

Bolivia News July 2026

Dear friends,

Thank you so much for your patience during this long-overdue newsletter update. As many of you know from our last update, we suffered significant loss and trauma from the flash river flooding that struck in December 2025. Since then, we have been working tirelessly to restore a foundation of security and strength so we can fully resume our mission work and officially open the center.

While we have navigated challenging terrain, complex emotions, physical exhaustion, and structural adjustments to our service model, our core sense of direction and mission remains entirely unchanged. The accompanying photos showcase our recent mission trips to several of the most severely affected communities to some of the communities affected.



Every surrounding area has lost precious lives, buildings, and vital infrastructure. Consequently, an immense amount of work remains to restore confidence within these devastated communities.



A major challenge has been the roads and storm drainage—or rather, the total lack of them. We have helped with materials, tractor, extra workers and tools to help repair badly affected areas.





We have been able to develop deeper friendships in our local community and enjoyed celebrations with some of those we have been helping. To reach people, we had to drive through deep swampy water, winch our own vehicle, and tow others. We also cleared heavy debris deposited on our land to secure our entrance and protect an area heavily eroded by the rains.





As roads improved, we managed to reach other areas of need to deliver new beds and mattresses. We also helped a man in need of medical attention to get to the city for surgery. We prayed with many families as we visited homes, one by one.

We even found Amelia's cat! She had lost her cat about 1 year ago, had been praying she would see him again and one of the families we helped had taken him in. Remarkably, this family lived about 10 to 12 river crossings and 10 kilometers away from the Center!

The below photos show the water tank sitting unmoved on the edge of a precipice and window protectors we have installed. This adds security and peace of mind for going out, but also security and safety for the children in the future.



We spent nearly three months repairing our entrance and the surrounding landscape. While we are still securing this new entrance, our next plan is to lay large stones along the riverbed to improve traction and prevent vehicles from getting stuck.



The surrounding landscape was initially buried under debris, structural wreckage from destroyed homes, scattered clothing, uprooted trees, and dense sediment piles.



This has now been entirely cleared. We have sown grass seed across vulnerable zones and planted a variety of flood-resistant native trees, alongside resilient fruit trees like mango, which naturally withstand both flooding and drought cycles. Though we regularly encounter beautiful wildlife during our outdoor shifts, we also have to brace ourselves for a few insect bites!

We were incredibly blessed by a support family in the UK who paid for our flights, allowing us to return to the UK during April and May for a much-needed season of reconnection, and retreat. We enjoyed time to rest, debrief, receive counselling and coaching which has been an amazing help and we are very grateful to everyone who made this possible and also helped with accommodation. We are so sorry if we missed the chance to catch up with you this time! We truly hope to see you on our next visit. Sorry for any pics we didn't get, we were enjoying company so much, we forgot the selfie opportunity a few times!





We had a lovely time, that flew past so quickly! It was very special, with new friendships and deeper connections and reconnections and more, we loved the change of culture and food, but realised we also missed Bolivia and a deep sense of drive and purpose pulled our hearts as we contemplated our return. The **aerial** photo of the Center shows just how close the disaster zone came. We see God's hand of protection clearly: though destruction raged on three sides of us, the building itself was undamaged! Even the electrics in the bakery area that were under mud and water, still worked.



Returning with renewed confidence, we hit the ground running—feeling fully refreshed and ready to make a difference. The day we landed Isaac joined others fixing a road.

The next week, we pulled a lorry out of the river, fixed the car, harvested huge lemons, kumquats, celebrated Amelia's birthday and made Jam which we give out on mission trips and sell in the town. The jam is branded 'Love'.

A few weeks on we were joined by volunteers David & Hilary, they made a big impact when they arrived with fresh ideas for areas we had been thinking over and needed a plan! They also arrived for mandarin season! We had a wonderful time with them picking fruit, fun with friends, fixing electrics, designing, drilling, cleaning, planting...



David and Hilary both planted palm trees near our entryway, contributing to a total of 38 new palms across the grounds. Amidst a stretch of unseasonably cold weather, the timeless tradition of a hot cup of tea brought an old teapot back into regular service, providing great comfort. We are deeply grateful to David and Hilary for braving sandflies, rain, cold, mud, and hazardous road conditions while adapting seamlessly to the local food, culture, and language.

As warmer weather returned, we organized a successful community mission event further into the national park forest. The local children responded beautifully to the games and Bible stories, allowing us to reconnect with families we hadn't seen in quite a while. Hosting events of this scale requires extra hands, and having David and Hilary with us was instrumental to its success. In addition to sharing the love of God, praying with residents, and distributing clothing, we also delivered essential food supplies directly to various homes.



Back at the centre, materials arrived for the outside walkway, David's plans for this began to take shape, this was so helpful and empowered Isaac to continue the work.



In true **Bolivian** style, some orders arrive several hours late. Thankfully, neighbours came over around 9:30 PM to help us unload the incredibly heavy worktops for the kitchen fit-out. I think there were 9 of us in total, including torch and door holders.



Shortly after this David and Hilary returned to the UK with firsthand experience of Bolivia and the mission centre and have since been able to help us further with technical drawings, tools accessories and more. It has been an immense comfort to pair their technical knowledge, experience here and insights. This has guided our decision-making and helped us move forward in areas where we had been stuck. As I write this (10th August) the outside walkway is close to completion and the kitchen fit-out is still underway, but we are moving closer every day to crossing the finish line.



We have also been moving forward at good speed with the 'secure perimeter'. We have lifted concrete columns in vulnerable areas, and wooden posts in secure positions. We still have more posts to set and small retaining walls and gates to erect before the fencing can be finalized.



WONDERFUL NEWS!

On July 24th, we officially received our formal Foundation documentation, granting us legal non-profit status within Bolivia! While bureaucratic paperwork continues—requiring visits to various municipal offices to submit copies, register for a national tax number, and file for tax exemption, obtaining our official status is an incredible milestone. This legal process required roughly 18 months of persistent effort to finalize!!



In Bolivia, operational tasks inherently take longer. This is due not only to cultural norms and bureaucracy, but also to weather conditions, accessibility issues, material sourcing, and securing reliable labor. When reflecting on the efficiency and accessibility of resources in the UK, the contrast is stark. However, we recognize that God holds us in His hands, and His timing operates on a different scale. Looking back over the last 12 months, we can clearly see how His timing protected us from various pitfalls and resolved our doubts regarding construction decisions. For instance, our initial uncertainties about where and how to build, or whether to incorporate a large multipurpose space under a single roof, have now been validated. While we often battle self-doubt and make mistakes, our journey continually deepens our trust in God and His ultimate plans.

The upcoming milestones are critical, and we would love for you to partner with us in prayer as we step into this next season.

WHAT'S NEXT: PRAYER POINTS AND FUNDING

Several final development areas face delays, largely because our funds and supplies were diverted into emergency restoration following last December's flash flooding. Conversely, we are deeply grateful that certain projects had not yet begun; the flooding provided crucial data that allows us to make wiser, more strategic decisions today.

- **Phase 1: Water Tank House Construction**

We must complete the water tank house before the anticipated drought impacts the region. Climate scientists warn that a "Super El Niño" is projected to alter local weather patterns starting in October. Consequently, we are shifting our immediate focus from perimeter fencing to this construction build. Once completed, the facility will allow us to store and reserve approximately 21,000 litres of water. While we are currently sourcing materials and believe our existing budget will cover them, we urgently need manpower and volunteer assistance. Please join us in praying for available labour.

- **Phase 2: Completing the Secure Perimeter**

We need to raise dedicated funds to secure the necessary materials to finish this project. The required inventory includes 50 wooden posts, roughly 400 meters of fencing, several small access gates, two larger secondary gates, and one sliding main entrance gate. Although the total cost is substantial, the project can be broken down into manageable fundraising goals. Please pray for provision and reach out if you would like to help organize fundraising efforts.

- **Phase 3: Children's Bedroom Furniture**

Please pray for specific storage solutions for the children's rooms, alongside additional beds and mattresses to accommodate expansion.

- **Centre Equipment Requirements**

We are seeking provision for functional items such as tables, chairs, a projector, and a projection screen. Our goal is to be ready to offer community English language classes at the centre by February 2027, serving both the local neighbourhood and the children residing at our facility.

- **Generator Replacement**

We must replace our generator soon, as the current unit has been struggling for quite some time. This system serves as our essential backup power source during cloudy days. Compounding this challenge, Bolivia is navigating a severe national fuel crisis; we have been unable to source diesel for over a month and are down to our final few gallons. Long queues at fuel stations regularly stretch for kilometres. While generators configured to run on Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) present a viable alternative, they require a higher upfront investment. Please pray for wisdom and sustainable technical solutions.

- **Administrative Tasks**

We are currently prioritizing a backlog of administrative work and official documentation. Much of our energy has been poured directly into urgent physical labour, leaving minimal stamina for extended screen focus. Whenever construction teams are short-handed, we step in to maintain momentum. While this disrupts our administrative schedule, this intense phase of heavy structural work is nearing its end. We expect to begin compiling the latest annual report by end of September. Moving forward, our reporting schedule will transition to a January-to-December fiscal calendar to align cleanly with Bolivian regulatory requirements for foundations. Please pray for mental clarity, efficiency, and uninterrupted focus.

- **Climate Risks**

Meteorological models suggest our region is heading toward one of the most severe El Niño cycles in recent history. This pattern carries a strong probability of deep drought conditions followed by sudden flash flooding. Ultimately, God holds final sovereignty over these patterns. Please join us in praying for grace, protection, and the rapid ecological recovery of the surrounding forests and riverbanks as we continue restoring our land.

- **Road Infrastructure**

The local roads around us are in poor repair. Main routes are deteriorating much faster than local authorities can repair them. This has turned our secondary access roads into muddy, nearly impassable tracks—including one section that has been completely washed away. While we have always patched things up with temporary fixes in the past, we now want to invest in a long-term solution. A permanent repair will be a big blessing to the whole community. It will also show our neighbours just how committed we are to staying here for the long haul. However, a proper fix requires significant funding. We need to carefully weigh up the total costs, logistical timing, and how we can best team up with the community to get it done. Please pray for financial provision and strategic wisdom amid Bolivia's broader infrastructural constraints.

- **Bolivian Economic & Fuel Crisis**

Bolivia is enduring its most intense economic contraction in decades, characterized by falling natural gas production, depleted foreign reserves, and an acute shortage of US dollars. Because the domestic market relies heavily on imported fuel, this dollar scarcity has severely disrupted nationwide fuel distribution. As of this writing, our backup generator is running on its final tank of diesel with no clear window for replenishment. Please pray for macroeconomic stability, discernment for government leaders, and swift relief from the ongoing fuel shortage.

- **Team and Family Support**

Please continue to uplift our entire team, staff, and girls in your prayers. Please pray for sustained physical health, safety, education, emotional resilience, mission opportunities and spiritual growth.

Thank you so much for your love, prayers and support.

Isaac, Anali, Eunice & Amelia
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For more information please visit:

<https://www.rmissionbolivia.com/donate>

Or email us your questions at

rmissionbolivia@gmail.com

