Mozambique Material Aid Project Description
Escola Primaria de Mocatini, Mozambique
(Primary School of Mocatini)

Mozambique is a country that has been devastated by war. The war has had crippling effects on the basic services to the people - health care and education have been especially targeted by RENAMO, the South African backed terrorist army that has been waging this war against the people of Mozambique.

In July, 1992 two members of CD-CAAR had the opportunity to visit a school for deslocados (those who have been dislocated by this brutal war of destabilization). At this school, Escola Primaria de Mocatini, in a rural area outside the capital city of Maputo, they found:
- a shelled out school building;
- classes being held under trees with children sitting in the dirt;
- no supplies, no books, no pencils, no paper;
- 9 teachers committed to providing the best education possible;
- and 900 children enthusiastic about being in school.

When asked what could be done to help the school, the teachers said their most immediate need was for portable blackboards that they could use outside, paper and pencils, and textbooks. They also would like to be able to provide the children with lunches (because for both students and teachers this is sometimes the only meal all day). And, in the long term they would like to be able to construct a school building.

CD-CAAR is launching a material aid campaign to raise funds for the most immediate needs of this school. It is possible to buy the blackboards, paper and pencils and books in Mozambique which is much more efficient than trying to send supplies from here. Our goal is to raise $2,000 which we can send in the form of a registered money orders to Mr. Simiao Manhica, a community organizer working with this school. He has a truck and can make the purchase of supplies in Maputo, and bring them to the school.

Donations for the school can be sent in the form of a check made out to CD-CAAR and noted Mocatini School Project. If you belong to an organization or a school which would like to become involved in this project CD-CAAR can arrange for a speaker and/or a slide show for your group. Contact Eileen Kawola at 438-0309 for arrangements or further details.