



missions update

*JUNE 2022*



**DISPLACED  
REFUGEES IN  
MOZAMBIQUE**



 **NORTH**  
 **BOULEVARD**  
Making disciples. Planting churches.

# More than 750,000 people have been forced out of their homes in the north.

## BACKGROUND

More than **750,000 people** from the Mwani and Makonde tribes have been forced out of their homes by Islamic militants from the **northern tip of Mozambique** from 2018-2021.

Because the people are fleeing within the same country, they are technically called internally displaced peoples, but they are often referred to as refugees.

## LANGUAGE BARRIERS

The displaced people groups speak the languages of Swahili and Bantu, but not the Makua which is the language of the region they are settling in. They also do not speak Portuguese, the official language of Mozambique.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE GOSPEL

Displaced people groups create social upheaval which sometimes leads to greater openness to the gospel message. Because these Islamic peoples have been driven from their homes by Islamic radicals, **there are some indications of more receptivity than any time in their history.**



# On Mission

## MEET THE BAILEY FAMILY

Aaron and Marisa Bailey have worked in Tanzania for years and have moved their family to Mozambique in order to lead evangelistic disciple making and church planting efforts to the displaced peoples.

The entire Bailey family is united in commitment to this mission. All family members have unique talents to contribute toward the mission and have unique language skills to lead in evangelism.



## STRATEGY

Goals include making disciples and starting new churches among communities of the displaced persons who have settled in the region around Montepuez, where an existing movement within Churches of Christ has been growing.

Access ministries to meet urgent needs will be required, and are expected to be coordinated through the previous missionaries and churches.

This will include skills training to help people integrate economically into local society. However, success will be measured by conversions and churches planted with a prayer to initiate a larger movement.

**Our goal is always  
to make disciples  
and plant churches.**



## IMPACT



The Bailey family has a history of methodical work that is cautious not to create a dependence on foreign input for long-term sustainability.



Their most recent work has focused on leadership development and stabilization of existing churches.



Work among displaced people groups requires a shift in strategy to emphasize more evangelistic disciple-making as well as creation of teams of people with language skills adequate to reach these people groups.

# Medical Care

# Leadership Training

# Communication





## **OPPORTUNITIES & NEXT STEPS**

Although challenging, the opportunities for disciple-making in this region are exceptional.

Challenges include balancing humanitarian aid as an access ministry along with adequate focus on gospel outreach.

Existing missionaries (Jeremy & Martha Smith along with Chad & Amy Westerholm) and other church leaders are seeking to care for immediate and mid-range social needs of encampments in the area. They expect to continue this, giving space for the Bailey family, due to their existing language skills, to spearhead evangelistic work.

**North Boulevard has made a three-year commitment to support the Bailey family in the Mozambique outreach.**

**Church Liaison:** Jeremy & Dawn Harrison, Bob Blaylock, Nick & Cheryl Horton, Don Harrison