

Hi to all!

Our small June 2009, medical / water mission, was a blessing to many people in TZ. The Babati District Water Council Engineer, Emanuel, had asked for 15 chlorination systems for their district. Mike Philips, formerly from Iowa, in association with John Hays, held meetings with the leaders from the 15 different villages that were to receive the chlorination systems. Mike demonstrated how to use the chlorination systems, then the village leaders were taught how to install the systems in their villages and to replicate the business system of Magugu. The system installed in Magugu has been operating for a year, with a medical report of no Chorea or Typhoid among the people who are using the water.

I, along with Sandy Washburn from Canada, and Dr. Jose from Mexico, finally got to work with Naomi in the Porta Doc. It is quite an experience. Many children were treated for various infections and ailments. Many new babies received their first set of inoculations and were weighed. Since the Porta Doc is designed to bring the doctor and medicine to the people, the women bring their children to a central meeting place to be examined. In one village they wait in a room in an old building which has a bench for the patients and a desk for Naomi. The floor is concrete but there is no window glass in the window. In Singa village they wait at a building which is used as a rural clinic. This building has benches for the mamas to sit on and a table with 2 chairs for the nurses to sit to fill out their paperwork. The inoculation room only has a bench. Some vials for inoculations are sitting on the floor. The maternity room now has 2 beds. While visiting with the midwife, I was told that the women of Ilunda Ward are now being "fined" if they do not go to a medical facility to birth their babies. This means to the clinic in Singa or to a hospital. This is to prevent the problems in birth and to lower the death rate of mother and baby. There were several pregnant women who came for their check up while we were with Naomi. One mama was carrying her baby breech and was told that she had to go to the hospital at Nkungi for her next checkup. This is to keep all births which might end in a complication at the hospital. If they don't for see a problem, the mama can come to the clinic at Singa. When a mama comes in to deliver, the midwife will come attend them.

There is a lot of construction going on in Nkungi Village, the villagers are still working on one more teachers' house, and two are complete. The girl's dorm is progressing slowly. I was excited to see the computer lab is up and functioning. The Phil Harris and the San Diego team set this up when they were here earlier this year. Now I would like to get the e grainery package from Iowa City along with Cliff Missen and some students to come and install it. E grainery is the internet in a container about the size of an 8 track cassette. With this program the students will not have to have satellite connection to get internet.



September 13, 2009, we were back on another short trip. Tim and Jan Myslajec from Myslajec Accounting Firm in Minnesota and Dan Rishavy from Florida, was with us. Tim and Jan will be doing the Outreach audit. The intention was to introduce Tim and Jan to the programs in Tanzania. It was important for them to see firsthand what is happening in the areas we are working. They are excited with the the progress of the programs and will be working further with Outreach.

We spent a day at Babati and Magugu. The sand filtration, chlorination system which Outreach installed in 2008 at the village of Magugu, has eliminated Cholera and Typhoid, created 6 new jobs, and made money for the village. They have put in additional water spickets and improved their water supply lines. They are teaching other villages how to manage the system so it can be duplicated elsewhere.

In Singida we toured the Regional Hospital, Patti Griffith gave us a tour of the new lab, which Abbot Labs was responsible for. This lab will be beautiful and was open the end of October. We went into the new born ward and the tiny room they use for the primes. There were two little ones in a crib. I was so glad to see that one of the cribs which were sent over on our container had replaced a box on the floor. They still have an open light bulb to heat the crib, but at least they are not on the floor.

We then went out to the new Singida Referral Hospital site. It was so exciting to actually see the construction! We met the foreman and saw the new drawings. When we are at home in Iowa it is hard to imagine the work actually going on, but it was! I am anxious to see what will be finished when we return with the medical team in March.

We quickly visited the Kids Center in Singida so Tim and Jan could understand the building concept and size of the feeding center which Outreach is planning to duplicate at Manyoni. We then drove to Manyoni. Manyoni is a truck stop which is half way between two major cities, which results in high levels of HIV/AIDS, orphans, and street children. The drive is long and dusty with all the road construction. We met with District Commissioner Ali Rufunga and went to the building site for the Kids Center. The plot has ready access to water and electricity and is accessible to the schools in the area. The land is ready to be cleared of brush and leveled off.

We hope all the paper work is in place so construction can begin this fall. There are 2,100 children at this time, being feed the Kids Against Hunger meals at different church or school locations in the area.

We went to Nkungi Village to show everyone where we started. Head Master Omari gave us a tour through the Gunda Secondary School, computer lab, girls' dorm, and the demonstration farm. We went to the well house, to see the chlorination system and wind generator. We saw Retired Bishop Zephania Gunda, and Sara Kitwaka, It is always good to see them again. The school was Zephaniah's dream, and Sara has helped me so much with the baskets. They are both great friends and wonderful people. I was so impressed with all the changes in Nkungi. There are two sunflower pressing mills now. New homes are springing up everywhere. I said to Mbigi, "Nkungi is really growing", he answered "yes we are going to be a big city". I had such mixed emotions, losing the remote little village with no electricity, where we began, but such excitement for all they have gained. We spoke to Omari, the head master, about the distance learning, which Dan is working on, and how it could help the students and the Gunda School. This could be an incredible addition; they are always short on teachers and teaching materials.



We took Jan, Tim and Dan back to the Kids Center in Singida to see the children and all that happens here. We spent some time with the children. They sang for us and then ate their lunch of the meals Outreach sends over to them. The chlorination system at the Kids Center is working great. Sister Hilda checks the water every day and takes good care of the children so they stay healthy.

Jan and I went fabric shopping, then she and Tim left for a short safari while Floyd, Dan, and I finished up with meetings with Regional Commissioner Kone, in Singida.

Serifully met us at Singida with many more brass bracelets and bead necklaces for us. I brought many new styles back. You may remember Serifully from our very first visit. Some of you have helped him with his tuition to go to school. He speaks English now and is a good business man. Thank you to everyone who helped him and the other children you are sponsoring.

Back in Arusha, we met with Robert from the village of Kissi in Kenya. He brought many soapstone carvings for us. We had ordered a large soapstone statue for the Norman Borlaug history/learning center. It is beautiful! We actually got it home without breaking it, whew!

Here it is 2010! Happy New Year to everyone! I hope this finds you happy and healthy in spite of all our cold weather and the economic situation.

Outreach has been busy with the medical team members planning for the April medical mission. We now have two teams going, (approx 90 surgeons, nurses, doctors, and support staff), with an overlap of a couple days. Many of the specialists from the pediatric mission are returning as well as some of the "old timers". We are so excited about all the wealth of knowledge which will be available to the people and doctors in Tanzania. Our doctors will be learning from the National doctors as well as having educational sessions for them. A new thing this year will be the availability of eye glasses. Pam Schwalbach from Wisconsin, will be helping the Nationals with getting glasses.

Dr. Rwezaura spent three weeks in Iowa in November, helping to gather medical equipment for the new referral hospital in Singida. Two container loads of equipment were sent for the new referral hospital. One was sent for the Singida hospital for the medical teams use.

Thank you to everyone for your interest and help in making the work in Tanzania possible.

It never fails to amaze me at the progress that has taken place, and I am thankful for each and every one of you. Without you and your support we could not have made a difference!

May you be blessed in this wonderful New Year!

Warmest regards,

Kathy & Floyd

We are sending a container of food to Haiti. If you wish to help, please give us a call.

Thank you!!