staff; refreshed vision and a personal sense of mission/calling as they have been overwhelmed and struggling**
- **New Missionaries eager to serve two+ years in evangelism and/or church planting**

2020 Financials

Program Totals: \$490,449.33 = 100%



iReachAfrica holds the Platinum participation level through the GuideStar Exchange.

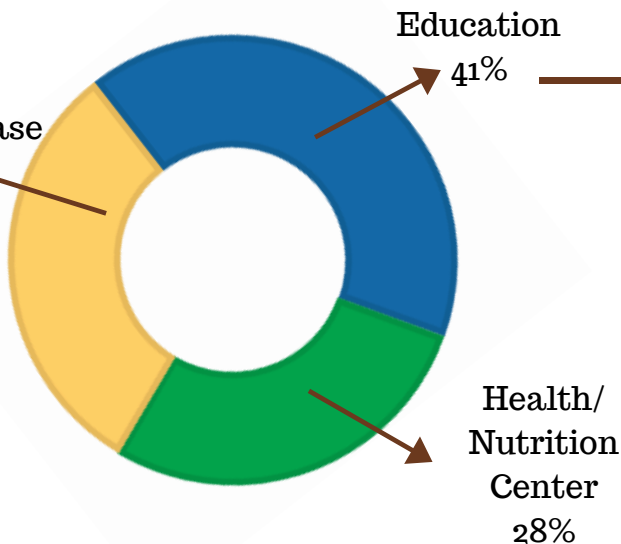
GuideStar USA collects and provides easy-to-understand information about each nonprofit's mission, legitimacy, reputation, finances, transparency, and governance.

View iReachAfrica's financials and reviews on GuideStar.

Program Breakdown

Missionary/MOZ Base
31%

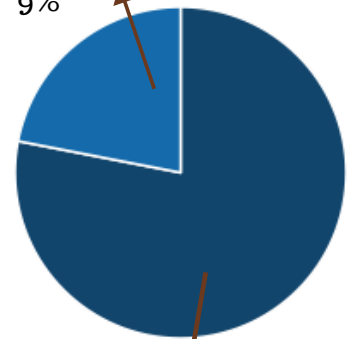
MOZ Base: 4 properties, 37 acres, 28 buildings (including clinics, VoTec shops, housing) 32 F/T Local Staff and Volunteer Missionaries



Education Programs Breakdown

Two Pre-Schools

9%



Tariro Vocational Training Center
32%



Thank You
for your
support during 2020!



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