



Klibur Domin News

March 2023

So many Australians are Friends of Klibur Domin. Whether you have financially supported this Timorese NGO over the last 20 years, spread the news of their great work or have had the opportunity to visit, you are part of this great friendship.

This newsletter is for the donors, volunteers, supporters and friends of Klibur Domin, a Ryder-Cheshire home in Timor-Leste.

Staff profile: Carlos da Costa

I started working at Klibur Domin on October 1, 2021, taking over as Finance Manager, overseeing the accounting and finance side of KD.

In addition, I work with Managing Director Joaquim to Monitor, Evaluate and prepare the many Reports required by various funding partners. This involves collecting and analyzing different program data/information from the Program Managers and Co-ordinator and preparing Program reports to each donor on a quarterly and annual basis.



Carlos da Costa

I live in Tasi Tolu - Dili with my wife, daughter and younger brother and sister.

I am very happy to work with Klibur Domin because I have seen and felt my heart touched because of the many people that have TB in Timor-Leste. Last year I involved myself with the active case finding team on Atauro Island. This experience was really touching. Now I continue to work hard with the finance team and program teams to increase program quality and implementation in community and get high impact/beneficiary as well as other program in Klibur Domin.

Thanks for all donors - RCA, DGF, IOM/KOICA, MSSJ, RCF-NZ, MOH, Maluk Timor and

GDSSIL - for your commitment to continue supporting Klibur Domin, which is having a financial crisis at this time. We need your financial and technical support to continue helping Timor-Leste people.

God bless you all!

Best Regards

Carlos da Costa



The monthly finance meeting



A word from Joaquim

Manager of Klibur Domin

Dear Donors, Volunteers, Supporters and Friends of Klibur Domin

In February I was invited to join a delegation from Timor-Leste to participate in a World Health Organisation Regional workshop in Bangkok.

The purpose was to discuss the Global Fund's funding proposal for South East Asian countries for 2024 - 2026.

The Timor-Leste delegation also included the National TB Program Manager, the Director for communicable disease control within the Ministry of Health, and other representatives from our MOH.

Dental team

We were pleased to see the return of the volunteer dental team with Dr John Denton, dental hygienist Lyn Carman and service technician Mathew Chinn from Adelaide.

The dental Clinic at KD continues to be a great success with more than 700 patients visiting the clinic last year. A further 900 school children were visited at their schools in the community.

The ongoing mentoring from the Volunteer team is very strongly valued by the Dental staff at Klibur Domin. Full story on Pages 4-5.

New Board Members

Klibur Domin has recently welcomed Ms Nona Reis and Ms Jorginha Martins as a new members of the KD Board of Management.

Ms Reis is the Executive Director of The Leprosy Mission Timor-Leste and brings with her great knowledge and experience in NGO Management in Timor-Leste.

Ms Martin's legal skills and experience in Government offices will also be of great benefit.

Joaquim Soares,
Managing Director
Klibur Domin



Finance mentor

KD is seeking a volunteer with an finance/ accounting background for a 6-12 month assignment based at Klibur Domin in Timor-Leste.

They will mentor KDs Finance Manager and work with the finance team to update capacities and modernise the day-to-day financial operations and reporting and compliance functions. Klibur Domin will be requesting assistance from the Australian Volunteer Program to support the role.

AVP have advised this position may be located partly at Klibur Domin and part remotely.

Please bring this to the attention of any family member, friend or acquaintance that might potentially be suitable/interested.

New website

Thanks to Casterton Rotary Volunteer Andrew Seabrook and Tony Franklin of Naroman Web Design in Dili for creating Klibur Domin's new website.

Content now covers virtually all of KD's activities and services, and will be updated regularly.

Take a look: kliburdomin.tl

Klibur Domin financial update

Addressing challenges

Since 2000, many Klibur Domin supporters, through Ryder-Cheshire Australia, have provided magnificent financial support to Klibur Domin, allowing its establishment, subsequent development and much of its ongoing operating costs over the last 23 years.

Additional, often triennial, funding is also provided for specific projects by The Global Fund and KOICA (Korea International Co-operation Agency, detection and treatment of Tuberculosis), the Timorese Government (disability support and some medical and dental costs), from Maluku Timor (dental costs), from RCF NZ for several projects, and in 2022 from a UK-based donor to combat COVID and for cyclone relief. However, there is invariably an additional contribution required, from RCA's funding, to see these projects fully implemented, as well as those projects solely funded.

Action taken

We have been aware that RCA's expenditure in supporting the overseas homes has been exceeding income, with Klibur Domin and Raphael only being supported at previous levels by RCA drawing down on their reserves, a situation that was becoming unsustainable. Consequently, RCA has decided to substantially reduce funding for KD from 2023. To meet this challenge we have needed to take appropriate action in making significant cuts to some programs (including reduced TB accommodation availability) and staff (12 received redundancy).

Unfortunately, the situation has not been helped by the drop in the \$AUD vs \$USD, and significant increases in food and fuel costs in Timor-Leste.

We ask our Friends and Supporters to please re-invigorate your fundraising, regular and one-off contributions, and bequests, , so that Klibur Domin can continue to provide Relief Of Suffering..

Your support vital

However, and fortunately, the impact of reduced funding available has been softened thanks to a very generous bequest for Klibur Domin received last year (originally 'earmarked' to create a longer term reserve fund), which we have been able to call on and thus minimise the extent of cuts required.

It is both bequests such as this, plus regular ongoing contributions, that Ryder-Cheshire Australia needs so as to be able to continue to provide current, and hopefully continuing and increasing, levels of financial support for Klibur Domin. So we ask our Friends and Supporters to please share this message amongst your friends and to re-invigorate your fundraising, regular and one-off contributions, and bequests, so that Klibur Domin can continue to provide Relief Of Suffering to the many disadvantaged people in Timor-Leste. (Please refer to our new website, kliburdomin.tl for more information).

Remember, Australians can enjoy a Tax Deduction for contributions through RCA.

Options investigated

Despite Klibur Domin relying heavily on your support channelled through RCA, we continuously investigate all options for acquiring additional funding from other sources.

Thank you one and all for your wonderful support in the past and for your future generosity.

Dental volunteers return to Klibur Domin

Records system donated

It was great to return to Klibur Domin in February, our first visit since the COVID Pandemic hit.

Our primary aim, this visit, was to attend to some much needed repairs and maintenance of the dental equipment. To this end, we arranged to have in our touring party, Matthew Chinn, an experienced Dental Equipment Technician.

Matthew was able to get an overview of the problems of maintenance of equipment in a developing country. Some of the repair issues we took 'on notice' and will try and address them remotely or on another visit. But it was pleasing that Matt was able to help out and offer advice on ongoing issues.

He was also able to visit other Clinics in Dili and offer much needed help. We are grateful to the company Matthew works for, Dental Concepts in Adelaide, for helping facilitate his visit to Klibur Domin. We hope he will join us in future visits to continue his fine and much needed work.

We did explore the concept of mentoring a local person to help with ongoing dental equipment maintenance. We did identify someone who followed Matt for a couple of days, but the job is so much more complicated than simple sparks and water and more detailed formal training is required. We are working on that, but have no firm solution yet.

Patient management system

Very experienced Dental Hygienist Lyn Carman returned to KD with me. She was also responsible for arranging a valuable donation of dental software for the Dental Clinic. Dental4Windows is a patient management, charting and clinical notes software package commonly used in Dental Practices in Australia. Gary Seacombe of Centaur Software, an Australian company, facilitated the donation of the software and three months support, which Lyn was able to install with the help of their IT team, remotely connected, and commence training the dental clinic team in its use and application. The donation was worth thousands of dollars! The girls in the clinic were quick to adopt it and aim to replace their paper notes with the new system.



KD in good heart

We found Klibur Domin in good heart - ably led, as always, by a very busy Joaquim Soares.

We stayed in the Peter Newton Cottage and were very grateful for the work that Martin Moignard was able to offer us in terms of logistics and hospitality. His local and general knowledge is second to none. The kitchen provided us with wonderful meals for lunch and dinner, for which we were very grateful.

Continued...



We did notice the effect of the recent budgetary constraints on KD. It is disappointing to see a reduction in dollars available to run such an important part of life at Tibar and indeed Timor-Leste.

We should all redouble our efforts to re-establish sufficient funding to make sure Klibur Domin remains the shining light it is of a well-managed, effective, productive health service in Timor-Leste.

Vehicle challenge



In my view, Klibur Domin needs two more Toyota HiLux vehicles - the old ones have either died, or run out of puff. (Now that's a good project for a Rotary or other service/community Club!)

We were driving into Dili one afternoon and just very slowly mooching along, as there were road works happening, and the front wheel fell off! We rang Joaquim and he organised

our maintenance man to rescue us. Domingos wired the suspension up (see below) with some fencing wire and drove the HiLux back to KD to await repairs!

The pot-holed roads are very hard on vehicles, despite very careful driving.

We will continue to work with Joaquim and his team in the Dental Clinic, Dr Jenifer Xemines, Effie and Maria to advance their skills and equipment, to better help deliver excellent Dental care to the people of Timor-Leste.

Dr John Denton

[Thank you not just to John, Lyn and Matthew, but also to the various generous companies mentioned above who supported their trip and KD. Ed].



Occupational Therapy students placement

Life-changing moments

Four 3rd Year ACU Occupational Therapy (OT) students, guided by lecturer Natalie Roche and professional practice educator Amie Li, undertook a four-week online placement in June 2022, providing health consultations for the Timor-Leste community. The program proved to be a major success and was overwhelmingly positive from all perspectives and with clients at KD having some life-changing moments working with the OT students. The impact and success of this program supported by New Colombo Plan and EMERGE funding led to an in-country placement for these students in November 2022 at KD, to continue this work. OT student Andi Fidock reflected on her time with Klibur Domin:



OT students at the Australian Embassy

'I am so thankful for the opportunity I had to work at Klibur Domin in Timor-Leste for my Occupational Therapy student placement last year.'

I really felt that while in Timor-Leste, there is only so much we can do as an individual but can achieve a lot as a team. Conversations with the team and Timorese staff reminded us of the importance of advocating for change and celebrating individuals in the community desiring to break down the stigma and barriers for those living with a disability. This is a big task, but I hope through ACU, and partnership with Klibur Domin we can continue to resource people to work together to achieve these changes for the communities in Timor-Leste.

Programs like ACU's student placements provide opportunities for professional development amongst local staff as we share our knowledge. In Timor-Leste clients, families and even clinical staff had a lot of uncertainty around the specifics of a client's condition. This makes clinical reasoning and continuity of care between professionals very hard. While in Timor-Leste we were able to provide an education session to the KD staff and national hospital on Autism, Cerebral Palsy and basics of environmental modifications for those in the community with a disability.

Our driver would often be present when we spent time out in the community visiting clients with a disability. One day we were going around as a team saying what we were grateful for from our day and asked if our driver wanted to join in. He shared he was grateful that he had learnt from us that there is always hope for people with a disability, that there are always things you can still do, even small things. He had not previously seen anyone work with individuals living with a disability. As he shared, I felt quite emotional, this was a person who has not previously had connection to OT but was feeding back to us after seeing us practice the heart of what we were doing.

Thank you for supporting us to be able to do this work!'



Art session with Uma Barabara clients



Client writing

Klibur Domin activity

2022

Key achievements								
PROGRAM	Funding Partners	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY 2022	Target	Target %
Tuberculosis cases detected	Global Fund	159	158	112	120	549	173	317%
Tuberculosis cases detected	IOM / KOICA	139	122	80	68	409	170	241%
Multi-drug resistant TB Patients	MOH	5	7	2	5	19	18	106%
TB Inpatients (See #1 below)	RCA	73	57	47	45	222	240	93%
Physiotherapy Patients (#2)	RCA and MSSI	10	12	13	5	40	12	333%
Garton Students (Full Year) (#2)	RCA and MSSI	13	-	-	-	13	13	100%
Mental Health Patients (Full Yr) (#2)	RCA and MSSI	8	3	1	-	12	6	200%
Dialysis Patients (#2)	RCA and MSSI	3	2	-	-	5	6	83%
Outpatient Medical Clinic	RCA	638	640	479	577	2334	2180	107%
Emergency Transport Services (#3)	RCA	49	53	43	50	195	230	85%
Dental Clinic services (#4)	RCA / Maluk Timor	214	188	173	139	714	1230	58%
Dental Outreach schools	RCA / Maluk Timor	-	437	476	-	913	800	114%
ACU Occ. Therapy Students Placed	ACU		4		5	9		
COVID-19 Detection and Prevention	UK Foundation	-	47	362	549	958		
TOTAL		1311	1730	1788	1563	6392	5078	126%

COMMENTS

#1 - Target is 60 TB inpatients every quarter to each receive 3 months treatment.

#2 - These four targets from MSSI budget for in-patient food support.

#3 - Low availability of vehicles, due to mechanical issues.

#4 - Multiple equipment failure. Repairs completed February 2023.





Occupational Therapy students enjoy a final community lunch at Klibur Domin.

Volunteering

For more information, and/or to register your interest, please contact Susan Mackerras, rydercheshirevolunteersaust@gmail.com, and/or John Kirby, jktimor17@hotmail.com, 0438 232744

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE – Jorginha Martins

Jorginha joined the Klibur Domin Board of Management in January.

She is a Graduate of National Universidade of Timor Loro Sa'e Law School, Dili, and has since completed various other law related courses.

Jorginha has been a Legal Adviser in various Government offices, including Prime Minister's and Ministry of Health.

She is currently Legal Adviser for Co-ordinating Minister of Economic Affairs.

Equitable and accessible

"I have always been passionate about promoting equitable and accessible health care to the community in Timor-Leste, and being a member of Klibur Domin's Board is an opportunity to continue to pursue that passion," Jorginha said.

RYDER-CHESHIRE AUSTRALIA – Membership and Donations

Klibur Domin greatly appreciates the ongoing support of Ryder-Cheshire Australia. Donations from KD's many supporters are channelled through RCA, the entity with tax deductible gift status, and then paid to Klibur Domin on a quarterly basis. These monies, topped up from RCA's reserves, are used to meet KD's budgeted annual running costs for our in-patient services and to run the KD compound.

Separate Grant monies are received for TB detection and treatment and the Community Based Rehabilitation programs.

Ryder-Cheshire Australia is now inviting all Friends, donors and supporters of Klibur Domin to join as members of RCA. Full details can be found on the RCA website: www.ryder-cheshire.org

Needless to say, your donations are VERY much needed – 100% of which will go to Klibur Domin!!

Thank you in Anticipation!!

THANK YOU once again for your interest and support for one of our nearest neighbours, Timor-Leste, and in particular the Ryder-Cheshire Australia supported facility Klibur Domin (meaning 'Sharing with Love' in Tetum.)



NB Please don't hesitate to share this newsletter with friends, family, and KD colleagues. Thank you also to Stuart Stansfield for once again helping to put this Newsletter together.

Regards

JOHN KIRBY,

Klibur Domin, For The Relief of Suffering