



Guyana Mission Project Update



CHALLENGING BLESSED DAYS!

Mabaruma, a small town in northern Guyana, close to the border with Venezuela, has been facing uncertain challenging days! During the last few months, we have witnessed an increase in tension between the two countries, over the oil-rich region called Essequibo. The Venezuelan government announced that it will hold a referendum to establish this territory, which has been administered by Guyana for more than a century. Guyana, in turn, appealed to the International Court of Justice to prevent any invasion. This situation has generated fear and uncertainty among border residents, who could be affected by a possible armed conflict. We are praying for the local population and for peace in the region. The AWA base is only a few miles from the border so your prayers are greatly encouraged and even coveted.

During this time of uncertainty, we rejoice that the Mabaruma project has been very active with much that has happened.

Within the community: We have made friends and established a relationship of trust with more than 80 people. This includes the Region Chairman, the Regional Executive Officer, and the Region Health Officer with whom, in a meeting, we offered our skills and talents so as to help the local community. The meeting between the region leaders and AWA was extremely productive, so 2024 looks to be a promising year where things will happen as a result of this partnership.

Singing has become a huge way of creating and cultivating relationships with the locals. We have been practicing several hymns so they can help with worship



and feel included using a simple speaker to help with praise. We not only encourage Bible study for adults but we guide them on that. The children's Bible study class has become a hub for the kids as more and more are coming weekly. The Sabbath morning time we spend together has been a blessing to the locals as we use a big portion of that time to share knowledge about health and natural remedies. Next year we plan to start classes for teenagers and young adults in order to strengthen youth in the faith and prepare them to take on responsibilities in the church.

Thanks to your donations and prayers, the hangar renovation is underway! The first part was the railings around the hangar and they are nearly finished. Then, the second part is the construction of the hangar gate; it's scheduled to begin soon. This will provide the conservation of the material, and prevent animals and people from entering the premises, these factors potentially causing damage to the aircraft.

Getting the planes back to action is one of the big plans! They are in excellent condition but because of some small damages caused by animals and people,

your prayers and donations are encouraged and needed so we can be back in the skies! The local government leaders can't wait to see us flying again, serving the region.

We have presented our plans for 2024 to the Region Executive Officer and they are very excited to work with us. Some of the plans are:

- Weekly Community Breakfast
- Hospital Transportation
- Monthly events on community issues including but not limited to: Teenage Pregnancy, Breaking the Silence - Domestic Abuse, Mental Health Problems/Suicide, Quitting Smoking, Quitting Alcohol, Benefits of Physical Exercise, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Malaria and Dengue, Disease Prevention through Healthy Eating - Cancer, Heart Problems, Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, Handling Laboratory Quality Control
- Community Music Classes
- Weekly Community IT/IT Classes
- Monthly Community Health Checks
- Farming Classes
- Community Spanish/Portuguese Classes

Thank you very much for following this project and for your prayers and donations!

*God bless you!
Rob & Sue Ellen*



**Your AWA Missionary Candidates in Training at the AWA Guyana Mission
Project: Rob & Sue Ellen**