ABOUT SWAZILAND

The country of Swaziland is a small landlocked country in southern Africa. It borders the countries of South Africa to the north, south, and west and Mozambique on the east. It is country slightly smaller than the size of New Jersey with a mostly mountainous terrain. Swaziland is the last absolute monarchy in Africa ruled by King Mswati III.

Research & Facts

- Sixty-five percent of Swazi children are not able to attend school.
- Over ten percent of households in Swaziland are child-lead. Food is becoming the new currency among children that have only their bodies to offer.
- Swaziland’s population is 1.2 million people (2003 records). Many in the country believe the population has fallen under 900,000.
- Forty-six percent (552,000 people) are infected with HIV/Aids. Many pastors are performing funerals every weekend.
- Children die by age 3 if born with HIV.
- Fifty-seven percent of kids 15-23 years are HIV positive.
- If a child reaches 15, they have a six percent chance to make it to age 30.
- Because of HIV/Aids there are over 150,000 orphans and vulnerable children. Most have no one to protect them or their future.
- There are only 2,000 hospital beds in the entire country.

Through Beyond Survival, we're working to change these statistics.

ABOUT BEYOND SURVIVAL

Rick and Laura Clapp have been investing in Swaziland since August of 2006. Their passion is to create sustainable businesses and jobs to benefit people long-term both in Africa and all across the world.

Rick and Laura feel that they did not choose Swaziland but through a series of events, Swaziland chose them. Now their family is partnering with many other families across Colorado and the United States to invest into the lives of people in Swaziland, Africa.

Beyond Survival (www.beyondsurvival.org) exists to provide a conduit and opportunity for people to live BEYOND just basic “survival” circumstances medically, emotionally, educationally, financially, and spiritually.

- **Medically**
  - Starting with one’s most basic needs and providing medical attention, raising the quality of life.
- **Emotionally**
  - Creating environments of care and concern, protection and hope.
- **Educationally**
  - Providing the opportunity to experience school for the very first time and obtain an education.
Financially
Giving training in business, budgeting, and the opportunity to learn life skills so that individuals can create income and provide for their families.

Spiritually
Providing understanding and guidance to help reveal one's purpose in life and the opportunity to experience the Creator of the universe in a real and tangible way. Helping plant churches which share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their communities.

Swaziland’s Reality
Never before has there been such a great need for the lives of children and families in Swaziland, Africa. HIV and AIDS are ravaging an entire generation leaving families devastated and children alone. Approximately 46% of Swaziland's total population is infected with HIV (population is 1.2 million that is 552,000 people). Because of HIV/AIDS there are over 150,000 orphans and vulnerable children living in Swaziland. Most people are dying at home. Children are attempting to take care of their parents.
An entire generation is disappearing in the next 5-7 years. The result is a generation of orphans. But God is moving in a remnant of His people and we have an opportunity to partner with them... Beyond Survival was birthed for this reason.

TRIP GOALS & INITIATIVES

On this year's Beyond Survival trip we will be investing in the following opportunities:

1. **Abandoned Baby Center** – We have partnered with the Abandoned Baby Center (www.abcministry.org.za) where children are taken when found left for dead. Not only will we encourage those responsible for the home, we will also do any necessary repairs, love on the children, and meet real needs. It is our hope that these children will soon have the opportunity to be adopted in the future.

2. **Teacher Training** – We will be taking teachers from Colorado Springs school systems to train those teachers teaching children at care points and other schools in Swaziland. We will be traveling with supplies for the Swazi schools and teachers.
3. **MSC’s Care Point** – This year we will be investing in MSC’s newly sponsored Care Point. We will build new friendships by loving on the kids, utilizing sports camps, VBS, construction projects, etc.

4. **Pastor’s Conference** –
   Each year we try to invest into the pastors loving on their communities. We will bring dress shirts, ties, dress paints, shoes, dresses for their wives, etc. We will also spend a day together seeking the Lord over a selected topic.

5. **Halfway House** – We will visit the home where our two adopted children were living. Each year we visit the children there, invest in the leaders and encourage them.

6. **Luke Commission** – The Luke Commission ([www.lukecommission.org](http://www.lukecommission.org)) takes free health care and the Good News of Jesus Christ to the most isolated and underserved populations, in partnership with the Swazi people and the Ministry of Health. Patients are tested, counseled and ushered into treatment for HIV/AIDS. Those suspected of having TB are x-rayed and started on medications. Recently, Luke Commission purchased new land for their home base. We may be helping them with any construction projects they may have.

7. **Cultural Center & Safari** – In addition to these ministry opportunities you will have the opportunity to go to the Swaziland Cultural Center and go on a Swazi Safari trip.

**Why Beyond Survival goes to Swaziland**

All I could think of was this one phrase, “It would have been better for me not to have seen, then to have seen and do nothing.” I was on the plane ride back across the Atlantic from my first visit and experience with Africa, specifically Swaziland. My mind was trying to reconcile what I had seen in comparison with my reality in America. My life and my family’s life had been forever changed. From that first visit in August of 2006 until now, our hearts are burdened with the hope and mission to help others live Beyond Survival in Swaziland, Africa and all over our world. This is our hope. Are you willing to join with us?
TRIP DETAILS

**Focus:** Orphan care, teacher training, pastoral care and medical care

**Partner:** Beyond Survival ([www.beyondsurvival.org](http://www.beyondsurvival.org))

**Dates:** June 9 – June 20, 2018

**Leaders:** Rick & Laura Clapp

**Age:** 16 and up unless accompanied by a family adult

**Cost:** $3950.00

**Additional Fees:** There may be additional expenses for recommended immunizations.

**Optional/Recommended Immunizations**

The majority of vaccinations are not required to enter the country. The following are optional and/or recommended by the CDC depending on the prevalence of the disease in this country: diphtheria – tetanus, hepatitis A prevention, hepatitis B and measles.

**Language**

Swazi and English are the official languages of Swaziland.

**Weather**

Swaziland's climate ranges from moderate to subtropical depending upon what part of the country you are in. June – Sept. is known as the cooler, dry season. Temperatures on average will range from the mid 50s to the mid 70's for this time of year with average humidity levels.

### TEAM MEETING & PAYMENT SCHEDULE

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<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>14-Jan.</td>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>Informational meeting in the Community Life Room</td>
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<td>Jan &amp; Feb.</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>*Submit application</td>
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<td>18-March</td>
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<td>Team Meeting</td>
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<td>22-April</td>
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*Applications are submitted online at: [https://mymountainsprings.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/656/responses/new](https://mymountainsprings.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/656/responses/new) or upon request at: missions@mountainsprings.org

**$1900 is a non-refundable deposit for the airfare to Swaziland.**

**LEADER CONTACT INFO**

Rick & Laura Clapp rclapp@mountainsprings.org