



AKANY AVOKO AMBOHIDRATRIMO
117 children



AKANY AVOKO BEVALA
33 boys

Another year has passed with the most extraordinary circumstances, we've adapted and adjusted modified behaviours to keep children, staff and the local community safe. We thank you and are grateful for your ongoing support. Our experience with the measles epidemic meant we were well prepared. No one required medical attention or contracted COVID-19.

On the 20th March we locked down both Centres, implemented strict health regimes taking every measure possible to keep the children and staff safe. This meant keeping all students isolated at AAA. Whilst this interrupted education and activities, we developed a fun, robust program which included mask making by the vocational education class. Everyone was exhausted but happy that no children contracted the virus. We increased nutritious food, varied activities, developed strict hygiene measures and isolation controls. It has worked so far. Children take advantage of the situation to play all day and a most Malagasy fun activity song and dance competitions! Whilst government restrictions have been relaxed, to maintain vigilance AAA staff are still working a 15-day rotation. We replenish AAB supplies every Wednesday. During COVID-19 the boys honed their skills on the newly purchased table football.

Schools provided remote learning resources. Senior students in examination classes were supported with additional tutoring to compensate for missing lessons. Primary school students had their exams early September, 4 out of 8 passed. BEPC exams take place 21 to 24 September followed by IBC 19 to 22 October. The school year starts October 26. 7 young people are sponsored to attend university.

In February this year we unexpectedly received 30 children from a closed centre. To show their gratitude the Ministry of Population placed us on the World Food Program who donated 3 months rice supply. AAA were then declared the preeminent centre of Madagascar!

The generosity of Air France staff means clothes are rarely purchased and our Christmas presents supply overflows, they also top up our snacks. No wonder children were excited during their pre COVID visits. Parenting programs have proved popular, advice pivots around effective communication and the ability to involve family members in decision making, creating an environment where children feel a valued part of the family.

Our donor support continues. Following provision of 3 water tanks in 2018 Charity Commission Association financed construction of our new Biogas toilets, the methane produced is used for cooking fuel. Antananarivo Lion's Club continue providing fruit trees and added a quail house and pig sty. Whilst the quails have arrived and are producing their eggs, rich in nutrients, we have yet to buy pigs. The eggs are a wonderful supplement for young malnourished children. EIR a Reunion Association continue to fund swimming lessons which replaced seaside holidays. Gama Textiles provide blankets and SmartOne supply computers, assist with media and importantly train and employ 5 young people. A lovely outcome is that a graduate returned to teach computers at AAA.

We capitalised on our robust relationship with expat community households holding a garage sale of their many donations, a great benefit for the local community with the bonus of increasing our funds. As we master varying growing techniques our garden overflows with produce to improve the children's diet. We are receiving publicity from developing eco-friendly products for sale check "Boutique ECOLO AAA" on Facebook.

In December 2019 AAA celebrated 55 years of providing a safe, comfortable home for children. It was pleasing to see so many old girls returning with their families. 2019 also saw the establishment of Akany Avoko Bevalala (AAB) a Centre for boys currently accommodating 33 boys,

The United Nations noted places like the Centre are rare, requesting we hold annual open days to showcase the range of activities offered. Our building program included: restaurant renovation and enlargement, new IT classroom and sewing workshop. A proposal for construction of a brick security fence to enclose the site is being investigated.

We are so proud of 8 girls selected to participate in the telecast celebration of Malagasy culture, they reached the semi - finals. What a way to remember Madagascar's 60th year of independence!

As always, a big thank you to our all our generous sponsors and supporters, from the children and staff.



10 babies to the age of 2 ½ years require special care

Rounia arrived malnourished at the Centre as a seven-month-old after the death of his mother. His bereft father was unable to care for his family properly. Rounia was tiny. However, his little face expressed hope and the tenacity to survive. Now he is two years old and really cute, healthy and very intelligent. A few months ago, we went to visit his family. His father ever grateful for all that the Centre does for Rounia offered AAA 10 acres of land for rice production. An amazing gift from a supportive father.



Monica wanted to see her parents but knew it was not possible because of the Coronavirus. The bubbly 8-year old excitedly explained the appropriate behaviour she has learnt and adopted. She says that when her parents arrive, if they do not respect Coronavirus safeguards, such as wearing masks and standing a metre apart, she will educate them! Parents are now able to visit if they observe regulations.



Andry, a 13-year-old boy, arrived at the Centre just after his birth. His right hand was burnt so badly he has no fingers. He's a passionate basketballer who trains all the boys.



Fabruanah, a 16-year-old reflects on COVID-19 "I feel lucky to stay at the Centre and am sad about the people who are suffering outside. Since the start of isolation, educators have done their utmost to provide healthy, delicious and balanced meals for us. Even though families cannot visit, I recognize and understand that this is necessary for the protection of everyone. Every two weeks, we listen to the President's speech and every noon, we listen to new cases of COVID in Madagascar. I feel safe at the Centre." The President has now relaxed COVID-19 restrictions.





BEPC It is with great pleasure that I write this. I'm so happy to have my BEPC. But when I think of my friends who didn't succeed, I'm sometimes sad. This year has not been easy, especially with the onset of coronavirus, but when I think I passed my exam, it makes me very, very happy. Even though we couldn't go to school, Akany Avoko always gave us the means to do it. We had books; teachers who gave us support courses... Later, I would like to become a flight attendant or interpreter. I know and I believe it will happen. That's my biggest wish! **Loria in pink cardigan**



I am so happy to write this because I graduated from the BEPC. Despite the country's problems and the health emergency that prevented us from going to school for several months, we did not consider them to be a barrier to our success in the exam. We are lucky to be in Akany because we were able to help each other with the revisions. I have many goals in life, but, my biggest wish is to become a tour guide in Madagascar. I would like this dream to come true so that I can also live the life I have always dreamed of, become independent and live like everyone else. These are my dream and my reason to smile! Thank you very much. **Aina in brown cardigan 3rd in from left side**

