

Starlink Made Available to HCOC

The government of Zimbabwe recently made Starlink available to the entire country as an internet provider. This is especially valuable to the ZMP in Colorado as it provides much more reliable internet service than what HCOC had before and therefore allows more frequent and consistent communication between the two groups. Starlink has already proved invaluable on a recent shared prayer time between the two partners that actually went on for nearly an hour without an internet interruption!

One of the other groups supporting HCOC, Renewed Hope Foundation, paid for the initial setup of Starlink at HCOC and the monthly operational fee is being split between Renewed Hope and ZMP. The new fee will be about 60% less than the amount paid before. Renewed Hope also paid for a 3kva solar system which powers Starlink Wifi. This is a solar power setup that is able to generate electricity to run a Starlink satellite internet dish, typically by charging a battery bank that can then power the Starlink unit during periods without sunlight.

To our knowledge, Starlink has not yet been installed in the schools and that would be the responsibility of the Zimbabwean government since they own and operate the schools.

Three From Colorado Visit HCOC in July

Besides zoom calls, another way the ZMP board in Colorado keeps in touch with HCOC is through an annual visit by various board members and friends. The 2024 visit occurred in July and Colorado participants were Jackie and Bob Logan and Susan Jones. Both Jackie and Susan had been to HCOC several times but this was Bob's first experience.



Susan and Jackie with HCOC staff.



Bob playing soccer with children at school.

Goals of the Trip:

1. To review and see personally, projects that ZMP funds.
2. To meet face to face with every management member and then with their department as a group.
3. To attend an HCOC Board Meeting.
4. To review transportation challenges.
5. To check on the children through home visits.
6. To go into the community and visit the schools and feeding centers.

The first four goals are all very important to the efficient administration of the HCOC organization and a good amount of the visitors' time was spent this summer in meetings with various groups and individuals to get a complete picture of what has been done in the past year. Much of this is a hands-on review of reports that the ZMP has received throughout the year.

The importance of all of the above is simply to ensure that together we are all moving toward the same common goal of caring for the children and keeping them at the core of our mission.

Eyes on the Children: Spiritual Outreach, Feeding Program, Home Visits

The last two goals, checking on the children through home visits and going out into the community, allow more direct interaction with the children and therefore are more easily described in this newsletter.

Jackie reports: "We were able to visit all five primary schools and three secondary schools. Traveling with Stewart, HCOC's Religious Officer, by foot, or on the Tri bike, and in the Combi, we attended morning devotionals. To tag along and start each morning out with children of all ages, sharing the Bible, was priceless." Stewart rotates visiting each school once a week, sometimes visiting two in one day. Again, Jackie reports: "We were able to take time helping with food preparation and serving of the meals plus mingle with the children during lunch. Our three visitors were also able to make several home visits to beneficiaries of HCOC services."

If you would like more information about this year's visit, please see your church's ZMP representative.