

CENTRO DOS INNOCENTES, Manga, Beira

Irma (Sister) Delfina is a nun 'with a mission' and the will to make sure it happens. Centro de Innocentes was built in 1997 with support from the European Union. The on-going costs of the centre were expected to be covered by child sponsorship through a church based organisation in Italy. However as the numbers at the centre grew, the funds available to sponsor children has reduced. At present there are over 130 boys living in the centre with only 30 of them presently being sponsored. The centre provides schooling for both the orphans resident in the centre and children from the surrounding communities. As the children became older, it was deemed inappropriate to house both the boys and girls in the same location and so a nearby house was secured to house the girls. There are approximately 30 girls living in this house with the sisters. While Sister Delfina receives numerous requests to take in more children, at present she is not able to increase numbers without making some renovations to the house. There are a number of babies living in the centre whose mothers have passed away. Delfina actively seeks to locate these babies into families in the community.

A number of the boys have been trained and help with building and making desks. The centre also has a farm (machamba) out in Mafambisse where the children work during the school holidays. A number of income generating projects have been introduced in the past however due to cost increases and no technical support it has been a struggle to keep things going.

Assistance required:

- Products – soap, food, bedding etc.
- Funds to clear out septic tanks at the girls house
- There are plans underway to develop the girl's side of the centre, this includes the building of a wall, a dormitory block and latrines.



The boys building additional classrooms



Delfina shows desks being made

All the boys in their donated football strip



The girls with Irma Delfina



The building housing the girls and the sisters

Contacts:

Centro de Acomodação Santos Inocentes
C.P. 544
Rua Correia de Brito
Beira
Moçambique

Contact: Irma Delfina
Phone: 82 5999390