



DOING WHAT WE CAN IN SOUTH AFRICA



Written by Becky Rosaler, OTB's Development Director

As we drove into Paarl East, the wooden pallets piled with corrugated metal and chain-link fencing reminded me of the make-shift homes I've seen in Tijuana, Costa Rica, or the Philippines. The ingenuity of building materials always impresses me. We're invited into a courtyard that has an assortment of chair, bins, and boxes for seating. And then Pastor Danny greets those who are gathered. They sing worship songs that are familiar to me. Pastor Danny challenges the moms to raise their children knowing Jesus because that is the one true way to rise above their circumstances. He prays for them with such passion and dependency on God. And then a line forms—the children first with siblings assisting their younger brothers or sisters. The women are next. If any food is left, the men will eat. It's September 2019 and a moment in my life that I will never forget.

This past Monday South Africa celebrated Freedom Day. April 27, 1994 marked the first post-apartheid election for a country on its way to healing. I was a teenager in 1994. South Africa's apartheid ended during my lifetime. I realized this past September that the country is still healing and has a long way to go. There are grave inequalities that can plainly be seen in beach-front

properties and miles of shanty towns, luxury sports cars and walking to get places, comfortably staying safe at home and the impossibility of social distancing.

April has been devastating. As with much of the world, South Africa has gone into lockdown. It has been an inconvenience and hardship for many of us. For the poorer communities in South Africa and around the world, it is life or death. The ability to work, means adults can purchase food. The ability to attend school, means children can count on a meal. When work and school are removed from the equation, hunger becomes a dire reality. In South Africa, this has set into motion looting, riots, and seeking help wherever possible.



We are so incredibly proud of the Outside the Bowl South Africa team. They have shifted from cooking thousands of hot nutritious meals to putting together family meal packs. These boxes are being distributed by ministry partners and schools. They're also shifting from producing 200 serving bags of Vita Kidz Porridge to family-size bags holding 20 servings. These bags are being filled by hand (pictured above) since the existing equipment cannot do the job.

Right now Outside the Bowl is raising funds for additional equipment which will speed up the process and get more food out to families in need. Will you partner with our team in South Africa by donating today? \$10 will provide food for a family for a week, \$40 for a month. We're also working toward raising the funding to buy the new packaging machines. Visit our website to learn more and donate today: outsidethebowl.org/feeding-families.

The team also covets your prayers. They are working 16-hour days. Safety is a concern as food delivery vehicles have been looted. And the emotional hardship of seeing people who are former employees and friends struggling to provide food for their families is heart breaking.

OUTSIDE THE BOWL NEWS



Virtual Cooking Class // May 2

Join Key To The Kitchen **this Saturday** for a virtual cooking class that benefits Outside the Bowl's COVID-19 response. Chef Rees has over 14 years of experience in the kitchen and has worked alongside some of the best Michelin rated chefs in the country.

Register [today](#) so you can shop for the experience!



OTB Haiti Update

Haiti is in a holding pattern right now as the impact of COVID-19 is predicted to be more deadly than the 2010 earthquake. Pray for their ability to social distance and slow the spread of this virus. Because of you, OTB was able to send funds to pay our kitchen staff while they shelter in place this month. Country Director David was overjoyed to be able to extend this gift to his team.



OTB Mexico Update

This is what OTB meal delivery looks like during COVID-19 stay at home orders! OTB Mexico continues to get [family meal packs](#) to those in need in Tijuana and Mexicali. The kitchens continue to partner with local churches and ministries to distribute the food. Join us in praying for additional resources—government funding and grant proposals—to help fund even more meal packs.



#GivingTuesdayNow // May 5

#GivingTuesdayNow is a global day of unity and generosity in response to unprecedented need caused by COVID-19. During this time, Outside the Bowl Super Kitchens have shifted operations to meeting needs of individuals and families. Follow OTB on social media to learn how you can help on Tuesday, May 5.

Thank you for being part of Outside the Bowl as together, we feed the hungry ... body & soul!

With JOY,

The OTB International Family

2020 Outside the Bowl Gala Save the Date: October 2

It is our prayer that we can gather together in celebration this fall. We will inform you of any changes to the Outside the Bowl Gala in the coming weeks. Your health and safety are our greatest concern. Stay safe friends!

