



November 2025

Dear friends,

It's hard to believe that we've been back in Mozambique for 6 months without our dear Nede, a big part of our heart still in the U.S. It's been good, it's been hard, it's been encouraging, it's been discouraging. The routine of homeschooling carries on. I (Dara) head out to visit palliative care patients every Monday and Thursday, Chad spends the whole day at the farm on Tues, Wed, Fridays, Saturdays. We're going to save the details of the normal days for another letter. Today we want to tell you a story.



First, let me tell you about Fernando. You may have heard mention of this young man before. He has been seen by our palliative care team for more than five years. At the start of COVID, he had a wound on his leg. He went to the hospital and they did some sort of procedure to remove infected tissue but sent him home, with no dressings, no treatment plan. After another return to the hospital when a doctor mentioned amputating the lower part of his leg, understandably he didn't want to return. This is where we stepped in. With the confusion and unknowns of COVID and the complexity of such a wound, the hospital just was not able to offer the care that Fernando needed. So, over the last five years we have provided dressings, medication, prayer, and much time to try to heal this wound. At times we saw marked improvement but just simply not enough.

Upon my return to Mozambique, Fernando was discouraged. As a teacher at a local primary school, he was feeling like he would never return to his prior "normal." He was down. I was at a loss. It was time for greater intervention. This is where you came in. Thanks to generous gifts for our compassionate care project, I decided to take Fernando to a private clinic in Chimoio to see if we couldn't get this wound healed once and for all. Well, it has required a great commitment from Fernando—for the last two months he has taken public transport 40 minutes from his home to have his wound cleaned and dressed. Every. Single. Day. He is exhausted in living with this chronic wound and is determined to do whatever it takes. Thanks to the great team at the clinic, the wound is making marked improvements and I think in the new year we'll be able to celebrate a closed wound—the first time in nearly six

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.

years. The cost hasn't been great for our team and finances, but the impact on Fernando's life has meant everything. He is so grateful and our simple assistance will literally change his life.

It can be very discouraging in Mozambique. The health system is broken, the food system is broken, relationships are broken, the church is weak, the community is often divided and at times the only thing that seems to be thriving is the oppression and poverty. It's when we feel overwhelmed by all of these things that we need to find the few things that we can make a difference in. Fernando has been that tangible impact of late. We are honored to have sufficient resources to be able to help Fernando in this way and to you we express our deep gratitude. And on behalf of Fernando, we can't thank you enough for literally changing and saving his life—for him and his young family. Even though the battle is hard, we do see great impact and we're honored to be part of the story.

Of course, there's much more to tell—like a trip to Botswana where I shared at the African Palliative Care Association Conference, hippopotamus's wondering outside our tent while camping in Zimbabwe, drought conditions at the farm, deaths of long-time palliative care patients, Mozambican school experiences for Luzia and Julieta, and so much more. But for today, let's just praise the Lord for what he's done in Fernando's life. We ask that you'll pray for the next story that the Lord wants us to invest in. May we be wise in where we're called to intervene and not grow weary when the progress is ever so slow.



With deepest gratitude, may the Lord bless you and keep you,
Chad, Dara, Luzia and Julieta