



Connecting Continents e. V.

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Connecting Continents e. V. is a more independent, neither political still religious oriented and free of ideology association.

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Curious about the Connecting Continents Secondary School?



The school was initially founded in 2003 by, German resident, Mr. Josef Gold and other individuals. It was built on the Island of Pemba and is an example of ecological architecture. Solar cells produce the electrical energy and provide power to the various buildings and a solar-powered water pump brings fresh water to the site.

Information about the Dental Clinic at Mgoconi. The Connecting Continents, Dental Clinic is located in the house near the CCSS. The charitable organization was initially founded in 2003 by, German resident, Mr. Josef Gold and Beate Rashid along with other individuals. Thereafter, Mr. Josef Gold, Dr. Mimi Blien, Dentist and other dedicated team members founded the Dental Clinic in 2016. Professor Dr. Dr. Dammer, MD, who specializes in oral and maxillofacial surgery, also actively provides support, guidance and energy to the organization and the project.



Starting the project

Upon returning to Germany, I told my friends about what I had found and that I wanted to help improve the dental care and the overall health of the people of Pemba. I was met with enthusiasm. After that, we began to brain storm and as the ideas flowed, people began to donate their money, time, knowledge and the necessary dental equipment.

As the time went by and we got closer to achieving our goal, we were extremely glad to know that we had already built the house that would serve as our dental clinic. Our vision of an international collaboration was in sight! These days, the Connecting Continents project is up and running, we are working side-by-side with the local dentists and we happy to keep fine company with the lovely people of Pemba.

The services we provide

Dental prophylaxis, cleaning, fillings, scaling, pain treatment, dentures and various surgical procedures.

What we do

Our first priority, was to provide free treatment to the school's teachers and students. Thereafter, we treated individuals from the village of Mgoconi and anyone else needing assistance. The last two groups pay a small fee for the services, and this money is then used to support the operational needs of the dental clinic project.

As a part of our commitment, we also work closely with local dentists to provide them with the instruments, training and experience they need to eventually manage the project on their own and achieve self-sufficiency.

To support this goal and the people of Island Pemba, German doctors fly in several times a year to work at the clinic and train local dentists. All of the equipment, instruments and training are provided and funded by German physicians and other private individuals.

The dental clinic is currently manned by local dentists, part-time, and we hope to be open year-round in the near future.



Looking Back

Hello, my name is Dr. Mimi Blien and I am a full-time dentist from Germany. In 2016, I made my first trip to Pemba to visit the Connecting Continents School site. As a volunteer dentist, my purpose was to get a direct sense of the project and to speak to the students about the important role that proper cleaning and nutrition played in maintaining a healthy mouth.

As I visited each classroom, I was initially met with wonderful smiles and bright shining teeth. Some of the students were especially brave and even asked me to check their teeth more closely. As I had some instruments with me I began that process. Unfortunately, I was shocked by what I saw. Many of them had teeth that were extremely damaged. Others had lots of cavities, inflamed or bleeding gums and/or they could not bite down without experiencing pain or discomfort. This made me feel very sad.

Long ago, many German people had similar dental-health conditions, but fortunately we now have a good system in place, which helps support healthy teeth and gums. We are happy that we can share those details. To keep your teeth in tip-top shape we recommend the following:

Brush your teeth twice a day and pay special attention to the gums. Visit a dentist twice-a-year and have your teeth professionally cleaned. Be sure to replace your tooth brush with a new one about every three months. Make sure that you eat nutritional food that supports gum and tooth health. This includes: Fruit, vegetables, grains, meat and very little sugar!

Straubing, Dr. Mimi Blien

