

African SMILE Update 5/14/21

In May we sent over \$4,000USD to Mike Kitwaka, our long-time liaison to the village, to facilitate Iambi Hospital vehicle repairs (sub-total \$2,000USD) and buy more emergency food for lepers and other villagers in deep need (sub-total \$2,000).

Approximately \$1,900USD was used to purchase parts and rebuilding a starter motor in Arusha (to save costs) for the vehicles.



The repairs are being done by Makala, Iambi Hospital's chief mechanic .



The earlier funded project to add new water towers for the maternity ward and the operating room has been completed, providing secure water sources for those needs.



Total costs for labor and materials came to 4,310,000TZS or approximately \$1,920 USD. The remainder will be applied towards the eye care clinic.

Here is a quick photo update from Mike Kitwaka on eye care for people outside the village. Notice the eye chart in the second picture. (It also underscores the importance of reliable vehicles.) Our contributions make a difference to the people there! :-)



Mike purchased some corn and the crops are coming in better than previously expected.



African SMILE Update 6/7/21

The two Land Cruiser vehicles are still running well, and the water towers are providing a more reliable water source to the operating room and maternity ward. However, the hospital has a critical shortage of medicines. This has been a chronic condition since it is underfunded by patient charges and the local Tanzanian Lutheran Church synod that owns the hospital offers them no help or support to care for the people in the village or surrounding area.