

# Ministry Updates

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## A Light? A Train?

Perhaps you have heard the joke about competing **'tunnel visions'**: "I thought I saw the light at the end of the tunnel, but it was a coming train!" The phrase aptly describes how many feel about the events of 2020. It may help us to remember that the time will come when COVID-19 no longer dominates the news or our thoughts. We will never forget the precious lives lost



Ivorian CHE team member sharing COVID prevention

during the pandemic or the grief of their families. In contrast, though, we want to share the hope of good news from Medical Ambassadors International (MAI). MAI coordinators trained us to use the Community Health Evangelism (CHE) strategy. Ravi J. Jayakaran, MAI's current president, reported this week, "[We are excited to share that of the 2.56 million people that our CHE program impacts, we have not had a single death due to COVID-19 so far! Praise the Lord!](#)"

CHE workers and volunteers that MAI oversee labor in 75 countries and 5,282 communities. Similar to the CHE efforts in Cote d'Ivoire, their teams share COVID-19 prevention information, make face masks, supply hand sanitizers, broadcast radio programs with Q&A sessions on the pandemic, make community visits to inform hope, and help churches develop plans to evade the spread of the disease. They have further advanced by encouraging backyard gardening, providing seeds, and teaching microenterprise skills that help families with wavering incomes. The numbers are stunning when you consider the impoverished communities where these teams serve.

## Tunnel Vision

CHE implementers unrelentingly pursue, engage, and offer hope in Christ to every household in given communities A pandemic like COVID-19 spotlights statistics from MAI that illustrate how CHE practitioners can develop good **"tunnel visions"** that shine sunlight on issues. While curative care provides immeasurably good service to the suffering people, the useful keys that evade or overcome pandemics require hope-inspired visions for preventive care that let people exit the tunnel safely. [Gospel witness taking root in every community of a nation develops the capacity to overcome](#). Thank you for joining us in prayer and action for the sake of the Kingdom.

## Prayer & Praise

- As of September 11, the latest COVID-19 numbers in Cote d'Ivoire are 18,916 reported cases, 119 deaths, and 17,960 recoveries.
- Not only will our special needs granddaughter return to the classroom in late September, but she will be in class at the elementary school just three minutes from home. Another answer to prayer!
- Thank the Lord with us for safe travels to Michigan and a good beginning of meetings. We look forward to sharing with ministry partners, some of whom have helped bless the people of Cote d'Ivoire with abundant life in Christ for over 20 years!

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

Last weekly: [Our COVID-19 Life – 200905.PDF](#)

Prior video: [Among Us – 200815.PDF](#)

2020 Q2 Report: [The "C" Continuum - 2Q 2020 Report 200801 PDF](#)

2020 Budget: [CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2020](#)

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Something to ask? Write: [updates@verlindeb.org](mailto:updates@verlindeb.org)

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