



June 2021



## INMED SA Expands Food Security in Eastern Cape

INMED South Africa has partnered with African Bank to expand its impactful Seeds for Life project to benefit food-insecure communities in Graaff-Reinet in the Eastern Cape, South Africa.

An offshoot of INMED's Health in Action program, Seeds for Life was launched in 2020 to provide free seeds, compost, gardening guidebooks and hands-on training to help vulnerable families in Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg establish home food gardens, regardless of the location.

According to Dr. Sandra Pretorius, Program Manager for Health in Action in South Africa, food security begins in the back yard. "Home and community gardens are a simple solution to improve access to nutritious food," she says. "Our team has nearly two decades of experience helping individuals, schools and communities implement adaptive agriculture projects to strengthen food security and build sustainable livelihoods in all types of environments."

Expansion to the impoverished region of Graaff-Reinet began with a local resident, Koos Gradwell. He is an enthusiastic gardener, but he faced many challenges ... [READ MORE](#)

## Rotary to the Rescue in the Amazon

## A constructive solution to the ongoing destruction of the Amazon

Rotary brings cutting edge social innovation for economic growth in vulnerable communities through INMED Aquaponics® in the heart of the Amazon Basin.

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The Rotary Club of Manaus in the Amazon region of Brazil and the Rotary Club of Culver City, CA have joined forces to raise funds via Rotary International for implementing INMED Aquaponics® in the Amazon. The project, titled "Building Indigenous Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods in the Brazilian Amazon," will provide sustainable solutions for strengthening food security and indigenous economies devastated by the ongoing impacts of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This aquaponics project with INMED will enable Rotary International, through District 4720 Amazon, to help a riverside community to minimize the problem of persistent hunger and preserve the Amazon rainforest for future generations," notes incoming District Governor Gerson Aoki.

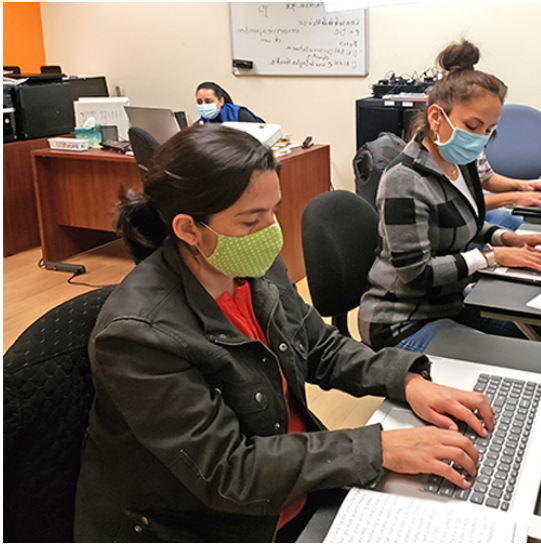
In partnership with the Sustainable Amazon Foundation (known by its Portuguese acronym FAS), INMED Brasil will establish a commercial-scale aquaponics system in the community of Tumbira, within the agroforestry production and education complex currently operated by FAS. The system is projected to yield more than 4,000 pounds of fish plus more than 25,000 pounds of produce per year in a footprint of only 3,000 square feet.

The project will include a Center of Excellence for education, training, demonstration, research and production optimization that will support new aquaponics enterprises across the state of Amazonas, Brazil. The center also will provide an estimated 10,000 people per year with a sustainable means of fresh food production to reduce hunger, strengthen food security and generate income from the sale of fish and produce, while also creating education, employment, research and entrepreneurship opportunities for a generation of indigenous young people who would otherwise face uncertain futures in their own communities—or be forced to migrate to new areas.

**[CLICK HERE](#)** to learn more about and support this project.

## Computer Class Students Graduate with New Skills

Students in INMED USA's basic computer skills course are preparing for their final class and graduation celebration on June 26 at our Opportunity Center in Sterling, VA. The course was developed in partnership with Loudoun County Public



Schools to help recent immigrant parents learn basic computer skills to better assist their children with distance learning and to engage with teachers.

"When we started this class, none of the parents had any experience using a computer," says INMED USA Community Education Coordinator Paula Callaghan.

For the last nine months, parents have attended Saturday classes to accommodate their work schedules and child care needs. The basic computer skills class is now focusing on financial literacy and workforce development skills.

Lack of access to distance learning tools is a big challenge for hundreds of families in Loudoun County. INMED USA is working hard to help narrow that digital divide by donating refurbished computers to families that need them. "In our course, we start from the very beginning, showing students how to turn on a computer, how to use a mouse to navigate and even how to type for the first time," explains Callaghan. "Then we show them how to access distance learning tools and set up email accounts on a computer and cell phone. We are opening new worlds and changing futures—with most students going on to also establish online bank accounts and develop other skills to advance in the workforce."

Doris is one of the parents who has benefited from INMED USA's Community Education program. A non-English speaker, she struggled to help her children with their online education during the pandemic but had never held a mouse before, let alone tried to use a computer or send an email to their teachers. With a laptop donated to her by INMED, Doris has faithfully attended classes at the Opportunity Center every Saturday—not only in computer literacy but also English as a Second Language and other skills development opportunities offered by INMED and its community partners, such as Educando Con Amor and Loudoun Literacy Council. Now she and her fellow students are confidently doing online transactions, creating Word documents and PowerPoint presentations, developing resumes and many applying other new skills to work toward economic independence. "It has been an amazing transformation," says Callaghan.

The computer class graduates will undergo a physical transformation as well, with hair styling by Carlos of Salon Nolas, makeup by Rebeca Valladares and professional headshots by Olivia Fergerstrom, who are donating their time and talents to help the graduates feel fabulous as they enter a new phase of their lives. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about INMED USA's programs for adults.

## Door-to-Door Deworming a Solution During COVID





*Community health agents go door-to-door throughout Ucayali to deliver J&J's deworming treatment.*



*J&J's new chewable pill allows the treatment of children as young as 1 year old.*



*All gone! Children show that they've chewed and swallowed the tablet like little superheroes.*

Donning full protective garments, community health agents have spent the last several weeks delivering a chewable deworming pill as well as prevention literature door-to-door to vulnerable families in remote communities of the Amazon region of Ucayali, Peru. "This action was to ensure critical treatment continues even during the COVID-19 pandemic when typical mass treatment events have not been possible," notes INMED Andes Country Director Dr. Fernando Perez.

The Herculean undertaking is part of INMED Andes' ongoing partnership with Johnson & Johnson (J&J) and the Ministry of Health to treat and prevent parasitic intestinal worm infection—a national public health problem in Peru. The chewable pill enables the treatment of children as young as one year old. INMED Andes was responsible for facilitating the shipment of 15 million doses of Vermox Chewable<sup>®</sup> donated by J&J to the National Center for the Supply of Strategic Health Resources for distribution to the regions for 2021 deworming campaigns. An additional 10 million doses are expected to arrive in July for national deworming efforts in 2022.

In addition to facilitating the distribution of the Vermox Chewable, INMED Andes orchestrated acceptability evaluations, surveying parents and children about how well young children received the pill and noting any issues associated with consumption. This data will provide valuable feedback to J&J and the World Health Organization for future deworming initiatives.

The acceptability field work was launched in May, beginning with two days of online training for the community health agents who carried out the study treatment and observations. Our team is also partnering with clinical research institute ClinSearch to implement use of its assessment instrument, the ClinSearch Acceptability Score Test<sup>®</sup>, in Peru.

"INMED has partnered with J&J for more than 35 years on deworming campaigns around the world," notes INMED Founder and CEO Dr. Linda Pfeiffer. "We are grateful for J&J's confidence and trust in our work and look forward to many more years of partnership together."

## INMED in the News

INMED has been hard at work making news around the world. Click the titles below to read and watch what we've been up to in the last month.

[Government Center Features New Art Exhibits: Child Artists And Promoting Hunger Relief](#) Ashburn Patch

[Teacher Wellness Workshops A Big Win During COVID](#) We Can Change Our World

[A Sustainable Solution to SA's Food Crisis?](#) Cape Business News

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[Aquaponics Educates, Feeds And Empowers These South African Kids!](#)  
Good Things Guy

[Advancing aquaponics: considerations on purpose, opportunities and constraints](#)  
The Fish Site

[Entities implement aquaponics system at a school in Pernambuco](#)  
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