



BWINDI COMMUNITY HOSPITAL NEWSLETTER

Volume 3 Issue 1

June 2015

Enhancing capacity at Bwindi Community Hospital

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Our Vision

A healthy and productive community free from preventable disease and with excellent health services accessible to all.

May and June of this year, Bwindi Community Hospital (BCH) conducted two successful surgical camps: an orthopedic camp led by Dr. Seth and his wife Megan (Meg) Frenzen, and a gynecology/imaging teaching camp led by Dr. Forat Sadry from Africomed. These two teams have been coming to support the hospital for the last six years. Both teams performed over 40 surgeries, each, during the camps.

In addition to performing much needed surgeries, the Africomed team focused on teaching our staff new surgical and radiological skills. The team also enhanced BCH's diagnostic capability with the donation of a chemistry

machine, which is crucial for monitoring chronic non-communicable diseases that are on the increase. The team was comprised of Drs. Forat Sadry, Remy Boscacim, Thomas Witzig, Samuel Grenier, Ralph Le Dinh and Nurse Jenny Farrer. Dr. Gideon Kurriigamba (now training as a general surgeon at Mulago National Referral Hospital) was among our staff that worked with this team. In the orthopedic camp, Dr. Seth and the team changed a number of lives. One of the beneficiaries was a subsistence farmer from a village three hours' drive away. He was likely to have died from a rotting limb had it not been for the intervention of the orthopedic team.

see Capacity, page 2

The Hematology Machine finally arrives !

In April 2015, we ran an appeal for a hematology analyzer to be able to continue with investigations that had been suspended

due to our failing and outdated machine.

We are happy to report and acknowledge that we received a

total of \$20,314 from you to buy this machine. Although the procurement was delayed because of stock-outs with our country suppliers, Human Diagnostics, the machine is finally here and lab investigations have resumed.

We used \$10,000 to purchase the

hematology machine and the remaining funds will be directed

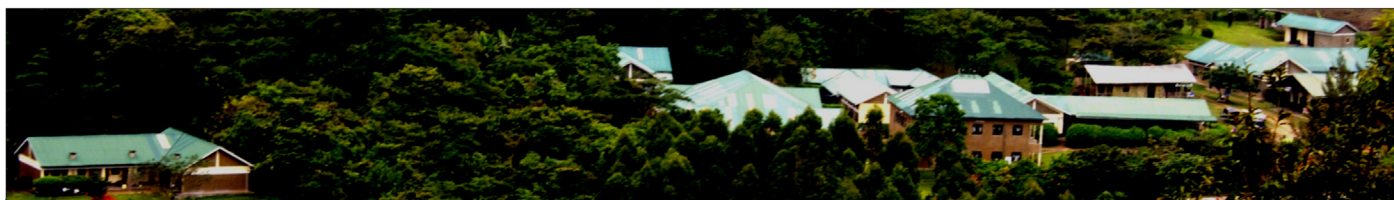
towards procuring other laboratory equipment, such as a refrigerator for the blood bank.

The hematology machine will not only provide more accurate results to aid clinicians in making correct diagnoses, but also reduce waiting time for our clients. Once again, we can't thank you enough for responding to our call, and for your incessant support. This machine, the only one of its kind in the district, will serve a population of 270, 0000 people.

Thanks to all of you who responded. Special thanks go out to: DAK Foundation, East Bay Foundation, Abercrombie and Kent Philanthropy, Sharon Brown Golden Legacy, Kathleen Frane, David Bygott, Stiftelsen Var, Jesus Cabello, Chris Robben, Susan Storcel, and Jacqueline Ondrasch.



Gideon operating the new hematology machine



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The Africomed team and some of the BCH staff

Capacity continued

This patient had been hospitalized in a local health facility for two months with a fracture of the right femur - lower 1/3. Luckily for him, local residents heard about the surgical camp being organized at BCH. They liaised with the facility where he had been admitted and brought him to BCH for treatment. On arrival, it was discovered that his right leg was rotting because the fracture had not been well attended to. A decision was made to amputate the leg above the knee to stop further damage. Much as the team felt sorry for this patient because the limb could have been saved had the fracture been managed properly, one couldn't miss the relief on his face. "I know, my life won't be the same after this but, I am glad I am alive", he said. We are, once again, grateful to Africomed and Dr. Seth and Meg for their invaluable contributions and for making time again to come and offer these much needed services in our community. We look forward to seeing them again in 2017!

Kinkiizi Diocese marks 100yrs of Service

Bwindi Community Hospital (BCH) joined the rest of Kinkiizi Diocese team to celebrate 100 years of Christianity in the region. The celebrations ran from 5th to 9th May 2015, during which a number of activities were carried out.

BCH operates under the auspices of Kinkiinzi Diocese and during the celebrations the, Hospital showcased a number of services such as HIV testing and counseling, family planning services, care for newborns, community health, and eQuality Bwindi Health Insurance.

The function was attended by many different dignitaries, including President Yoweri Museveni who was the chief guest; the State minister for Health, Chris Baryomunsi, Church of Uganda Archbishop His Grace Stanley Ntagali, Kinkiizi Diocese Bishop, the Rt. Rev Dan Zoreka, and the area Member of Parliament Kinkiizi West Hon Amama Mbabazi.

Our commitment is to ensure that every community member accesses quality healthcare irrespective of financial or geographic means.

Uganda Sexual Health and Pastoral Education (USH-APE) program initiated

BCH and the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) were awarded a grant by the Tropical Health Education Trust (THET) from the UK Department for International Development (DFID) under the Health Partnership Scheme (HPS) to run a two year program in South-West Uganda. The project, named Uganda Sexual Health and Pastoral Education (USHAPE), started on 1st April 2015.

The purpose of the program is to improve the provision of family planning and sex education by training health workers, teachers, and nursing students at Uganda Nursing School Bwindi. The training will initially take place in the Kanungu District and potentially in the rest of Uganda in the future.

USHAPE commenced with training in Family Planning for BCH staff and UNSB students. The training was coordinated by Dr. Clare Goodhart, of USHAPE and the training team included BCH Family Planning Coordinator, Ms. Sarah Kamugisha, and RCGP/volunteer, Dr. Emma King.

The training covered potential barriers to family planning, the most common family planning methods, assessment of medical eligibility, side effects, myth busting, basic counselling, and practical approaches towards family-planning services utilization.

See USHAPE, page 3



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USHAPE Continued

The team engaged students and staff in thinking about the barriers cultural, religious, accessibility and myths that surround family planning and how to overcome those barriers in the community. We are very grateful to THET and DIFD for this partnership!



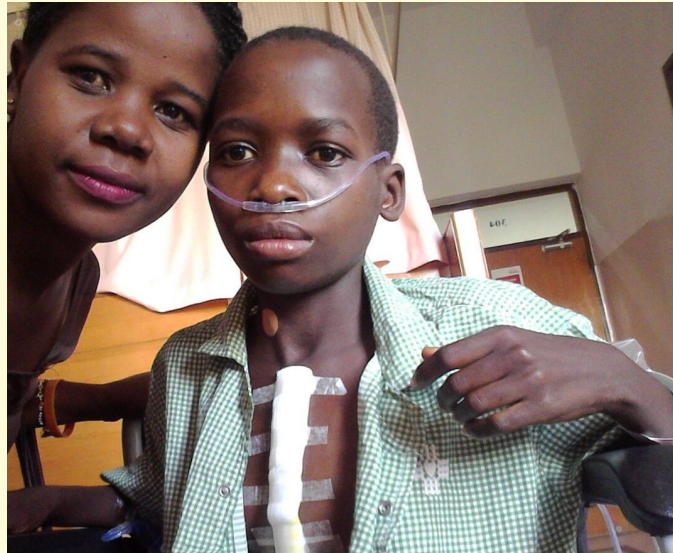
Students from UNSB posing with certificates from the training.

Our mission:
Serving Jesus Christ through
giving holistic health care and



life in all its fullness to the staff,
patients, clients and visitors in
the Hospital and community.

A Mutwa Child with guardian angels



Hamlet after surgery, with Sharon, her care-taker

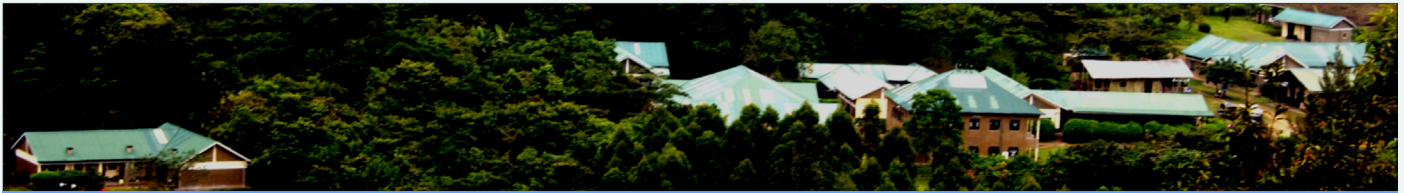
If suffering could be measured in a distinctively finite scale, then 11 year old Hamlet Kiiza, a child from the Batwa community, would be the poster girl for the highest grade of suffering. Born to very poor parents, Hamlet has battled chronic sickness for most of her tender years. Only her will to survive has enabled her to cling to life.

Hamlet suffers from rheumatic heart disease, where the valves in her heart which prevent the back flow of blood are "spout" and not functioning well. Having been assessed at Bwindi Community Hospital (BCH) by Dr. Leonard Tutaryebwa, heart disease was suspected, and further investigation confirmed it. The definitive treatment for this condition is surgery which Hamlet's parents could not afford, barely making enough to put food on the table. As Hamlet progressively got worse, often sliding into heart failure, she was constantly re-admitted to BCH, her condition managed symptomatically as best

as resources and expertise could allow. Luckily for Hamlet, the stars smiled on her! Hospital guests, David and Carol Eaton from AKP (Abercrombie and Kent Philanthropy), learned of her plight and were touched by the distress she was going through. David and Carol,

together with AKP, covered the whole cost of Hamlet's operation which took place in India. Hamlet was accompanied to India by Sharon, a nurse from the Batwa Development Program, to undergo surgery and we are very hopeful of a quick and complete recovery. Thank you so much to the Eatons and AKP for giving a Hamlet a chance for a healthy life.

We cannot be grateful enough to all our partners out there. Your support, in many ways, is steadily transforming lives for the better in this part of the world, and even more so, for the most vulnerable sub-populations, such as the Batwa pygmies. Our services range from community based health interventions, such as family planning and malaria control, to curative services including surgery, HIV care, and safe child birth. We thank you for having supported us in all these areas.



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Uganda Nursing School Bwindi (UNSB) conducts Midwife Career Day

Uganda's 2011 Demographic and Health Survey reported a high maternal mortality ratio of over 400 deaths per every 100,000 live births. According to Uganda Ministry of Health, 24 percent of these deaths are the result of severe bleeding, and many more are due to infection, unsafe abortion, hypertensive disorders and obstructed labour.

There is no question that more



Secondary School students attending career session

needs to be done if our country is to get on track to attain Sustainable Development Goals. More trained midwives are needed to help reach the Goals. To facilitate this, the Uganda Nursing School Bwindi (UNSB) offered to host a career day for 100 female students from local secondary schools organized by White Ribbon Alliance and Uganda Ministry of Health. The workshop was aimed at encouraging the students to learn science subjects that will enable them join midwifery and nursing courses. The students were shown demonstrations of how ultra sound machines and other medical equipment work in addition to taking a guided tour around all departments at the hospital.

According to the Human Resource for Health Report, Uganda has one midwife for every 5,000 mothers. But the World Health Organisation recommends two midwives per mother in labour and yet this would be a luxury in most parts in Uganda.

In her address to the students, the Principal of UNSB, Ms Jane Anyango, advised students to enroll in nursing and midwifery courses since they are assured of jobs after completing the courses as well as reducing the high nurse patient ratio burden that faces Uganda today.

How you can support our work.

In the UK make a gift aid donation
www.BwindiFriends.co.uk/bwindi/how-to-donate.html

In the USA, make a tax deductible donation to our US Charities;

Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy
Link: <http://www.akphilanthropy.org>

or

The Kellermann Foundation
Email: info@kellermannfoundation.org
www.KellermannFoundation.org/donate.htm

Please earmark the donations for use at Bwindi Community Hospital.

In Canada, you can mail in cheques/ money orders, made out directly to: Buy-A-Net Malaria Prevention Group
P.O. Box 1063 Kingston, ON K7L 4Y5

Direct transfer to

Account Name: Bwindi Community Hospital
Bank: Stanbic
Branch: Kihhi
Account Number: 9030008175194
Sort Code: 045360
Swift Code: SBICUGKX



UGANDA
NURSING SCHOOL
BWINDI.
UCU - Affiliate

EXCELLENCE WITH COMPASSION

Uganda Nursing School Bwindi is located in South Western Uganda near Bwindi Community Hospital, Kanungu district in Kayonza Sub County. The school was started in 2013 to provide a high-level nursing education program which had been needed in this region. There are two intakes in an academic year, and each of them has a different set of programs offered.

- May Intake: For Certificate in Nursing and Midwifery who may want to upgrade to get a diploma.
- November Intake: Direct Advanced level leavers who have obtained a principal pass in either Biology or Chemistry.

The diploma course in Nursing is 3 years duration for directs and 18



months for up graders.

For more information contact the school on

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