

Vol 1, Issue #3, October 2019



NLIF sent a team of 14 adults and 3 children to serve, learn and fellowship with the students and staff at New Life Foundation, Fountain of Hope School from July 11 - August 11, 2019. Most of us served for 1-2 weeks with one of our members, Wendy Lane, staying a full month.

We were very blessed to get to know the students and staff. It was a privilege to walk alongside and serve them in the work of sharing the gospel and to educate and care for the special children of God.

This newsletter is dedicated to the events and blessings of this mission trip. Please join us in giving God thanks and praise and hopefully inspire others to join us on the next.



NLF Biennial International Conference

One of many joyous occasions, is the biennial international conference when all the NLF international partners celebrates the work God is doing with the students and staff. We spent a full day of singing with the students and hearing wonderful testimonies from alumni of Fountain of

Hope. We are proud of the many NLIF sponsored students who have graduated and are living lives in the community as Gospel sharing adults.

Building Relationships with the Students

Thank you very much for sending the cards and greetings to your students. They were excited to receive them and eager to send picture greetings back to all of you. We are diligently working to get those forwarded to you as soon as possible.

It wasn't all work! We were very happy to have had the time to play with the students, enjoy their company and build special relationships with them. Amen for that!

Appreciation Dinner for Staff

Thanks to your support, we were able to provide an evening of appreciation for all the staff. Approximately 50 staff members, administrators, teachers, matrons and patrons, and caregivers, were able to attend. It was a wonderful evening with a special meal, fellowship, celebration and sharing your words of written encouragement and thanks. They were very appreciative to hear your words of support and thankful that you sent them.

Future Visions and Plans

Before departing, we met with the NLF Board Members and members of our other international partners to discuss future visions and plans for NLF. We are looking forward to seeing where God leads them.



Staff and Students Wellness Care Exams

One of our tasks was to assist the NLF staff and local medical professionals with a wellness care clinic for the students and staff. A team of doctors, nurses, optometrist, laboratory technicians, school staff and mission team members (Wendy Lane, Rebecca Brandt, Tabitha Landgreen, Val Ras, Chuck Kaminky, Megan Whitley, and Carol Schlachter) created a dedicated clinic room at the school and were able to conduct health exams for 1/3 of the school. The rest of the students and staff will be seen in the clinic over the next 1 - 2 months by the local medical professionals who volunteered their time.

Medication and First Aid Kits

We were also able to provide the school with a supply of needed medications for the clinic and aftercare, as well as, 50 first aid kits for the classrooms and dormitories.

CPR/First Aid and Mental Health Training

We were blessed and thankful to have members on our team who were medical professionals and willing to offer their services both in the clinic and for trainings. Megan Whitley offered trainings in first aid and CPR. While Geoffrey Whitley, held a workshop for the staff and older students on how to identify and seek care for mental health issues.

Days for Girls

We were also pleased to be able to partner with <u>Days for Girls</u>, to provide sustainable and reusable feminine hygiene kits for the female students and staff.



Construction and Special Projects

Wall Foundation

Several of our team members (Mark Brandt, Jeremy Landgreen, Wes Whitley, and Geoff Whitley) worked with the staff and older students to build the foundation for a much-needed wall along two sides of the Primary school. Our members, with the help of staff and students, cleared a large tree and dug a trench for the wall's foundation. Additionally, funds were provided for the materials and labor to complete the wall. It was a privilege to work alongside the staff, and to mentor the students who loved working with the "hardworking" Americans.

Agriculture and Library Projects

We were

able to do some important planning with the NLF Board and staff to p repare for an agricultural and a library project.

We are blessed to have this opportunity to partner with <u>Convoy of Hope</u> for the agricultural project and <u>Books are</u> <u>the Beginning</u> for the library project. <u>Convoy of Hope</u> will be providing the skills, tools, and seeds that NLF will need to produce life-sustaining crops for food and for sale.

Books are the Beginning will be providing everything needed to set up a library at NLF, including posters for the walls and locally manufactured bookshelves, tables and chairs. They are hoping to start this project in June of 2020.



Teacher Training

With the help of Laura Davis from the NLIF Board, David Schlachter provided some skills training in applying multiple learning styles for the teachers at NLF. They were eager to learn and increase their teaching abilities and effectiveness in the classroom. NLIF is exploring ways to come alongside the teachers by providing coaching and mentoring. The NLF Board identified this opportunity as a priority for their staff.

NLF Needs and Opportunities

While at Fountain of Hope, we learned of several specific opportunities where you can make a difference by partnering with NLF and NLIF and investing in any of the following projects:

Call for more Sponsors - At least, 40 FOH students are still in need of sponsors.

Eyeglasses and Sweaters for Students - 75 students are in dire need for prescription eyeglasses. A donation of \$40 would provide a pair of frames and lenses for a student. A pair of eyeglasses will make an enormous difference for a student and their ability to learn.

New Sweater - **100 students** need new sweaters, at \$8.00 per sweater. NLIF wants to provide these students with a new sweater that will match their uniforms.

Think of the impact that can be made, if each of us were able to get one friend or family member to sponsor a child or donate the cost of eyeglasses or a sweater!

Secondary School Construction Project - NLF owns 8 acres of land on which they need to build the Secondary School to expand the current facilities. NLF plans to build 2 classrooms, 2 dormitories, a kitchen, and dining hall in early 2020. To do so NLF needs an initial investment of \$75,000 to begin construction on the first phase. We will be sharing more about this important project in the coming months. Let us know if you are interested in being part of this investment.

Teacher Coaching and Mentoring Program - We want to create a teacher development program, partnering with US Christian schools and teachers to provide an opportunity for NLF teachers to visit US schools, and have US teachers visit NLF as part of a short-term mission team to provide coaching and skill development to the NFL teachers.

If you are interested in participating in any of these projects let us know.

Call For More Mission Teams

It is simply impossible to share in words or pictures the incredible experience

of being part of a mission team. The blessings from serving, and the blessing

such service is to others and to learn from and with the NLF staff and

students, in addition to, the growth in faith and knowledge of God, is hard to

explain. The best way to understand is to be part of a team.

Pastor Shoo shared that the importance and value of people visiting as part of

a mission team, or a short-term volunteer, cannot be measured. Financial

support is important, but if you can extend yourself, your friendship, your

fellowship in person, is as equally important.

Would you be willing to join us on our next trip?

It would mean so much to us and NLF if you would. We are willing to help you

plan, prepare, and coordinate with NLF. Just let us know by going to the NLIF

Mission Team website and submitting an application. We look forward to

seeing you on the next trip!

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