



Sentru Formasaun Ba Juventude
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“SENTRU FORMASAUN BA JUVENTUDE NO COMUNIDADE”

PROJECT NO 33/2014-15

Timor-Leste – December 2021

There has now been nearly 20,000 COVID cases in Timor-Leste, with 122 recorded deaths (although it is hard to get accurate statistics).

Timor-Leste has been fighting through its second (and worst) wave of COVID-19 infections since the beginning of the pandemic, driven by the Delta variant.

On 24 August they saw the highest new case numbers in a single day (532) and an increase in deaths.

Over 30% of Timor-Leste’s eligible population (18+) is fully vaccinated – an amazing achievement in such a short amount of time. In Dili that number rises to over 60% . *(source- September 2021 Aust Embassy newsletter)*

Timor Learning Centre

It has been another challenging year for our Centre and upon reflection we have survived very well.

We could not be prouder of our staff and members.

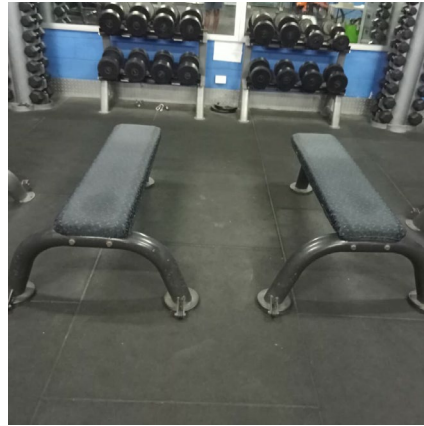
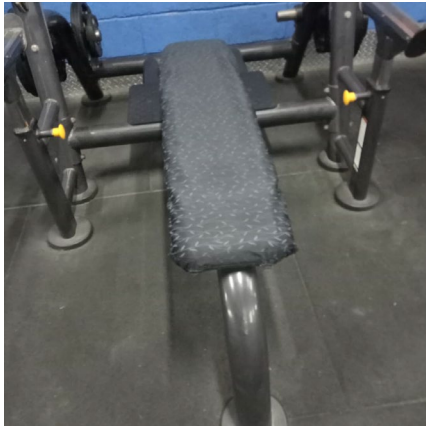
Gym

For the safety of our staff and members, we decided to make it compulsory for gym members and staff to be vaccinated. Students that are old enough are also encouraged to be vaccinated.

Assistant Manager Atisi, has been collecting coins off members to purchase more mosquito spray and hand sanitiser. Atisi is very good at making decisions and making the gym sustainable without always relying on our fundraising.

Sewing Centre

Our sewing centre stayed open during the last lockdown and staff continued to sew Covid safe face-masks as well as taking the opportunity to make covers for our gym equipment.



Centre Outreach Programs

As the Timor-Leste Government had not really organised distribution of face masks or assistance outside of Dili, we decided to assist the remote villages in the Hatubeliko District. This was achieved in consultation with the Blue Mountains East Timor sisters (BMETS), who have been running programs and building infrastructure for many years in this area.

Our Managers Dede and Atisi worked in partnership with the BMETS Timorese co-ordinator, Acacio.

20 Hatubeliko university students based in Dili were assisted with food relief.

Each student received-

- 20kg sack of rice
- 2 litre of cooking oil
- 1 box of noodles (40 pkts)
- 2 facemasks sewn at the Centre (covered in the cost of 600 masks)
- **TOTAL COST TO CENTRE - \$486.30 USD**



Manager Dede with Hatubeliko District uni students



Acacio, Mana Silvia and Manager Dede

Acacio received a total of 600 facemasks sewn by our sewing staff (purchased by funding from the Rotary Club of Cowra), which he distributed to 4 different schools and isolated villages of Mauchiga District near Anairo.

Acacio also distributed facemasks to adults working on roadwork sites on the way to Hatubeliko.

TOTAL COST OF 600 MASKS - \$1,200 USD



Children in remote Districts



Hatubelico District School Students

Manager Dede and our sewing staff attended Beduku school near our Centre and gifted 300 students and staff with 2 facemasks each.

A further 40 facemasks were donated to the Hatubeliko uni students.

TOTAL COST OF 640 MASKS - \$1,280 USD

English School

It has been very unsettling for the past 12 months with another year of government lockdowns. Our Centre followed the same regulations that were imposed on all schools.

Our Centre was closed from April through to July (except the Sewing Centre where staff continued to produce face masks).

Our head teacher did assist with centre chores and in the sewing centre during April.

Our students completed their final English exam and seminar on Saturday 18 December, facilitated by teachers Guido and Florindu. Each student presented on the questions -

- What is respect?
- How important is formal education?
- How can you prevent getting covid

A Christmas party followed with the giving of gifts to each student and all of our staff.

There were enough backpack school bags left from the Orange Day break Club,(containing stationery and other items) for the students that were new in 2021. The sewing staff made tote bags for the other students, each other and the staff.

Meals of rice, chicken/fish and vegetables were purchased from Mana Nina's catering along with sweets and water. A great time was had by all!

Our Centre is closing on 22 December and re-open on 3 January , 2022.



All of our students in the past 2 years have now been equipped with school back-packs kindly donated by the Rotary Club of Orange Daybreak



Teacher Guido and Florindu presenting gifts and certificates



3 of our sewing staff Mana Silvia, Tina and Julmera with their Christmas bags



Finances

We have carefully utilised all the generous funds clubs and individuals have donated to our Centre during these challenging covid years. Your generosity has enabled us to assist the most vulnerable and poorest of people in Timor-Leste and has allowed us to continue running our Centre successfully for its 6th year.

RMS Engineering and Construction (whom we sub-lease our land), have again assisted by lowering the price from \$600 USD per month to \$450 USD per month until July 2022. We are extremely grateful for this assistance.

On behalf of our Centre staff, members and the people of Timor-Leste, thank you for all the donations and support.

May you and your loved ones have a wonderful Christmas and may we all be blessed with a new year full of love, peace, hope and happiness.

Stay well and safe.

Kind regards,

Libby Bleakley

Rotary Club of Blackheath

District 9685 Australia

Founder/Director

Sentru Formasaun Ba Juventude no Comunidade

Centre of Learning for Youth & Community

Timor-Leste

RAWCS Project:33-2014-15

I still have hundreds of our black barista aprons left - If you can help sell these aprons or would like to purchase some (\$10 each)-please contact me via email.

They would make great gifts to your local cafes that have struggled during covid 😊