Gleanings for the Sultana, CA 93666 Phone (559) 591-5009 Hungry Fax (559) 591-5036 info@gleanings.org A Ministry of Youth With A Mission www.gleanings.org

Uetela Family - God's Love is Double-Double



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P.O. Box 309

From Mozambique, the Uetelas-Onei and Dorlim, with their children Tapiwa, Owen, and sister Rosalia—came to Seattle in 2018 for Dorlim to study in a doctorate program in global health at the University of Washington. Onei finished his master's degree in public health and received a scholarship to join the same Ph.D. program. "My dream was always to be a missionary," Dorlim said. She did not know when or if she would ever get the opportunity because she also felt called to be a doctor. Her prayer was to do missions before going back to Mozambique to work full time as a doctor. When the pandemic situation got worse, the Uetela family began looking for a place to serve God while they completed their coursework online. A friend from church referred them to *Gleanings*, a place to serve the Lord with their kids. They arrived in July 2020 ready to offer their gifts to the Lord. "We came to *Gleanings* to bless *Gleanings*. But the first thing we realized was that Gleanings was a blessing for us," Dorlim said.

February 2021

A one-month stay turned into six months as God moved in their hearts. "We were reassured that we were engaged in something bigger that God is doing," Onei said. The Uetelas have blessed the Gleanings community, even as they continue online Ph.D. coursework. They are not only scooping soup mix, but also singing and playing guitar, translating for local outreaches in Sultana, and performing the Mozambican dance, "marrabenta."

The Uetela family leads worship in chapel, and it always includes traditional Mozambican music and lyrics in Portuguese. The African flavor of worship includes energy, dancing, and shouts of joy. One of our favorite songs says, "God's love is double-double. God's peace is double-double . . ." As we watch what God is doing here at *Gleanings* in miraculous multiplication of resources, joy, and His glorious presence, we find ourselves using the phrase "doubledouble" as a way of praising God for grace upon grace, gift after gift, and blessing after blessing, both for the people we serve and for us as the Lord ministers to our hearts. Somehow, Dorlim's dream to be a missionary came true at an unexpected time. "Now we know we want to do a Discipleship Training School and become YWAMers," she shared. "It's a detour, but it's not the wrong thing. Spending this season here is shaping our future, the direction we are going," Onei said. Dorlim and Onei's verse for this season of their life is Ephesians 3:20-21: "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

An Abundant 2020

3,507,207 TOTAL POUNDS of food donations were shipped to Gleanings ministry partners.

| 5,640,940 TOTAL POUNDS of food was produced through Gleanings production. | | | | |
|--|-------------|----------------|-------|--------------|
| | Soup Mix | 2,307,875 lbs. | Oats | 160,116 lbs. |
| | Dried Fruit | 61,084 lbs. | Other | 111,865 lbs. |
| | | | | |

31 **TOTAL COUNTRIES** received Gleanings donated food.

13 **NEW MINISTRY PARTNERS** received Gleanings food.

COUNTRY REPORT MOLDOVA



"For the Lord will not abandon His people on account of His great Name. Because the Lord has been pleased to make you a people for Him." 1 Samuel 12: 22

Romica is a single mother in Moldova struggling to put bread on the table. To keep her family from abuse, she took all responsibility for their care on her shoulders. She has 1-year-old Denisa, Severin, 12, and Marin, 8, who is in the hospital after injuring his eye. His situation is worsening, and he is losing vision in the second eye also.

In Moldova, people live off what they can grow. The only stable jobs are at schools, so most of the population works full time in other countries. "Starting with spring till it gets cold we live in this room", said Romica, pulling aside the blanket that covers the doorway. "My mother's house has two very small rooms where we squeeze during the cold season to keep children warm."

Their main source of income is the mother's labor when there is work in the fields. Marin and her mother Lidia both have health issues, and Denisa is so small that Marin cannot get a permanent job.

Romica's family participates in *Mission Without Borders'* Child Rescue community program. The children participate in activities such as summer camp and Bible study.

During a visit to this family the *Mission Without Borders*' coordinator, Valentina, was welcomed by a happy woman. "My mother was the one who cooked the dried soup first and surprised me with delicious food when I came (home) tired after a long day of work. I ate two plates of it. What a tasty soup you brought to us. We like it so much," said Romica.

By partnering with *Gleanings for the Hungry* and *Mission Without Borders*, we can help families like Marin's. Please pray for complete healing for Marin and her family members. Thank you for the love you show through prayers, offerings, and volunteer hours, to make it possible to help families all over the world.



Director's Corner

APPLY NOW Join Us For Discipleship Training School

Feb 28 - July 31 2021 DTS Theme: Transformation Apply online or email dts@gleanings.org

Thanks for reading our monthly newsletter. This year began very similar to the way last year ended. Our awesome volunteers stay for at least one month and we produce soup with our bagging machine. All of us are grateful for the protection and health we experience both now and in the last ten months. I recognize that making decisions and leading a ministry during COVID19, when guidelines are unclear and frequently change, is taxing. Living in a community like *Gleanings* requires a commitment of trust. We want to walk out challenges in love and gracefully understand each other's views. We are growing in preferring one another in love. I believe this is a time we are learning in practical ways what it means to overcome the enemy who wants to divide us. Our community will be stronger because of these challenges.

I hope you are all healthy and we pray God's blessing on your life.

Fritz Meier