

Honoring Nelson Mandela's Passion for Education

INMED celebrated Nelson Mandela Day around the world on July 18 with a variety of creative, educational and COVID-19-safe service activities—from food package deliveries in Pombos, Brazil to backyard gardening demonstrations in South Africa to student tributes in the US. And to encourage healthy lifestyles and develop food security during the coronavirus pandemic, we have created a special Nelson Mandela Day page on our website of how-to videos from our INMED affiliates.

CLICK HERE to visit our video library and join us in making every day a Nelson Mandela Day of service.

Farmers Embrace Community Aquaponics in Jamaica



Curious students in the Alston District of Clarendon peer into the fish tank that feeds grow beds in their new community aquaponics system.



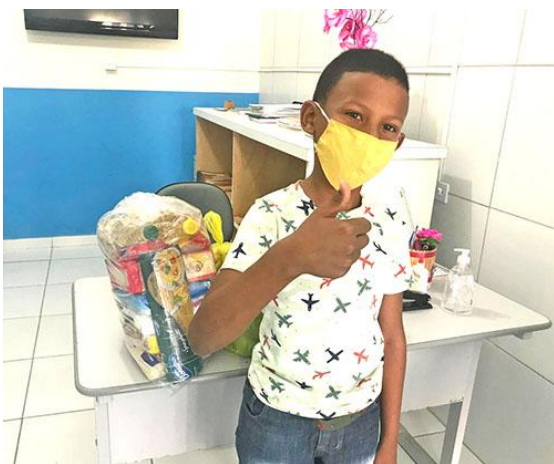
Newly trained aquaponics farmers in Clarendon tend their systems throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the coronavirus pandemic has heightened awareness of the need for local food production, five communities in Clarendon, Jamaica are watching their food security strengthen by the day. In a recent article on INMED's community-based aquaponics project with the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation and IDB Lab, farmers expressed great hope for the future of the new adaptive agriculture technique INMED Caribbean introduced over the past year.

Throughout the COVID-19 shutdown, Clarendon's new aquaponics farmers have continued to tend their crops undeterred. That also bodes well for their ability to maintain production during severe climate events and other natural disasters that disrupt food supplies and income generation.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read a recent article about INMED Aquaponics® in Clarendon.

Health in Action Takes to the Streets



Thanks to a successful crowd-funding campaign by Program Manager Paula Sanches, INMED Brasil has been distributing food and basic essentials throughout the pandemic to the most vulnerable families in Pombos and Tucumã. They are two of the municipalities served by our Health in Action program with the Mondelēz International Foundation to improve nutrition and healthy lifestyles education and access to fresh food via school and community gardens.

The RAMPA Institute also donated 1,800 face masks to the effort. Pombos, in particular, has been severely under-resourced since before the coronavirus pandemic. A majority of the population lives in cramped, multi-family dwellings—many without running water or electricity—making social distancing as well as distance learning nearly impossible.

Our team at INMED Brasil has been working with the municipal governments to distribute

food, hygiene kits and learning activities to families in the most need. Health in Action field staff also have been measuring children's BMI and providing guidance to students and their parents on healthy eating and regular exercise to boost their immune systems.

If you would like to support this effort, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Overcoming the Odds in Free State, South Africa



As the leader of a successful farming cooperative in Kroonstadt, Free State, Edward Moloji Nale is an inspiration to people with disabilities in his township of Marabastad. But it was not always that way.

Nale has come a long way from his younger days, when he got involved with a rough crowd and lost his leg in a gang fight.

Isolated and depressed after losing his leg, Nale started attending a self-help group and became a disability representative. Eventually, he founded a farming co-op for people with disabilities. It took a long time to become a viable enterprise, however.

"There is unfortunately still a stigma around people living with disabilities," says Nale. "Many people in the community didn't see me as a man and treated me like I was a young boy."

After years of looking for funding and not being successful, Nale came across INMED South Africa and applied for its INMED Aquaponics® program in Free State, funded by USAID.

In addition to installing a commercial aquaponics system, INMED South Africa has provided technical and business training, links to markets and other adaptive agriculture techniques to help the farmers make the most of their land.

Apart from the production advantages of aquaponics, Nale says as a person living with a disability, it is so much easier physically to work on the grow beds and handle the fish. "Both USAID and INMED really helped me a lot, and after doing nothing for so many years, I could now finally wake up with purpose."

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more about INMED Aquaponics® in South Africa.

INMED in the News

Check out some of the latest articles on INMED's work in the world:

Earth Today | Climate-Smart Aquaponics Farming Appeals To Local Teacher

<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/news/20200716/earth-today-climate-smart-aquaponics-farming-appeals-local-teacher>

Youth Harness the Power of Climate Smart Agriculture with Aquaponics (p. 18)

<https://issuu.com/undercoverfarmingmagazine/docs/ucfmay.june20>

Township Schools Explore Wonder of Aquaponics

<https://www.heraldlive.co.za/news/2020-06-26-township-schools-explore-wonder-of-aquaponics/>

Farming Communities Get a Helping Hand Through COVID

<https://www.loopjamaica.com/content/farming-communities-get-helping-hand-through-covid>

Herbal Bounty for Impoverished Communities



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