

Dearest Family and Friends,

Can you believe it's been nearly 2 years since we visited our family in Georgia and had the



opportunity to catch up with many of you, our faithful supporters??? Time flies! We have just arrived back in Atlanta and will be here with my family until January 3. We look forward to visiting our churches, hanging out with old friends, and eating lots of Chick-fil-A!!! But most of all, we look forward to a time of rest. 2016 has been an intense year for our family. We look forward to time together as a family outside of the context of ministry to be refreshed by our God.

In 2016, we had the tiresome task of relocating and rebuilding Masana, our center for street boys. The new house has been a work in progress for a full year but its finally complete! We moved onto a property with a house for our family and nothing for our day center. So we built. But it was not an easy process because of documents and licenses that took months and months to obtain. But its done now and we have a beautiful house with the perfect set-up for Masana: a kitchen, a shade with picnic tables, 3 classrooms, a medical room, an office, and a bedroom for temporary housing. Its more than we imagined in the beginning and we thank God that His ways are higher than ours. When we found ourselves most frustrated with the process of building, He has greater plans in store. And today, the new Masana is a testimony to that.

In 2016, we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> boy who left the streets of Maputo and returned to his family!!!



We've seen a shift in the type of boys that go home. More and more, they are boys who have suffered greatly on the streets. We accompanied 2 boys back home that had been hit by cars and had broken bones. We accompanied 1 boy back home who suffered an injury that required surgery and a catheter. We accompanied 1 boy back home who had been severely burned while cooking out of a tin can. And we accompanied 4 boys back home who tested HIV+, 2 of which also had tuberculosis. That last group of boys has been heartbreaking but it seems to be a new direction God is taking our

ministry. Through a partnership with the US government and Doctors Without Borders, we have begun a new program to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS amongst street boys and to provide care for those infected by the virus so that they can leave the streets and return to their families.

In 2016, we realized that, as much as we push for boys to return to their families, that that isn't always the best option for every boy. In response to this, we have created a new program called Exodus. We've chosen 2 boys who will participate in this yearlong transitional phase that, hopefully, will be their exodus from the street life. In January, these 2 boys will move in with us at Masana. They will go to a local school and participate in a vocational course of their choosing. After completing their course, we'll help them arrange an internship. The hope is that by December of next year, they will be ready to rent their own house (if they choose not to return home) and have an income to pay their rent and other living expenses. We hope to see these 2 boys enter into a new life, much like the new life God gave the Israelites in the book of Exodus as they entered the Promised Land.



2016 was a difficult year with the transition to our new center and facing new challenges such as HIV/AIDS. But these difficulties allowed us to dream with God about new ways to minister to the street boy population of Mozambique. We look forward to 2017 and the new things God has in store for our family and Masana. We are so grateful for our family and friends who make it possible for us to continue this ministry. For those that don't know, we raise our support through Abba's Ambassadors, a non-profit organization. All gifts are tax deductible. If you'd like to give online, go to [www.abbasambassadors.org/donate](http://www.abbasambassadors.org/donate) or you can mail a check to: Abba's Ambassadors, PO Box 165, South Salem, NY 10590. Make sure to mark your donation for "Mondlane Family."

Blessings on you and your family and thank you for supporting our ministry of renewing lives of street boys and pointing them to the Hope of a better life!

Roberto, Sarah, Melina and Maya Mondlane

PS... we have begun the adoption process!!! Stay tuned to facebook and our blog for details!

