

Casa Reom Latest News July 2020

Casa Reom Covid-19

The number of Covid-19 cases in Mozambique is still relatively low, although testing is not as extensive as in western countries. The highest number of Covid-19 cases are in the north of Mozambique in Cabo Degado (where the fighting has been escalating) and in Nampula province (the Mozambique health service website provides daily updates on testing and tracking - <http://www.misau.gov.mz/index.php/covid-19-boletins-diarios>). The province where Casa Reom is located, Sofala, has only around 20 confirmed cases and no deaths so far. One of the main problems is the effect that the lockdown rules are having on the economy as well as people not believing the advice (because the number of cases is low) and so ignoring the rules.

Boys

Casa Reom is still in lockdown with the Escola Reom school closed and the boys remaining within the compound at Inhamizua. There is plenty time for recreation but the staff are also trying to get the boys to do more gardening, planting and watering the vegetable plot on the site. Being able to grow food is a skill the staff are keen that all boys attain in an economy that is still largely agricultural. The work of Casa Reom has been continuing at other levels despite the compound being closed. One of the older boys, Seven, has been re-integrated with family members while the brothers and sisters of another younger boy, Milagre, have been found. Searching for extended family members is an ongoing work at Casa Reom. When family are found a process of communication begins, with the chance to be re-united and to find more about the boys background. If it is felt that the boy's family can look after him, and guarantee his schooling is completed, then the process of re-integration will begin. In some cases it will be better for the boy to complete his education at Casa Reom and specifically helping him get a vocational qualification that could secure a job and income before going to live with other family members.

Pedro, who completed his medical training in 2019 and started training within the Police at the beginning of this year will soon complete this course and is looking to be placed in a medical position within Sofala's Police force.

Staff

Nelio and Tabita and their family, who joined Casa Reom a year ago are enjoying the new addition to their family, a little girl called Hiner (means Light) who arrived on the 8 May. They were also given a gift to buy land and build a house outside of the Casa Reom compound which they feel is best for their grown up family and will reduce their expenses when rents are high and all YWAM staff have to raise their own support. Nelio and Tabita's older daughter, Nelvia (aged 14), has been helping her Dada making facemasks which the family sell to local people. Oliveira and Angelica are now home-schooling their daughters which has been a positive experience for them as a family, despite the ongoing pressures at this time.

Casa Reom Latest News July 2020

Building Work

The closure of the Casa Reom site at Inhamizua has allowed some of the planned maintenance work to continue more swiftly. All of the glass in windows and doors that was damaged during the cyclone in 2019 has now been replaced and the carpenters are now making tables and chairs for the new dining room. Plans are being drawn up for the final buildings on the site which will complete a project started in 2004. This includes staff accommodation and offices as well as an additional sanitary block for use by school children.

Meanwhile, work on YWAM's town centre building is almost complete. When the building was badly damaged in the cyclone an international appeal by YWAM raised enough money to re-build and refurbish this site in what is a prime city centre location. While this is not strictly part of Casa Reom it can be used by Teams visiting Casa Reom as well as provide a facility for other initiatives by YWAM to provide income.

Appeals

All of the money raised during the Cyclone appeal has now been used to help repair the damage caused by the cyclone and also invest in the lives of local people whose lives were devastated by the event. Our "Raising 1000" appeal to gain new regular financial supporters who can commit to help Casa Reom after the cyclone, has now reached 27% of its target. If you know of anyone else who would like to help in this way please encourage them to sign up.

Thank you again to you all for your interest and support!

Iain

(on behalf of Casa Reom Trust)