



The Atkins Family

Jason, Emily, Savannah,
Nathaniel, and Miriam

Serving in Guinea-Bissau with



March 2019

A week in the jungle and
the vocational school's
graduation celebration!

Remember by Jason

One of the things we enjoy about our work is the ability to help other projects and ministries around Guinea-Bissau—especially those operating in difficult situations. Our Brazilian friends, Américo and Silvia Paulino, with their son Junior, are one such ministry. They work in the south of Guinea-Bissau, 2 hours' drive past the end of the paved road. They pastor a string of churches, operate the village's school, and run a non-profit ministry that shelters young teenage girls trying to escape forced marriages. They work hard in a hard place to work.

Though we've seen the Paulinos many times in the meantime, this month, we were able to visit their house for the first time in five years. It was a great week, spending time in a different part of Guinea-Bissau and working with them. They are close to the Guinea-Bissau/Guinea border, in the jungly southern part of Guinea-Bissau. The drive to their house involves two different log bridges and crossing some paths that would excite recreational off-roaders. (Fortunately, the Avalanche performed much better than the Explorer did on our previous trip.)

During the week, we got to spend lots of time encouraging each other while camping and goofing off, but also get some meaningful work done. The off-grid solar power system that runs their house had been pieced together little bits at a time over the years and wasn't working well. We brought panels off of their roof that had been fastened down by tied wires, made a steel



*Américo and I fastening the solar panels
to the metal frame we welded on-site.*

*Many hands make light(er) work! The
group of strong guys boosted the edge
of the 300+ pound assembly up to the
edge of the roof where we shimmed it
into place and fastened it down.*



emberem (cont'd) *by Jason*

... structure to hold them all properly, and I rewired the system, tripling its output. We're thankful for their friendship and also hopeful that whatever encouragement and practical help we were able to bring will make a lasting impact on them as well.

Projects Intersect *by Emily*

Last month people from all over Canchungo came together to celebrate the graduation of 26 students from our English, French, IT, and welding programs. During the graduation ceremony the drinking water filter factory (Wédé N'Fiabm, or Water of Life) presented the school with a filter from the factory launch. The filter sits in the school office and is being

used every day to fill the cups and water bottles of staff and students with clean drinking water! It is a fun intersection of two projects that we have invested in for years and are making an impact in Guinea-Bissau.



Miriam loved this net hammock and spent hours in it while we were camping.



Congrats to the 2018 vocational school grads!



To Give Online:

At JasonAndEmilyAtkins.com/give you can make a one-time donation or set up an automatic monthly donation by EFT or credit card.

To Give By Check:

Please make checks payable to:
WAVS / P.O. Box 25455 / Seattle, WA 98165
with "Atkins" in the memo.