



September 2020

THANK YOU AUSTRALIA!

\$27,770 has been donated for EMERGENCY FOOD for deaf families



Kenya - Food gifts

Lack of food has been an extreme problem for our deaf students and their families during this COVID lockdown. Many families only eat one meal most days; and during lockdown some had no food in their homes when the teachers visited with food gifts.

Some grandmothers who have full care and responsibility for their deaf grandchildren were in tears of thanks. Our deaf families who are struggling



Philippines - Ligao food gifts



Uganda - Food gifts

to feed their children are extremely grateful to all our supporters.

The cost of food in Kenya, Uganda and The D.R. Congo increased greatly last March when outdoor markets were suddenly shut down. Most of our deaf families cannot afford to go to supermarkets! Some of our students even walked long distances back to school by themselves to ask for food! The farm at Ligao in the Philippines has also provided bags of rice, coconuts, chickens and plant crops from the harvest for the needy families there. Now, 6 months later, many people still have no work during this pandemic and cannot afford to buy food.

www.deafmin.org/deaf-action/

Beni School - The D.R. Congo KITCHEN AND LUNCH APPEAL

The need for food at our Beni School in The Congo is a very big concern. Many of the children walk nearly 2 km to and from school every day and often have no breakfast! We need to start a LUNCH PROGRAM so the children have one good meal every school day!

They also need \$2000 AUD to build a kitchen & \$1000 AUD for cooking and eating utensils. We would be very grateful for your donations towards this special project.

TO DONATE:

www.deafmin.org/donate or

See alternate payment details on the back page



There are nearly 100 students aged from 5 to 20 years old in Primary Grades 1 to 5 attending the school in Beni, D.R. Congo. Most had not attended a school for the deaf until last year when the school was opened. Many students are years behind in their learning compared to other children.

The farming families are poor and some have moved into towns to live and for their safety. Rebel groups have raided and killed many farmers in the D.R. CONGO over the last 5 years. They raid the farms and steal crops etc. at night time! We really need to give these children lunch so they are not hungry and can concentrate in school before they walk home again.



All Schools were Closed by their National Governments in March

The school year in the PHILIPPINES was just finishing and Graduation ceremonies were rushed through or postponed, but the students were able finish the school year! Their annual holidays are in April and May so they had the least disruption to learning. MYANMAR has the same holidays as the Philippine schools. MUIR SCHOOL started classes again in July. However the government has just now re-closed the school because there is a 2nd wave in Myanmar!

In KENYA, and UGANDA the school year starts at the beginning of the calendar year and those students commenced school as usual. But the lockdown and curfew in March was very severe and food doubled and tripled in price! Our deaf families could not afford to buy food! Our teachers and leaders bought food in bulk using the

FOOD APPEAL money and gave food to these families. Some children had to stay at St. Mary's School in Uganda. They were cared for by the headmistress and teachers who live at the school! So, THANK YOU again for your special donations for Food Emergency.



Uganda - St Mary's school receiving food gifts

MYANMAR - Muir School for the Deaf



Myanmar - handwashing at the gate

Government rules about returning to school are different in each country. All our schools are trying to continue education in some way, but no schools are fully open.

Muir School, in MYANMAR re-started in July and continued for 2 months until the end of August when the government closed it again due to a 2nd coronavirus wave! Temperature taking and hand sanitation were needed at the entrance gate of the school, and in the kitchen and dining room! The school was told to build another bathroom and toilet and make other changes to buildings! Boys' and girls' dormitories have been swapped, so now the boys have the big dormitory and the children are not too close together when sleeping.

Thank you to the sponsors who have paid their sponsorship for 2020 because the students did attend school earlier in the year and money was needed for building changes. Classes might start again in October but we do not know yet. Most families had sufficient food because many families live on farms in the Kalay area and can grow their own food, especially rice.



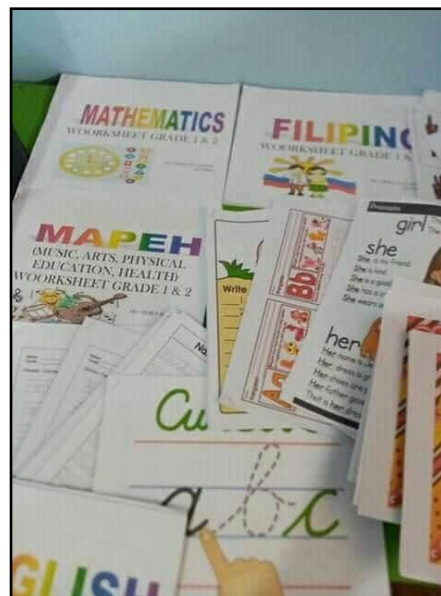
Myanmar - bathrooms

PHILIPPINES - Ligao - Fishermen of Christ Learning Center



Teachers printing work sheets

The schools in the Philippines were allowed to start 'learning from home' in July, but most of our families do not have home computers! This means the teachers worked at school wearing masks where they printed work sheets and made 'Learning Modules' for students at home. They have been very busy and are very tired because it has meant much more work for them. The Philippine Education Department also had demanding "reporting requirements" that teachers had to send to the government online. We are very grateful to the Directors and teachers for their many hours of work at school!





DMI SHOP

Support DMI & Deaf Action
by purchasing merchandise
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Click on the 'Shop' link

PHILIPPINES - Davao - Deaf Ministries Institute

Government regulations have allowed enrolment online and the completion of written work over the internet. But the practical work will need to be done at school later this year. This should suit the High School students who can do the written work on a computer at home if

they have one! Internet access is better in Davao. Then the practical work of learning pastry and baking, and massage and beauty care will be started when they return to school later in the year.



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For online enrollment:
<https://www.facebook.com/DEAFMinistriesDavao>



Supplied by DMI Institute - Philippines

PHILIPPINES - Bacolod Dormitory

The students just had time to complete their school year in March before schools closed. Gemer, Justine and Rizza graduated from Senior High School and also completed 'On The Job Training' in Hotel and Restaurant Service. They hope to gain employment when businesses open again. The younger students also completed study for the year, but parents are keeping their children at home

for now because students would need to quarantine for 2 weeks if they returned to Bacolod!!

The Naturally Negros farm and shop at Dumaguete has temporarily closed because the tourist resorts in the area have also closed, but they are delivering to some long standing customers.

KENYA - Ringa - Immanuel Christian School for the Deaf



Nearly all of the families at this school have been hard hit by lockdown and curfew. Very few parents have on-going work so hunger is a problem for their families. Some of the students walked back to school to ask for food when families had no food for their next meal! Sponsorship and Food Appeal donations have been used to buy food for them. The Principal and teachers personally delivered food to many needy families. Paw paws and vegetables from the school farm were included in the food gifts.

The toilet block at school has now been upgraded with running water for hand washing. There were no hand basins in the toilet block before! The children just used a dish of water but hand washing is very important now that the world has coronavirus. The chicken project has started again with money donated last Christmas but



the chickens are still too young to eat! The school is very grateful for the new land purchased with the donation from Kathi in Japan and it now has a fence. No schools in Kenya are allowed to open yet due to the pandemic.



COVID-19 has had an impact on all of us around the world. Some countries have been impacted more than others, but every country has felt the effects. Many people who DMI support in developing countries are struggling harder than most. Lockdown for them means no work, no income, no food. We are launching an appeal to raise much needed funds to give these people access to staples to feed their families.

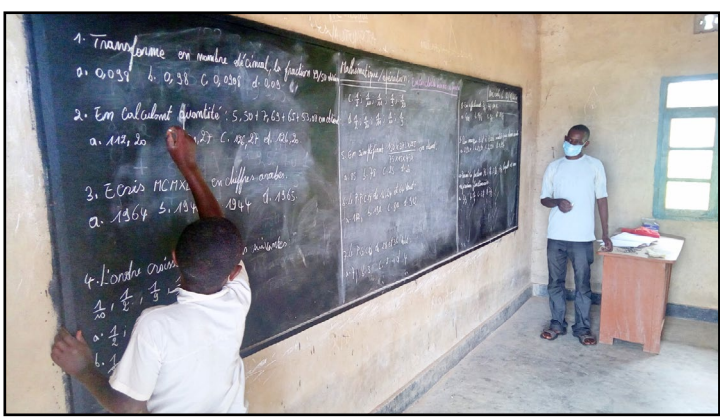
To donate:

www.deafmin.org/donate (Click on Food Emergency button)
or
Bank Transfer (*details on back cover*) use "food emergency" as ref.
or
Fill out enclosed form and send to Deaf Action (*details on back cover*)

The D.R. CONGO - Beni School for the Deaf



Beni School for the Deaf in the D.R. CONGO was officially closed mid-year but re-opened in August. The national language in the D.R. CONGO is French so French signing is used in school. This new school badly needs teaching aids to help the children learn. They need books, pencils, readers etc. There is no maths equipment or even one soccer or basketball! Most of the teaching is written on the blackboard and the students need to read it, sign it, and learn it by writing on the blackboard themselves. This is a very difficult learning task for deaf students!



BENI STUDENTS
URGENTLY
NEED SPONSORS

Please contact the
Sponsorship Coordinator
if you would like to
sponsor a child
Details on the back page

ONLY
\$40
PER MONTH

UGANDA

The students in Uganda attended classes until the end of March when the country suddenly went into lockdown and introduced curfews. This was strictly enforced by the police; so life has been very hard for deaf people in Uganda.

Food is still scarce and expensive, but our workers were allowed to travel to Mbale with food gifts for the deaf children there. **Yuba, Solome, and Kenneth and Sam** are progressing well at St. Mary's School for the Deaf, but are at home during the lockdown. Their families were very thankful to receive food gifts.



Yuba with Mother and Brother



Winnie and her Mother

Rachel also passed her Senior 4 exam last year and started Tailoring at UNAD where she is very happy to learn with other deaf students. Rachel's mum has been very kind even though she is a widow. She cares for another deaf student Simon, when he is on holiday from his boarding school! Simon is now learning Shoe Repairing and we hope he will eventually be able to support himself also. This shows the caring heart that these families have for each other even in their own difficult circumstances.



Rachel, her Mother & Simon

We are very grateful to all our loyal sponsors. A special thank you to our supporters who have given extra donations during this time of uncertainty. Our deaf families are very grateful for the food gifts they have received. If you have a question about your sponsored child please contact Jenny by email or phone.



www.deafmin.org/deaf-action/

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Account: 145834263

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