



Message from the President



A brand-new year. What will 2017 bring?

My job as President of MDIM, according to leadership literature, is to set direction for the organization. However, in MDIM we do that collaboratively, so it's not **my** job, but **our** job. And, indeed, we do sit down, evaluate what we did well and not so well, set goals for the upcoming year, then query whether our goals are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-labeled. All that good stuff.

But when we're finished, we as a board lay it all in God's hands. And sometimes He has surprises which may not be in our plans at all. We make *realistic* goals, but God is in the miracle business.

So, I vow to you, our supporters, and to the MDIM Board, and to all our many Mozambican friends, that as President, I will work as hard as I can in 2017 to achieve our man-made goals, BUT, I will also stay alert to God's surprises. What an exciting thought for the coming year! I hope you will be a part of seeing what He will do through us.

"We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps." Proverbs 16:9 (NLT)

Jackie Watkins

Jackie Watkins is married to the love of her life, David. They have two children, a son and a daughter. Her daughter's call from God to visit Mozambique is what brought Jackie to Chicuque in 2008. Instead of being a passive chaperone, Jackie invested her heart in the Mozambican friends she met. She became co-chair, then chairperson of her church's Mozambique mission work, then continued her involvement through MDIM in its infancy. She accepted the reins as president of MDIM in January 2015, a responsibility fueled by passion, while also working in the "real" world, where she is now COO of All Day Industrial Painting, Inc.

Cyclone Dineo Leaves Widespread Destruction

From David McCormick, Global Health Missionary (UMC), Mozambique

On February 15, Cyclone Dineo made landfall on the Inhambane Province. This storm brought winds in excess of 120 miles an hour. The roofs of many of the hospital's support buildings were ripped off. Access to the hospital by road is temporarily closed due to down trees. As a blessing from God, our infirmaries sustained minimal damage and are able to treat patients.

Damage to the traditional homes is prolific; many roofs, walls and fences collapsed or blew away from wind gusts. There have been a few deaths and as of now there is no power and no running water, which is crucial in the aftermath to position the community to avoid disease and instability.

God is present, even in this disaster. We see people rallying, helping, and giving what little they have to others. Please pray for Chicuque Hospital and the people of Inhambane as we find ways to rebuild. We are seeking emergency relief from UMCOR, and we will keep everyone posted on this process. As our partners and support team, we ask for your love, understanding, and to be open to future plans of how to help.



Chicuque Rural Hospital (pictured before the cyclone), located in the Inhambane province, serves a regional population of more than 500,000 people.

Born Businessman Earns a Living Despite Adversity

Custódio Alfiado Mucavele is a 29-year-old small business owner from the Mangonha village in Massinga. Born healthy, he developed a disease at age 5 that caused acute flaccid paralysis in his legs. During his long illness, his father abandoned him and his mother and baby brother.

Although he was educated only through grade 7, Custódio began early in life to buy and sell things in his community. When he was 12, he started his first business from his home, while he was still weak and wheelchair-bound from his illness: selling matches and kerosene for lamps. The profit he earned helped his mother pay for his younger brother's school expenses. As time passed and his health condition improved, he hired laborers to build a small store out of local materials, where he expanded his products to include groceries, detergent, cosmetics, and children's clothing and shoes. His mother died when he was 18, and he continued to support himself from the profits of his store.



Today, Custódio's innate business instinct proves strong despite the current economic crisis in

Mozambique. He improved his store's infrastructure, giving it metal walls and roof. In addition, since the national electricity supply does not reach his village, Custódio leased a solar panel electric system where his customers can charge their cell phones, and bought a freezer to sell cold sodas.

His vision includes increasing his store's inventory to reduce delivery costs, maximize his buying power to offset increasing prices in Massinga, and ensure his products are continuously available to his customers. Custódio embodies the perseverance and trustworthiness MDiM aims to support. His success is potential employment for other Mozambicans.❖

Custódio's estimated expenses to increase his inventory are shown below.

Note: Massinga is in the center of the cyclone-damaged area; rebuilding may be needed before expansion plans continue.

Item	MZN	USD
Groceries (food items)	17,500	\$230
School supplies	9,500	\$125
Sodas	9,000	\$118
Detergents	6,500	\$ 86
Cosmetics	7,000	\$ 92
Other: cooking oil, matches, candles	9,000	\$119
TOTAL	58,000	\$770

Your donations help entrepreneurs like Custódio, who provides goods for his entire community.

The extent of cyclone damage is not yet known, including its effect on Custódio's store.

Visit mdim.org to help rebuild after the storm.

Like Mozambique Development in Motion on Facebook.

Education Update

All six Africa University (AU) students who are on scholarship from friends of MDiM made a 3.0 or better for the first semester – at a college where classes are taught in English, after having been taught in Portuguese for grades 1-12! Their grades are:

Student	1 st Semester Grade	Cumulative GPA
Paulino Uache	3.90	2.87
Hilario (Hillary) Maccuacua	3.28	3.25
Hilario Sumbwane	3.42	3.03
Piedade Massassane	3.10	2.80
Olga Pedro	3.14	3.14
Edipo Damiao	3.33	3.33

In addition, both Hilarios and Paulino have secured internships for the second semester with ENH, a national oil and gas company in Mozambique. Way to go, students!

The Widow's Mite *by Barbara Williams*



Ruth is an 85-year-old widow, living by herself, mostly on social security. She spends her time at the local nursing home, visiting people and adding a word of encouragement.

When she receives a small amount from an investment, she quietly slips a \$50 or \$100 bill into the hands of an MDiM representative with the instructions to “use the funds where God can do the most good.”

In a previous issue of this newsletter, we introduced a young boy in Chicunque named Rungo, who was born HIV positive, whose mother died shortly after his birth and whose father initially abandoned him, leaving an elderly grandmother to take care of

him. His future wasn't very bright. But God had a plan for Rungo.



Do you see where this story is going? The money that Ruth provides is sent to Rungo: Ruth and Rungo – an unlikely pair, but a combination of love and need.

You could be the next person to feel a nudge from God to help others. There are more Rungos out there.

Update on Rungo: he is 13, his father is periodically involved in his life, his grandmother has since died, his older brother helps provide care, his health has improved, raising his immune system to a level that he no longer requires the HIV drugs, and MDiM, through Amman and generous donors, continues to share God's love with Rungo, providing shoes, food, and general supplies.

MDiM will use your donations, like they use Ruth's, to bless known people or causes.

MDiM Says “No” to Dead Aid

MDiM agrees with the truths laid out in Dambisa Moyo's book ***Dead Aid***, namely that well-intended aid to Africa has led to corruption and dependency rather than to self-sufficiency for Africans.

MDiM recognizes the difficulty of being wise in a third-world country and seeks in every way to do the opposite of that laid out in *Dead Aid*.

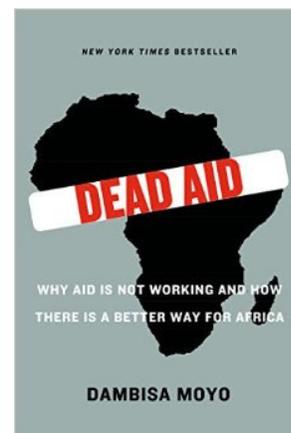
How?

With respect to corruption, our “boots on the ground” project coordinator, Amandio Fabiao, has been a friend for 19 years and has proven his trustworthiness.

He keeps meticulous records of all MDiM funds sent and disbursed. He sends pictures, and MDiM members go visit (at their own expense) to see for themselves.

Before donating to any project, they ask: *Will there be any unintended consequences? Is this project sustainable? Will it lead to long-term self-sufficiency of Mozambicans?*

They invite you –donors, readers, and prayer partners – to hold them accountable.



Distance Mentoring Offers Another Way to Learn

Every student on an MDIM scholarship – 8th grade through university – has a Distance Mentor.

What, you ask, is a Distance Mentor? A Distance Mentor is an American counterpart for these Mozambique scholarship students, offering them invaluable exposure to and practice using the English language (which is not their native language but is the language of instruction at AU, and knowing English opens doors that are otherwise closed to these students).

MDiM does not simply provide dollars when a student is chosen for a scholarship. The goal is to assist that student in every way possible from 8th grade through 12th and then on to economic self-sufficiency. So, the actual dollars are important, since students need uniforms, school supplies, and money for school fees. But beyond that, these students receive Amandio Fabiao's coaching, caring, tutoring, and disciplining; Gaspar's after-school English classes; and Distance Mentoring.

Pictured is Brooke Hurlbut, coordinator of the distance mentoring program. Most current mentors are students at Texas State University and thus are close in age to the Mozambican scholarship students. These Distance Mentors help scholarship recipients with English grammar. They are not trained teachers; instead, their primary requirement is simply to communicate with their student on a regular basis. This connection broadens the world of a young Mozambican in a rural environment. Imagine how special this connection makes them feel! These students do not own computers nor have ready access to them, but they eagerly go to Amandio's office and borrow his to communicate with their Distance Mentor.



Join the volunteer team going to Mozambique
Summer 2017

Find out more about how your talents
and gifts can bless others.

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