



The Atkins Family

Jason, Emily, Savannah,
Nathaniel, and Miriam

Serving in Guinea-Bissau,
West Africa

September 2019

Big changes are coming
for us, please check out
both sides!

Exciting (and slightly scary) announcement! *by Jason*

We've become aware in the last few months of some hurdles awaiting us when we return to Guinea-Bissau in December. First, the school's solar power system, which also currently runs the shop, is broken and unable to provide adequate power. With other competing financial priorities, the leadership hasn't decided yet whether to repair it to the level that would be required for the shop to keep operating at its normal capacity. And second, the space where our workshop is operating is being reserved by the vocational school at the end of this school year for them to expand their programs into.

It's impossible for this part of our ministry to function with no space and unstable electricity. The "grid" in Canchungo is nothing but little neighborhood generators running collections of houses, so we can't simply move to a new rented space, plug everything in, and start working again.

Fortunately, we serve a God who sees down the road and prepares solutions for problems we can't even anticipate. There is a 3-acre property right on the other side of the neighborhood where we are invested and live, which has come up for sale.

We are believing God for a miracle—to buy that land, move into the house there, and then build a new, permanent, home for the shop on it.

The site was built as a little eco-tourism hotel of sorts. It is a beautiful spot, just down the river from our current house, and has 10 basic, single-room bungalows. There is also a simple house that the owner built for himself to live in, which will be our family's new home. Our hope is to hire a manager to continue operating the hotel as a revenue stream to maintain the base. Additionally, as we often have fellow missionaries come to our house for rest, or host teams coming from the U.S., those bungalows could also be reserved for ministry purposes as well.

The project will have four distinct phases.

Phase 1: Purchase an off-grid solar power system to power the new base, including the shop, and ship it over before we leave in early December. Amazingly, through the incredible generosity of Healdsburg Community Church in California - ***the \$40,000 required for this has already been given!*** We are awed and incredibly thankful for their partnership! What a miracle!

Phase 2: Early next year, place a 50% down-payment (\$72,500) on the land, and move in.

Phase 3: Construct a \$45,000 workshop building on the land, providing a permanent, larger, better laid-out home for the shop. This stability will allow us to expand the shop's reach helping other aid, missionary, and church organizations in their fight to bring development and God's love to Guinea-Bissau.

Phase 4: Finalize the project by paying the second half of the property's purchase price (\$72,500).

Sometimes, God gives us challenges that are far too big for us so that when He accomplishes them, the glory can be given nowhere else. We are excited to see how God will provide for this need. If you feel led to invest in this project, donations can be made either online at JasonAndEmilyAtkins.com/BuildTheShop, by designating the "Atkins Special Project Fund" in the "Apply my gift to:" field, or can be made by check to Hope Remembered / P.O. Box 5 / Fosters, AL 35463, with "Atkins Special Project" in the memo.



A new partnership *by Jason*

Over the last 13 years in Guinea-Bissau, God has given us a vision, equipped us, and opened up opportunities for us to minister in a model that places meeting practical needs hand-in-hand with discipleship. The small town atmosphere of Canchungo has allowed us to be intentional about investing in deeper relationships in our neighborhood, church, and community. We're so grateful for all of the ways we've seen God working through our ministry, especially as He has rooted us here over the last five years.

Our current sending organization, WAVS, is refocusing its efforts on a large, new campus in the capital, Bissau, but God has called us to continue investing in Canchungo. Though we've tried over the last year to make things work in our current situation, we've realized it isn't a good fit for either of us moving forward. We are switching to a new sending organization whose vision is more in line with the way God has called us to work. We wish WAVS well in the direction God has called them.

We're excited about working with our new sending organization, Hope Remembered, which has a vision of development projects working hand-in-hand with discipleship as a way of showing God's love to Guinea-Bissau. Hope Remembered is also partnered with several other missionary couples in Guinea-Bissau, most who we've known for more than 10 years.

Though there will be some logistical changes, our work will continue very much as before—discipling, using the shop to support projects like the drinking water filter factory, and training metalworkers, though now a more comprehensive education of fewer ironworkers at a time, in the form of shop interns.

This change could lead to several questions, which we've tried to answer on the right, but if you have any other questions through the transition, we welcome them. Please contact Emily at EmilyMarieAtkins@gmail.com or (501) 291-1514.

We have been incredibly blessed over the years by the faithfulness of the people God has called alongside us to support this work through prayer, interest, and giving. We'll continue to depend on the support of God's people as we make the transition to Hope Remembered.

Q) Will I keep getting newsletters?

A) Yep! We'll keep sending newsletters the same way you currently receive them, whether electronically or in the mail.

Q) Does the move to Hope Remembered change the way your ministry is funded?

A) No, we'll continue to depend on the money sent by faithful individuals, families, and churches to continue making our work possible.

Q) Where do I send donations?

A) Donations can still be given online through the giving link at the bottom of our homepage, at www.JasonAndEmilyAtkins.com/give – please designate "Staff Support – Jason and Emily Atkins" in the dropdown. If you prefer to mail a check with "Atkins Family" on the memo line, the address for that will now be: Hope Remembered / P.O. Box 5 / Fosters, AL 35463

Q) Will my automatic monthly donation carry over to Hope Remembered?

A) No. Hope Remembered can set up automatic monthly EFT or credit card donations just like WAVS, but can't legally do that for you. To set up a monthly donation with Hope Remembered, visit www.JasonAndEmilyAtkins.com/give. That page will give you the option of either a one-time donation, or to set up an automatic monthly donation in the way that you chose. You will also need to cancel the monthly donation with WAVS by contacting Rebecca at info@wavschoools.org or (559) 825-1771.

Q) How will your ministry change through the transition?

A) The kinds of work we do will change very little, but we'll be able to focus more wholly on the work God has called us to, with fewer distractions. The one significant change will be that we're no longer part of a vocational welding program with students. However, we still believe deeply in vocational training in the village, and will continue to be a part of it, though it will probably be through training a smaller group of metalworking interns more thoroughly, rather than a larger batch of students for a shorter time. The practical hands-on focus of the welding program we helped develop at the vocational school is one of our favorite aspects of that program, and having interns for a longer time will let us go even deeper with hands-on training while also getting more work done for the projects we're there to help.



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:
Hope Remembered / P.O. Box 5 / Fosters, AL 35463
with "Atkins" in the memo.