

Somos nós

SEPTEMBER 2026

Report

Overview

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Team



What We Do



Report



Who We Are

In Mozambique, people living with disability are among the most marginalised. *Somos Nós*, seeks to embrace them and work for their inclusion in the Church and society. *Somos Nós* means 'It's Us' or 'We're Together' in Portuguese. The name was chosen by our Mozambican team and emphasises our heart to stand in solidarity with people living with disability. Our desire is to mobilise and equip the church to live out the love of Jesus through an undivided witness; building relationships, proclaiming the Gospel and engaging practically to encourage interdependence and community.

The ministry began from small beginnings when OMS missionaries, Melvin and Sharon Kelly, encountered people with disability in Mozambique and were challenged to minister among them. After repairing John Paul's wheelchair in 2012, the work has expanded to embrace and support many more. *Somos Nós* now has a well-established program with wheelchair fitting clinics and a wheelchair maintenance workshop. These programs are complimented by home visits, family support groups, community Bible studies, collaboration with the public hospitals and special events. These events celebrate International Disability Day on 3rd December and Children's day on 1st June each year.



John Paul

Somos Nós partners with churches and responds to requests for help from several hospitals and health clinics. The Living Word Evangelical Church partners with *Somos Nós* in Maputo and Zambezia provinces. *Somos Nós* supports local churches as they build relationships with people living with disability and their families and makes mobility aids available. It is all about creating opportunities to see the love of Christ transform the lives of individuals, families and whole communities.

Melvin and Sharon are now based in Northern Ireland but support the work of *Somos Nós* as mentors and advocates. They also visit Mozambique each year and recruit volunteer teams to work alongside and build capacity in the *Somos Nós* team.

Somos Nós is a ministry of One Mission Society in partnership with Transforming Lives and Communities (TLC) in Northern Ireland. TLC was birthed as a charity to support the ministry of *Somos Nós*. In the past a charity shop called Girassol, undergirded by the Charity, raised funds for the ministry of *Somos Nós*. This shop is no longer operational and thus *Somos Nós* are seeking more partners to continue to sustain the ministry. Current ministry partners include Barnabas Aid, Free Wheelchair Mission, Through the Roof, Medical Missionary News, Radio Cracker Ballymena, Trusts and individual donors.

Somos Nós embraces people living with disability in Mozambique through holistic, Inclusive and transformative ministry. Every human being is created by God in His image and has the right to be treated with dignity. God cares for all that He has made. He created us as integral beings; our physical, psychological and spiritual wellbeing matter to Him. God's love compels us to love those around us, including those that live with physical and intellectual limitations.

Our Objectives

1. Mobilise and equip the Church, other entities and the community to contribute to the wellbeing of those living with disabilities and their families. Our desire is that people with disability will have a full and abundant life;
2. Promote the wellbeing of the Church and the growth of the Kingdom of God;
3. Mobilise and equip the Church to be active in proclaiming the Gospel;
4. Mobilise and equip the Church in discipleship (disciples who make disciples);
5. Contribute to the development of the community and Mozambique;
6. Listen, identify and study the socio-cultural problems experienced by people living with disability and strive to overcome them;
7. Advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities and champion their full, active and creative integration into society;
8. Promote collaboration between organisations.

Team



Juca – Ministry Co-Ordinator

Juca leads the *Somos Nós* ministry. He came to faith around the time of the 2000 floods. The church in Khongolote was birthed through aid provided and relationships built at that time. Juca is married to Elina and they studied for a number of years in Brazil. He is the current Moderator of the Living Word Church. Juca writes that "*Somos Nós* is the practical proclamation of the Gospel, transforming lives and restoring the joy and hope of those living with disability and their families."



Elina – Nurse

Elina is married to Juca. She trained as a nurse in Brazil. She is a great blessing as she is able to encourage proactive care. She holds clinics to raise health awareness and test for high blood pressure and diabetes. She is also involved in treating pressure sores and educating wheelchair users in how to prevent them.



Regina – Physiotherapist

Regina received her qualification as a physiotherapist technician in the summer of 2024. She is currently completing her degree in Physiotherapy. We supported her financially during her studies. She is a blessing as she uses her skills and training to impact many lives.



Constantino – Technician

Constantino who lives with disability is a blessing as he uses his skills to serve in the workshop. *Somos Nós* first made contact with him through Afonso, who was passing his house and noticed him sitting on the ground. This led to Constantino receiving a wheelchair, joining the church and becoming an intergral part of the *Somos Nós* team.



Samuel – Technician

Samuel has great practical talents and is using them to serve people as he builds and repairs wheelchairs at the *Somos Nós* centre.



Afonso,
Community Liaison

Afonso works in the community. He is often the first point of contact with a family in a new community. He helps families navigate bureaucracy in order for children with disability to have correct paperwork and be able to go to school. He loves people and champions the cause of those with disability.



Volunteers

Somos Nós is blessed by around 100 volunteers who serve others. Many have been helped by *Somos Nós* and, in turn, desire to help others. Young people are also involved and many are inspired to study health-related disciplines. We are thankful that “*Somos Nós* is a family that impacts and transforms lives and God is Exalted.”

What We Do

A. Provision of Wheelchairs, Mobility Devices and Hygiene Products

1. Supply of Mobility Aids - Free Wheelchair Mission wheelchairs, CLASP specialist wheelchairs and second-hand wheelchairs, mobility aids and hygiene products (Incontinence pads/sanitary packs).
2. Capacity Building - Developing a competent local team through training, mentoring and support.
3. Fitting Clinics - Competent assessment, procurement and delivery.
4. Maintenance - Initiatives to ensure that the wheelchairs are maintained so that they have an extended life. This is facilitated through training of workshop technicians and the recipient.

To date we have imported 16 consignments of mobility aids, hygiene products and accessories. The mobility aids are stored at the *Somos Nós* centre in Khongolote. Each Wednesday people come to a clinic where they can be assessed. The *Somos Nós* team also goes to areas further away from the City of Maputo for specific wheelchair distributions in areas where it is difficult for people to travel to the Khongolote centre.

B. Church and Community Mobilisation

1. Mobilizing and Equipping Churches - Strategic efforts to envision church leaders and equip church members to live out the love of Jesus. Encouraging the church to strive for an undivided witness in our world where our character (who we are), our proclamation (what we say) and our engagement (what we do) matter. Discipleship, evangelism and social engagement are all vital.
2. Initiatives - Encouraging people to live in community characterized by interdependence, compassion and holistic care. This takes different forms including parent support groups, Bible exploration groups and social enterprises (entrepreneurship).
3. Home Visitation.

C. Promoting Community Health

1. Wellbeing Training - Providing opportunities for people to learn more about how God made us and what it means to care for our physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.
2. Acute Healthcare - Interventions to help people with disability who have acute health needs such as malnutrition and pressure sores. Preventative care - education and testing of blood sugar and blood pressure levels.
3. Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy - Trained therapists providing ongoing support to people with disability.

D. Advocacy

Advocating for the rights of people with disability.

E. Making God's Word accessible

1. Providing Bibles and Audio Bibles - Distributing Bibles to people living with disability. This includes solar-powered audio Bibles to those with low literacy ability and those with sight impairments.
2. Providing reading glasses to those who have limited sight.

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026**
Families helped	658	426	801	825	529
Employees	7	7	7	7	6
Volunteers	78	47	59	97	105
Training courses	2	4	4	6	5
Mobility Aids	539	156	498	656	315
Audio Bibles	no figures	no figures	97	114	16
Sanitary products	35	94	211	251	35
Reading Glasses	16	101	142	203	71
Repaired mobility aids	44	84	137	196	112
Consignments received	1	1	4	2	2

*Total including families helped in Zambezia and Chibuto (Gaza)

**Until August 2026

Report

Wednesday Clinics

Each Wednesday, at the Somos Nós clinic, people have been assessed and provided with wheelchairs free of charge. Each week, 15-25 people were provided with items that improve their standard of living including appropriately fitted mobility aids, reading glasses, incontinence pads or audio Bibles. Our Somos Nós staff have provided expertise and advice including physiotherapy and treatment and advice regarding pressure sores. Each week a team member has been opened the Bible and shared its life giving truths. Participants often share their life experiences and what they are learning. Thank you for partnering with us to make these clinics possible. Our partnership has touched and transformed many lives.



Alda with her son Kewane. They come to Wednesday clinics to help others



Benni receiving a wheelchair



Flora carrying out a wheelchair assessment



Reading glasses being given



Elina conducting a medical assessment



Albertina, who has had her leg amputated in the past year, is one of the Somos Nós volunteers ministering to others



Lídia receiving her Somos Nós I.D card. Each person receives a card so that Somos Nós can track each mobility device and provide follow-up



People gathering at the Somos Nós centre, on a Wednesday, for the Clinic

Maria's Story



During a recent clinic, in August, Maria stood to her feet and exclaimed, "before I came to this blessed house I just sat at home. Someone told me about Somos Nós and I came and received crutches. Now I have life! Today, I brought my friend who needs help." The following week she arrived once more, with another friend in need. It reminds us of the story in Mark 2 where the men brought their friend to Jesus, because he had a need, and he went away transformed.

Elidse's Story



When she was a teenager, Elidse became unwell. She was hospitalised but it took doctors a long time to diagnose her illness. Eventually they concluded that she had Tuberculosis, that affected her bones, causing her to be unable to walk. Her family found it very difficult to come to terms with her disability. They believed that the cause was spiritual and thus took her to traditional healers in their search for a 'cure'. As a result, she was subjected to exorcisms against her will. She eventually left home as it became too much for her to bear. Elidse came to Somos Nós in search of a wheelchair but received a welcome and so much more! Her whole perspective has been transformed. She now serves at the Somos Nós centre helping others. Somos Nós is now her family where is loved, cared for and supported. She is pictured in the photo above helping to construct a wheelchair for a child. Because of her context, Somos Nós provides her with a small financial contribution monthly.

Providing Wheelchairs

'Love that Moves'

When I (Sharon Kelly) visited Mozambique, in the Summer of 2025, I met a group of mothers, at a mobile clinic in Marracuene, who were asking for help but we didn't have the specialised wheelchairs they so desperately needed. It broke my heart to hear their struggles - carrying children on their back for miles, which was often impossible. Often this resulted in the child being left at home. The 'Love that Moves' campaign was launched to raise money to meet this need.

God provided in amazing ways and we were able to make our first order of 300 specialist mobility aids from CLASP. We celebrated the arrival of this consignment in July 2026. Two weeks later I arrived in Mozambique with a volunteer team. God placed it on their hearts to steward their skills to serve with Somos Nós. We had Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Nurses, Carers and those with technical skills. It was a blessed time of serving together with our Mozambican brothers and sisters. Children were assessed, wheelchairs were built and given out, and the Somos Nós team gained new skills and training. We even got to go back to the group of mums, in Marracuene, from last year with a consignment of wheelchairs! Like Hagar in the Bible, God heard their cry, saw them and responded. We were able to fit many wheelchairs that day! The ministry of Somos Nós is possible because many play their part in what God is doing - we work together! We are so thankful for all our partners.



Karen (O.T) adjusting a wheelchair for Cleyd Edio



Hermenegildo delighted to receive his wheelchair.

Short Term Teams

In June and July 2026 Somos Nós received two volunteer teams from Northern Ireland. What a blessing these teams were, as they served alongside the Somos Nós team.

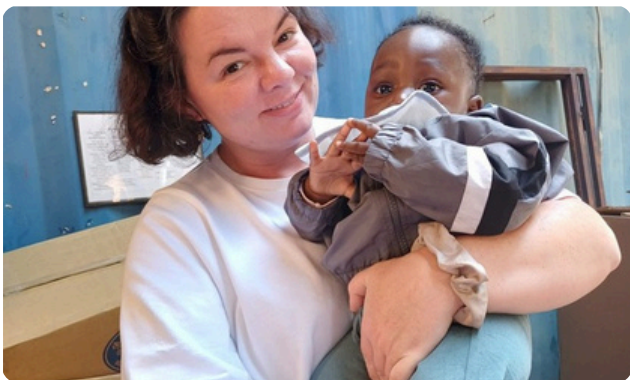
Jacqui's Story

Stepping out in faith and answering God's call to go to Mozambique was both exciting and terrifying. As God led me to this team, I felt incredibly inadequate in my own abilities, and nerves occasionally overcame me.

When we arrived at Khongolote to meet the Somos Nós team and community, I was blown away. Blown away by the pride each had in their work and fellow colleagues. Blown away by the faith and joy each person had in such challenging circumstances. Blown away at the love and kindness each had for each other. Blown away at their ability to be open and vulnerable with each other. The light of the Lord shines so brightly in these people; they truly are the hands and feet of our Lord and Saviour. Their faith, steadfastness, joy in the Lord, courageous hearts, and love for each other were my biggest inspiration.

God used this to open my own heart and challenge my fears and feelings of inadequacy within His kingdom. God is in the small things and the big things, and He will use big things and small. A willing, humble, and empty vessel is all He requires. My prayer is that we each answer this call as gracefully as our Mozambican brothers and sisters. May He continue to use the Somos Nós team to build His kingdom here on earth. May we here at home come along in partnership with this ministry, using our resources to help. May our Lord God hear our prayers and give each of us a burdened heart for our brothers and sisters across the world.

As believers in Christ Jesus, we must remember if one part of the body is broken and lacking, we all are. Praise the Risen Lord. Amen.



Partnership and Training

Somos Nós is grateful for the partnership with Free Wheelchair Mission (FWM). Somos Nós has received several consignments of wheelchairs and, as a follow-up, representatives from FWM came to Mozambique in June 2025 to facilitate a 3 day training for 36 participants.



FWM trainers



Theoretical and practical training



Arrival of the container in December 2025



Theoretical and practical training was delivered to our team

Hygiene Products



Jeremiah is a young man who fell out of a tree and as a result is paralysed. He came to our mobile clinic in his old wheelchair (pictured on the left). Thanks to FWM, we were able to provide a new wheelchair for him. Like many others, Jeremiah also needs incontinence pads. Currently, we do not have any available in Mozambique but we have been collecting them in Northern Ireland and are preparing to send a container. We hope that this container can be sent in September 2026 and will arrive in Mozambique before Christmas.





Partnering with hospitals



Elidse completed a sewing course



Raja using his sewing skills



Providing breakfast



Treating wounds



Investing in young people

Contact information

To discuss partnership please contact us

Sharon Kelly (Somos Nós Ambassador)

E-mail: Sharon@somosnos.org

Phone/WhatsApp: (+44) 07710565862

Juca Fernando (Somos Nós Co-Ordinator)

E-mail: Juca@somosnos.org

Website: www.somosnos.org

A Ministry of One Mission Society

onemissionsociety.org.uk

info@onemissionsociety.org.uk

Registered Charity SC042930

