

I visited a new Fellowship on Friday for a small group of Canadian-supported seniors who used to have to travel a long distance to one of the other locations where fellowships are held. Travelling on the Boda Boda (motorbike taxi) is challenging as they are getting older to sit on a motorbike.

The fellowship is called Sanga and is in a government school under construction. ROTOM is allowed to use the space for fellowship. It was lovely to see the familiar faces of those I have met many times before. They had no idea I was coming and were so joyful and told me they wondered where I was and how I had been affected by COVID. It had been the first fellowship for some time due to several factors. One is the cost of food which has increased a huge amount, and fuel for transportation is very high.

It was lovely to see Donata. She was sitting on a mat when I arrived, but as the Fellowship progressed she wanted to talk and sing and dance. It was good to see. She does suffer from dementia, and so she no longer lives alone. She was taken by her granddaughter to live with her as she needed more care. ROTOM staff make regular checks on her with the village volunteers and field officers. The Field nurse also makes sure she is well and taken care of.

She was very happy to be at Fellowship and thanked me for coming to see them. She does not know how old she is, but one of the members said she is between 80-84.

Her family are so grateful for her Canadian friends who care for her and enable her to be part of ROTOM. It allows her to access health care which is so important.

In Gratitude

Linda Hallett

Volunteer ROTOM Canada

