



Welcome to Flying Together!

We hope you enjoy being part of our team as we share with you what's happening in Flying Mission.

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Larry Murley, a pilot based in Gaborone, tells his story about a flight to Tshabong, a village 370 km from Gaborone.

Calls for **mercy flight services** to the remote hospitals of Botswana sometimes come after normal business hours and confront us with the challenge of flying during hours of darkness.

There are three lighted airports in Botswana and Air Traffic Control personnel there have come in after hours to handle night mercy flights, but the remote airstrips where we are called out to, like Tshabong, do not have lighting on their runways.

A doctor at the Tshabong Hospital, diagnosing a pregnant woman with dangerously elevated blood pressure, called for a mercy flight one night. We flew from Gaborone in darkness, landed at first light and quickly loaded the patient into the plane. Unfortunately, she died 45 minutes into the flight. Had the airstrip been equipped with lighting, this patient could have been brought to Gaborone by first light.

These frustrating situations don't happen often and the Department of Civil Aviation continues to work at improving airstrips insofar as their resources allow.



As we seek to minister to the people of Botswana by providing medical flight services, stories like that of this woman make us

long to see these remote airstrips become more usable for medical emergencies.

Michele Royce, member of Flying Mission's HIV/AIDS management team, shares about the Tumelong project in the village of Kumakwane.



All the preparations that Virginia Loaneka, Tumelong Project Coordinator and the Tumelong team have made have come together so that the **Tumelong Orphan Day Care** programme opened in mid-November.

The orphans gathered at the two small cinder block buildings that comprise the centre and spent the first few days just becoming familiar with this new place that they will come to every day.



Running the day care programme is a job that requires more than one person, so we are looking for someone to come alongside Virginia in running and monitoring the programme.



A doctor in the house

Geoffrey Tirelo has joined the Flying Mission Board, bringing insight into Botswana and the battle against HIV/AIDS, which he engages in daily as a medical professional. He shared his knowledge with the Flying Mission team at our annual seminar on HIV/AIDS, giving opportunity for people on the FM team to ask questions and understand more about the biggest challenge that Botswana faces.



What in the world am I doing here?

Sally Lott in Maun lets us in on a ministry she and her children are part of each week. "Everyone, bana, tla kwanoo (children, come here), we are going to walk over to COCEPWA (Coping Centre for People with AIDS) and show them all you've learned about the continents." On Wednesdays I go to the orphan centre with my children. We go there to teach and spend time with the children. We are the official Sekgoa (English) teachers.

COCEPWA and the orphan centre both work with the HIV/AIDS crisis that is a part of everyday life in Botswana. What we are doing, and *you* through us, is living, working, and playing alongside hurting people because *you* allow us to be here.



You're invited to join us as part of the Flying Mission team!

- Pray for our work here – see our Quarterly Prayer Guide
- Give a one time gift or ongoing donations to one of our projects or towards Flying Mission – email us for more information
- Go! Do you have skills and experience that could be used to serve the Lord with Flying Mission? Check our Website to see what our current personnel needs are

Contact us email: office@flyingmission.org.bw or snail mail: PO Box 1022 Gaborone Botswana

Find out more about us on our website: www.flyingmission.org