

I visited Edith at her three-room house. She was so excited to see me she was laughing and hugging me so much. It was a beautiful greeting. With me was Elizabeth the senior field officer, Jane the community nurse and a junior field officer.

The last time I saw her in her home was in 2019. I did visit her fellowship the previous week so I saw her dressed in her Gomesi, her traditional dress. She looked very smart.

Her home was spotless. She keeps everything well organized and clean. She had her solar lamp and radio that she uses all the time. She also has a metal trunk that stores clothes and papers. All gifts from her friend in Canada. She was so sad to hear her friend had died. She remembers her visiting her and hugging her and loving her. So grateful that she cared about her.

We explained that her daughter Mary was now going to be her friend and she started laughing with joy again. She sends love and prayers to her new friend, and she is so grateful to her. She will pray for her and her family.

Edith is 75 years old and very active. She cares for two great-grandchildren. Klamzam, who is 7 years old and her granddaughter's son. Suna is two and a half and the daughter of her granddaughter Huntington.

Edith was married and only had one son. She was separated for over 20+ years. Her husband had also been in ROTOM but has passed away.

The son fathered over 25 children. Never married any of the mothers. He died several years ago.

Her house is immaculate. Everything is in order and so clean. She has a water drum from ROTOM which gives her water to cook, bath, and wash clothes. It's been amazing not worrying about collecting water.

Edith does have high blood pressure. Nurse Jane, the field nurse, found it high again when she checked and asked to see her medication. She made sure Edith was taking her pills.

Edith is able to grow a small amount of food, but ROTOM does try to provide good food when available. Costs have been rising dramatically since COVID. Food security is a huge problem.

It was delightful to visit Edith. A joyful and humble woman.

In gratitude

Linda Hallett.

Volunteer ROTOM Canada.



