

This month you will notice that we have freshened up the look of our newsletter and given it a new name, we hope you like the change?

Change can sometimes be a scary thing but I believe it is a positive thing; when done carefully and for the right reasons.

In the coming months we will be making some adjustments to our current and future projects.

These changes are aimed at ensuring that that we can achieve our goals with efficiency and sustainability.

This process may be painful, but ultimately we will be better placed to help more people and more communities in need in the long-term.

Finally, can I ask that you particularly pray for the two containers that are sitting in Zimbabwe, we need a breakthrough! See below for details.



James
Jason James
Executive Director

Vital Volunteers

Volunteers are a cornerstone of our organisation, without their support we would not be able to function. We are grateful to all those who give time on our medical teams, time and energy to gather, pack and sort for our Containers of Hope project and of course our office volunteers.

Tracey Murfit is our secretary and Treasurer and Gerrie Vandeppeer helps with admin and fundraising. These two busy mothers give up a lot of their time to assist our organisation. It is good to acknowledge them and say a huge THANK YOU!

Containers of Hope 2010

Our two containers arrived safely in Bulawayo but unfortunately they are still held by Customs. We have been working with our contacts over there to resolve this problem.

Please pray for a quick resolution without any further bureaucracy and unjust costs.

Zimbabwe medical team

Unfortunately in April four key members of this team were forced to pull out for various reasons. With booking deadline looming we were left with no choice but to cancel this trip.

We had advertised nationally for team members but still had trouble getting a good balanced team.

We are now planning to expand September's team to Zimbabwe and are currently looking for one experienced doctor and a nurse.

ED travel to Zimbabwe

Jason James and Stuart De Munck will be travelling to Zimbabwe in June to meet with several potential project partners to further assess our options for a long term health project.

Please pray for this trip and for their families left behind in Australia.

Staffing needs in India

In March's newsletter we reported about the appointment of a "Social Concerns Coordinator" in Bangalore. Unfortunately this was not successful and the position is now vacant again. Filling this position is vital for our ongoing work at Kandili.

We are also still seeking a Doctor willing to visit the clinic on a fortnightly basis to support our permanent staff. Please pray for Rev Jayakumar as he works to fill both these key positions.

Medical Director's visit to Kandili

Dr John Edwards our Medical Director travelled to India in March /April. He had a good trip encouraging our clinic staff and developing a partnership with Bethesda Hospital in Ambur.

We have been able to send several patients to this hospital where they received a good standard of care at a significantly lower cost than at our partner hospitals in Bangalore.

We would like to strengthen this partnership to improve health outcomes for the people in Kandili.



TOP: Gerrie (back) and Tracey—two of our office volunteers. BELOW: John Edwards at Bethesda Hospital, Ambur.

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