



# Planting Hope International

“Improving agriculture, education, and health in developing countries”

**January 2021 Newsletter.** Hello from Floyd and Gayle Dowell and Planting Hope International!



The COVID pandemic continues to affect all countries where we work. Early in 2020 we began shifting some of our funding to supplying food aid to the families and communities where we have been working. Although we don't typically provide food aid since we prefer to support projects that promote sustainability, we could not ignore the crisis facing many families in these communities. Since schools were closed in much of 2020, we used those tuition funds to provide for the basic food needs for families in Africa and Asia. We also provided funds to clinics and hospitals to help them with their urgent needs.



Students at Africa University in Zimbabwe

**Education.** Although many schools closed completely, some like Africa University quickly moved to online learning and also took extra precautions for in-class learning. The picture above shows a young lady we support from the Democratic Republic of Congo and who is attending Africa University in Zimbabwe. We support several scholarships at this University and they do a good job of recruiting excellent students and helping them find jobs after graduation. We also provide tuition for many younger students and we helped fund a library in Kenya that specifically helps young girls stay in school. To date we have supported over 180 students.

**Medical Support.** We had a request from the Rotary Club in Kathmandu, Nepal, to purchase a High Flow Nasal Cannula breathing machine to treat COVID patients. A good friend we have in Nepal helped us donate the instrument to the hospital on behalf of our charity. We also continue to support a clinic at Eden Children's Village in Zimbabwe as they help many people in their surrounding community through their clinic at the village and through their mobile clinic. We also helped with some specific medical needs of individuals.

**Food Aid.** In addition to the food aid we provided for the families of students we support, we helped a village in the Nepal Himalayas. This area had been devastated by the earthquake several years ago and had only recently rebuilt. The area depends heavily on tourism, so when trekking stopped due to the pandemic, they were again in a difficult situation. We were able to provide food for the entire village for one month.



**Agriculture.** We continue to support "Business as Missions" work in Laos through funding "Harvest Centers". These are village-level grain harvesting, drying, storage and feed making systems. They are designed to supply the missing parts of the animal husbandry system at the village level. The goal is to increase village level productivity and increase the farmer's ability to care for his family and others in his community.



*Distributing food in Nepal*

**What are our current and future plans?** Schools are now open in most of the areas where we work so we are again paying tuition for students. We do plan to continue to expand this part of our ministry as we continue to feel this is a good way to have a long-term impact in these countries.

We welcome your contributions as we continue Planting Hope in lives around the world. We continue to operate on less than 1% overhead cost so that all your donations go directly to projects we support. You can contribute through our website or send a check to Planting Hope International at the address below.

For more information contact:  
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*James 1:27, 2:18 "care for the orphans and widows . . . show your faith through your works"*