



VINE Initiative Inc

*Volunteering to Intervene for the  
Neediest of the Earth*

Spring 2021  
Issue 2

## VINE Newsletter

### VINE MEDICAL MISSION 2020

It began November 8, 2020 when the VINE Initiative board of directors voted to approve a medical mission to take place in Southeastern Nigeria led by VINE President, Father Levi Nkwocha. The VINE board asked a local physician to help with ordering prescription medications along with over-the-counter medications and supplies through MAP International. The board received 2 boxes of Essential Medical Packs and 1 Custom Medical Pack from MAP International. The medical packs were then shipped using FedEx and IMPEX to Father Eustace, the VINE Initiative contact in Nigeria.

Father Levi arrived in his home city of Owerri, Southeastern Nigeria on December 18, 2020. He coordinated a team of medical staff to decide dates, logistics, number of health personnel needed, and what additional medical supplies they would need. The team arranged for medical supplies, lab kits, eyeglasses, and vitamins to be purchased and ready for transport. Additional medical staff was added to the team, which consisted of 5 eye doctors, 5 medical doctors, 5 lab technicians, 7 nurses, and 3 pharmacists. The team used town criers and church announcements as ways to spread the word about a medical mission in their area.

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*God  
loves  
those  
who find  
joy in  
giving.*

*-St. John Paul II*

*Patients visiting medical stations and waiting to be evaluated by medical mission professionals.*



### VINE MEDICAL MISSION 2020 — CONTINUED

On December 28<sup>th</sup>, Father Levi rented a bus and drove the team of medical personnel along with the locally bought supplies to the suburb of Umuohiagu. Once the team arrived at the destination, they set up areas to perform each medical evaluation. Father Levi and a protocol officer arranged the patients in groups following COVID guidelines and instructed them to the various medical areas. The day ran smoothly as each patient visited the following stations: a nurse for vital signs, an eye exam, a physical exam, lab tests, a revisit to a medical doctor with lab results, then to the pharmacist for drug dispensing. After day one, word spread of the medical care being provided which made day two busier and more taxing. Over the two-day period, 518 adults/children were evaluated and treated for various medical conditions. In early January, the medical supplies and medications from MAP International arrived from the US and were distributed to those who had prescriptions that were written by the doctors during the two-day medical mission.

Overall, it was a very successful mission with the supplies from MAP International and shipping costs being paid for by private donors. VINE Initiative, Inc. contributed \$2500 for the medical supplies purchased in Nigeria, bus rental, meals and snacks for medical staff, tables and chairs, masks, and sanitizing solutions.

#### MAP INTERNATIONAL

A Christian organization providing medical needs throughout the world.

#### Some of the items found in an Essential Pack:

- Antibiotics
- Children's vitamins
- OTC pain relievers
- Antibiotic creams
- Prenatal supplements
- Decongestants
- Physical injury and wound care supplies

To learn more about MAP International visit [map.org](http://map.org).



## *Charity Delayed is Charity Denied*

### **VINE COMPLETES SECOND FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

The VINE Initiative board members voted unanimously to plan another food distribution to South-eastern Nigeria. It was decided that \$2500 would be wired to Father Eustace, the VINE contact in Nigeria, to purchase rice and beans. In October 2020, the distribution was a success with providing essential foods to 300 families in Umuohiagu, Ngo Okpala. The cost of supplies and transportation had increased considerably since the first VINE food distribution in April 2020 where the needs of over 500 families were met. Another food distribution is planned for spring of 2021.

The president and the VINE Initiative board of directors are so thankful for the contributions of our donors. This humanitarian act could not have happened if it wasn't for their generosity. This is only the beginning of our efforts in Volunteering to Intervene for the Neediest of the Earth.

Father Levi Nkwocha

### **VINE MISSION**

VINE is committed to a 4 step strategic plan of identifying unfortunate victims of destitution in order to:

1. Provide staple food
2. Sponsor basic medical services
3. Support standard education
4. Empower skill acquisition projects with the assistance of trusted volunteers on site



## HOW TO DONATE

**VINE** relies on your generous support to accomplish its goal. A \$25+ donation can feed a family of 5 for a week. Donate today and save a life, through the VINE Initiative Inc. Let us make the mission and vision of VINE work.

It is our goal to provide an online giving option in the near future, but for the time being we ask that you send your check to:

**VINE Initiative, Inc.**  
**1533 S. Riverwood Dr.**  
**Wabash, IN 46992**

## WHO WE ARE

At the invitation of Father Levi Nkwocha, six couples committed to the board membership of VINE Initiative on August 5th 2019.

Board members include: John Philippsen (treasurer), Linda Campbell (secretary), Steve Kroh (funds coordinator), Barb Smith, Bob Ross, Andris Ross, Melanie Philippsen, Michael Campbell, Lisa Kroh, Todd Shear, and Angel Shear.

## Check Out Our Website

[www.vineinitiative.org](http://www.vineinitiative.org)

## Contact Us Through Email

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

