



March 2022

Dear Friends,

“Doctor, could you take a look at one of the moms from our feeding center?” In mid-February, I got a call from Kelli, a Brazilian colleague, who runs a center for malnourished infants in one of the poorest neighborhoods of Niamey. There she provides meals and enriched flour for making porridge for over 150 babies. The families who bring their children also hear the gospel, many for the first time. This mom, we’ll call her Salamatou, ended up with a malnourished infant because severe burns across much of her torso left her unable to nurse her baby properly. During the last rainy season, lightning struck her straw hut. The ensuing fire resulted in the death of her other children, but she survived and delivered this baby with whom she was pregnant at the time. Her family never brought her to medical attention and the burns became infected and resulted in scars that left her arms and hands unusable.

I was the first medical professional to see her, seven months after the fire! We could do very little for her but one of our doctors arranged her care at the public hospital’s burn unit. Only a few weeks later, Salamatou accepted Christ. When Kelli asked her why she said it was because of the angels God had used to care for her and her baby. I would love to share a picture of her today. Her wounds are still open; the scar across her face will never regain its normal color. But her smile and her glowing eyes show how Christ is transforming her heart. Her husband now allows Kelli into their home to disciple his wife and makes everyone else in the compound gather to listen to the Bible stories she is sharing. Please pray for Kelli and Salamatou and that the Kingdom would continue to advance here in Niger. Pray that Salamatou would get the surgery she needs to release the scars so she might be able to use her hands and arms again.

We are fully back into the swing of things here in Niger. Jeremy and I have both been teaching at the university. Clinic Olivia is busy, though quieter than usual, and Clinic Dutsin Ceto is still waiting for increased patient numbers. Most of Niger had a very poor harvest last year and many people are hungry. In addition, the cost of essential goods has increased and will take another hike when Ramadan starts on April 1. This means there is no money to spend on healthcare unless it is urgent. The patients who do come tend to be very sick. Pray for the hungry and the suffering and those who are working to alleviate these situations.

Over the last few months, we received the very good news of multiple donations. These donations include portable x-ray equipment for both clinics and funds to improve our ultrasound capabilities and to build an imaging block at Clinic Dutsin Ceto. We are currently studying the position of the new imaging block with consideration for the eventual construction of a maternity block. We also have received funding for building

Would you like to receive these updates digitally? Please email Kelli at kgilmore@rca.org to be added to the email list. You will receive more timely updates from the missionary you support and help us be good stewards of our resources.

rooms for administration and meetings as well as a guestroom on the second floor of Clinic Dutsin Ceto. Lord willing, we will be able to begin construction in the coming months. Here is an updated aerial image of the Clinic Dutsin Ceto site.



Progress is being made on the development of evangelism tools for both clinics. Our French colleague, Dr. Judicael, is developing and filming videos using our clinic staff. He is preparing the scripts focusing on the common ground we share with our Muslim brothers and sisters from the Torah as a starting place. These videos will contain a diversity of themes from evangelism to health education to orientation of our patients through the clinic. Please pray for wisdom as we work on these videos to create an openness to a conversation about heart issues with our patients. We are also putting together a project for village visits around the Doutchi clinic and hope to be able to share more about that soon!



On the family front, our children are doing well and are enjoying school on Sahel's new campus. They are glad to be back with their friends. Lydia is having a good second semester at the University of Northern Iowa. We look forward to her visit to Niger in just a couple of months!

Our RCA supervisor Rev. Derrick Jones will be coming to Niger in late March for his first "annual" visit in 3 years! Travel was very limited during the peak of the COVID pandemic. Please pray for his travels to Oman and then Niger. Here he plans to have more extensive meetings than usual with our local supervisor Chako and the leaders of the EERN. We are approaching the 15-year mark and it is time to reevaluate our roles within the structure. There is also a need to create stability within the CADR development branch as management has been very informal up to this point. CADR has grown, and with the addition of another clinic, there is a need for formal processes to correctly handle personnel issues, inventorying, finances, etc. Please pray for good communication among the leaders involved.

We thank you, as always, for your prayers, notes, emails, and financial support. It is such a blessing for us to participate in what God is doing here in Niger and you are part of that blessing!

In Christ,
Susan (for all of the Beebouts)