

**Villagers waiting for services at Chikwizo one room clinic before renovation.**



## Weekly Lenten Calendar 2021 The Nyadire Connection Rural Health Clinics



**Natalie & Jessie's "Polar Plunge" fundraiser**

**Outdoor Health Clinic**



**Chikwizo Clinic Renovated**



**Tim and Sandy sorting bricks made by community members.**

Have you ever needed to go to a minute clinic when you felt sick or fell and got hurt? In the US, we are used to hopping in a car and zipping to see a nurse whenever we need to - we can even do virtual doctor appointments on Zoom! Most people in rural (rural means out in the country, away from cities) don't own a car. If they need to see a doctor, they must walk many miles to get to a clinic. Pregnant women usually walk to a clinic a month or more before their babies are due. They live there, cooking meals in an outdoor hut, until it is time for the babies to be born - so they are sure to be there in time.

For more info on Natalie and Jesse's project go to... <https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/the-adventure-for-clinics/#/> Be sure to click on the link "continue reading".

Sunday 3/21	Monday 3/22	Tuesday 3/23	Wednesday 3/24	Thursday 3/25	Friday 3/26	Saturday 3/27
<p><b>Pray for all people needing medical assistance that will be helped at the clinics.</b></p>	<p><b>Give 10¢ if you know someone who has had malaria. Give 25¢ you don't.</b></p> <p>Many, many Zimbabweans have had malaria.</p>	<p><b>Give 50¢ if you have seen an ambulance.</b></p> <p><i>At Nyadire ox carts are often used as ambulances. (see picture on back page)</i></p>	<p><b>Give 50¢ if you rode in a car for your last trip to the doctor.</b></p> <p><i>In rural Zimbabwe most people do not own a car. They must walk</i></p>	<p><b>Give 10¢ each time you flushed a toilet today.</b></p> <p><i>TNC's hope is to have flush toilets at the clinics.</i></p>	<p><b>Give 5¢ for each time you turned a switch today and a light came on.</b></p> <p><i>Clinics have limited or no electricity.</i></p>	<p><b>Give 25¢ if you did not thank God yesterday for being healthy.</b></p>

**RURAL HEALTH CLINICS**...Nyadire Hospital is responsible for six rural health clinics, each serving up to 8,000 people in the local community. These clinics are the primary medical care facility for people with malaria, cholera, hepatitis, AIDS and other infectious diseases. Most villagers don't own vehicles, so they must walk many miles to get to the clinics. A high percentage of women deliver their babies at these clinics. Pre- and post-natal counseling is provided, as well as immunizations for babies and children. Despite their critical importance, the clinics have been in various stages of disrepair, with no running water, flush toilets or electricity, and not enough space to properly serve their patients.

Several years ago, TNC began a program to renovate the clinics, in partnership with Nyadire and the Zimbabwe Ministry of Health. Since then, four of the six clinics have been refurbished and are now providing significantly enhanced medical care to the local populations.

**WHAT WE DO**...TNC has joined with the Nyadire mission and the Zimbabwe Ministry of Health to fund and coordinate the renovation projects, which cost about \$320,000 per clinic. TNC has enabled Nyadire to contract with a local builder who, in turn, hires a local work force to rebuild each clinic. Throughout the construction process, TNC and Nyadire representatives regularly monitor and communicate to ensure quality control and on-time, on-budget projects.

Typical renovations have included:

- Separate male and female wards, examination and treatment rooms, a drug storage room, a pre-and postnatal care ward. Most of these facilities did not previously exist at the clinics
- Housing for the nursing staff as well as newly constructed waiting mothers' dormitories and cooking huts
- Clean water and an upgraded electrical system
- A security fence around the clinic
- An incinerator and waste disposal facility



**SWEAT EQUITY:** The local villagers have shown tremendous commitment to the building of the clinics, providing more than 75,000 hand-made bricks for each clinic site. Each brick is hand made in sets of three and fired in a kiln made by stacking the bricks into a dome. One community was so eager to see their clinic built, they provided bricks two years in advance of their projected start date!

**A THANK YOU - Hannah Mafunda**, Health Coordinator of the Zimbabwe Episcopal Area Health Board, has been a local partner and a major champion of the clinic project. Hannah shared these words of thanks for TNC's efforts:

"As a Zimbabwean and a Christian, it gives me unspeakable joy to see those rural patients getting healthcare service at a clinic like Chikwizo and Nyahuku. It gives me pleasure seeing those folks getting treated in dignified, private, clean and state of the art facilities. I do not want to tell those people that Jesus Christ loves them but I want them to **see** the love of Christ in those clinics when they are being treated."

**TATENDA!**