



NEWSLETTER NUMBER 39 Spring 2026

Traveling together, connected together

During our recent trip to Mozambique, we — Mariët (board member), Perry (treasurer), and Winny (chairperson) — had the special opportunity to witness firsthand the true impact of your commitment and support. Thanks to the careful preparation by our founders and doctors, Gitta and Harrie, we followed an impressive and intensive program in which connection, insight, and meaningful encounters were central.



One of the most valuable moments was meeting our students. On the beach, we saw a group of energetic, joyful young people, boys and girls full of ambition and zest for life. Their openness and happiness are contagious and immediately make it clear why this work is so important.

At the same time, we also gained insight into their daily reality. During visits to their living conditions, we saw how simple and vulnerable their

environment is: small mud houses, often without basic facilities, where people sleep on the floor and cook and study with minimal resources. The contrast with their perseverance and motivation could hardly be greater.

A great deal is asked of these students. Under circumstances that are difficult for many of us to imagine, they are expected to perform and seize their opportunities. For them, this is often the only chance to build a future. That realization makes their commitment and discipline even more impressive.

In addition to meeting the students, we also visited a secondary school, hospitals where our doctors are now working, and the location where the annual selection days take place. In this inspiring environment, prospective students are given the





opportunity to show who they are and what they can do.



Our trip also made clear how challenging the context is in which work is being carried out. Mozambique is a country where much is lacking and where processes require time, patience, and creativity. It is precisely for this reason that our admiration and respect for Gitta and Harrie are so great. What they have built here is not only valuable, but also exceptionally well organized. It is an impressive achievement in an environment where nothing is taken for granted.

An essential role is played by the local board of Apesmo. We held meetings with them to discuss the challenges and opportunities. This committed group, consisting of doctors and students from our foundation, volunteers their time to guide and support current students. As a foundation, we are only able to be present a few times a year, making their efforts indispensable in ensuring continuity and structure.

During this trip, we also had the opportunity to become better acquainted with our sponsor AUMUND Group from Germany, represented by Susanne and Helmut. Their involvement underlines how important international cooperation is for continuing and expanding our mission.

This journey has once again shown us that your support makes a difference—not in an abstract sense, but in the daily lives of motivated young people working towards a better future. Together, we are building opportunities, perspective, and sustainable impact in an environment where it is needed most.

Thank you for your continued involvement and support.

Mariët, Perry & Winny.



Selection of the new students, cohort 2026

Seventeen candidates, who had been pre-selected in October 2025, were extensively tested over a three-day period from 22 to 25 January. They came from five different mission schools and one government school, located in remote districts. We had pre-selected 11 boys and, fortunately, also 6 girls. We divided them into four groups, each supervised by one of our doctors, who themselves were selected as scholarship students in Nazaré through a similar process.

We used the same assessment methods as in previous selection rounds:

- non-verbal intelligence tests
- examinations in mathematics, physics, chemistry, and biology
- a text on heart failure that had to be summarized
- each group had to prepare and perform a 10-minute play
- several memory games were played

To provide some relaxation, the film *Awakenings (Tempo de Despertar)* was shown on Saturday evening. The following day, the candidates were asked to give a short summary of the most important parts of the film. In between these and other activities, each candidate shared information about their personal life. Without exception, all their life stories were deeply sad, confirming that we are working in one of the poorest countries in the world.

8 scholarships

At the end of our program came the most difficult moment. The best eight candidates were awarded a scholarship: five boys and three girls. Unfortunately, nine pre-selected candidates had to be sent home. The disappointment was significant, especially as, despite having completed secondary school, they have very limited prospects for suitable employment.

We would like to introduce our new students to you:



Dabélsia



Natacha



Salomão



Anastância



Epinete



Osvaldo



Manuel



Roderiguês

Donate

If you would like to support us, you can find a donation button on our website that makes it very easy to contribute. Simply click [HERE](#) if you wish to donate.

Thank you in advance—every contribution is welcome.



Doctors for Mozambique Stichting



Doctors for Mozambique Stichting

e-mail: info@doctorsformozambique.eu • www.doctorsformozambique.eu

KvK nummer 17223128 • Rekeningnummer NL19RABO 0126.8285.71