

March 2006



January 2006 Trip to Tanzania

Singida Medical Mission

Hello everyone!
We returned on February 12th from the Medical Mission to Singida Region. The medical team of 57 people including 3 Physicians, 2 Surgeons, 3 Dentists, 3 Anesthesiologists, 17 RN's, 3 Dental Assistants, 9 Medical Assistants, 6 Cooks, 1 Psychologist, 1 Medical Records Administrator, 1 Videographer, 1 Photographer, 1 Water Specialist, 1 Feed the Children representative, and 5 Fundi's.



The word Fundi is a Swahili word meaning someone who has the talent to "fix" or "repair" things. The Medical mission was fortunate to have 5 fundi's who made many needed repairs to the hospital prior to the Teams arrival. Sparky was able to make most of the needed adjustments to compensate for the TZ 220 volt 50 cycle power supply to the American standard 110 volt 60 cycle with only one or two minor setbacks, thus the name "Sparky". There are hundreds of little things that needed constant attention during the Teams work at the hospital and the team truly had excellent fundi's.

The team began a busy weekend by attending the Consecration of Bishop E. Sima, meeting President Kikweti the newly elected president of Tanzania and getting organized at the hospital.



The team was set up and ready for patients Monday morning the 16th of January. During the 8 days of work the team treated over 1,500 patients in dental and general clinic. The surgical team performed over 40 operations. It was a great experience for the Singida Hospital Staff and for our Team.



The maternity ward was busy with 6 to 10 births per day including several expectant Mamas suffering from preeclampsia, high blood pressure, and seizures requiring emergency c-sections. One expectant Mama in a coma was literally "dragged" into the hospital. She has a beautiful baby girl, both mother and daughter were saved. The Team saved their lives.



Another case involved a man who had been attacked by a hyena. The man had walked 3 days to reach the hospital. His left thumb, chin and part of his jaw were bitten off. His right arm was mauled and broken in two places. He required two surgeries. The Team saved his life.



At the Dental Clinic a lady arrived with a broken jaw. The African Dentists wanted to show our team how they would "fix" her jaw. They told her to return the next day with a "bicycle spoke". With no anesthesia the bicycle spoke was forced through her gums and her teeth were "wired" together.



A Team of Doctors, RN's and Dentists took supplies and visited an orphanage to examine and provide much needed care to the children. Some children needed additional treatment and were taken to the hospital and dental clinic for further care.

The cooks were fantastic. They kept everyone healthy and happy. The food was well prepared, well planned, and served with lots of hugs and smiles. Extra food left over was given to patients at the hospital who had no family to prepare or provide their food.

The Videographer, Jerry Englebricht and Photographer, Marianne Milloy were kept busy recording all the wonderful events of the mission. Jerry is developing a documentary, which will be shown on Minnesota Public Television. Marianne's pictures are always wonderful and are used in this update.

Regional Commissioner Helema gave a thank you reception to the team! (RC Helema is like the Governor of one of our states). Team Leaders Sharon Kramer, Sharon Mannion, and Dr. Paul Milloy were the guests of honor at the head table.



Medical Mission - Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated the more than \$750,000 of medications, supplies and equipment which were collected and shipped for use in this 2006 Outreach Africa Medical Mission.

Plans are now underway for the 2007 Outreach Africa Medical Mission.

If you or someone you know wants to be part of a great team in 2007 contact the Team Leaders soon. Supplies and equipment will need to be collected for the 2007 mission so start thinking and saving. We ask you for your help.

Water Program Progress Report

Alan Stricklin, who in real life is an Oil and Gas Engineer from Texas, became the Outreach water specialist. There was a real shortage of bottled water available for the hospital requirements. Alan and Cal Gilson, used a newly developed water purification system and produced over 400 liters of clean safe water. Alan also surveyed, GPS located and inspected all 60 wells in the Ilunda Ward. With the funds contributed by an Oregon donor Outreach was able to purchase nearly \$3,000 in repair parts and hire Raymond who will continue to be the Ward well

maintenance fundi. 5 wells, which were "broken" and not producing water were repaired by Alan, Raymond and Sammy Makala before Alan returned to Texas. Dr Rwezaura and Raymond repaired an additional 6 wells for a total of 11 wells repaired by Feb 10. There is now at least one well producing water in each of the 5 villages in the Ilunda ward. This will help them tremendously!



New Pump House

Kids Against Hunger Food Distribution

Mary Kuhn worked with the medical team, and helped to distribute Kids Against Hunger meals to their destination in Tanzania. Mary represented Calvary Lutheran Church of Excelsior, MN. Mary and her church held a Kids Against Hunger packaging event in November, which provided 154,000 meals or one half a container of meals to the people of Singida Region.

Member of Parliament Msindi, took Mary to the remote village of the Hazabi to distribute Kids Against Hunger meals. The Hazabi tribe is one of the few primitive tribes remaining in Tanzania.

The Hazabi are hunter-gatherers and not farmers. Because of the drought, game and food is scarce.

Regional Commissioner Helema took Mary to visit the villages of Ilongaro and Mtinko. She visited several homes and a hospital with starving people. These people were afflicted with HIV/AIDS and unable to work to buy food. They were given Kids Against Hunger meals. RC Helema also arranged for a group of orphans to come to the Catholic center in Singida to receive lunch of Kids Against Hunger meals. Soda, tee shirts, hats, and toys were provided to the children by the Medical team.



**Mary Kuhn
Packaging Event
Kids Against Hunger –
West Metro**



More Feet on the Ground

We met Lori Kovich, who was helping the Mamas in the area with micro finance loans. Lori worked with the Medical Team, helped to move medical supplies, and helped anywhere she was needed.

Outreach has asked Lori to join our team and help in the Ilunda Ward and in the Singida Region distributing Kids Against Hunger meals to the orphans in Singida Town and Nkungi villages. Lori will also teach at the Gunda Technical School at Nkungi.



Secondary School
Nkungi



Foundation
Construction of the
Chapel



Construction of
Teacher Housing at
Secondary School

Updates

Secondary School Sponsorships

Scholarships were provided by Outreach and its supporters in England, to 28 children who passed their exams but whose families were not financially able to pay the tuition for their children to attend secondary school. These children will attend the Gunda Technical Secondary School at Nkungi.

Your contributions have helped to build this school and are assisting Kids to get an education!

New Chapel

The St Mathews Church construction team from Portland, Oregon has just completed a very successful 3 weeks working on the new Chapel, teacher housing, staff housing, Mwanga Church and other projects there.

A Call to Teach

Mark and Christa Nelson traveled to Nkungi at the end of January. This is their second trip to Tanzania. Mark continues to teach the men of the village how to make the beautiful handmade flutes, which many of you have purchased. Christa again taught English in the Nkungi Primary School.

Kid's Against Hunger Meals

This is the third year of drought in Singida Region. Food reserves are gone, and hunger and starvation is widespread. Water, food, medical treatment and medicine, are all in short supply and extremely expensive. Outreach shipped 880,000 Kids Against Hunger meals to Tanzania in 2005. Outreach's goal is 1.2 million KAH meals for 2006. The first 40' container of 2006 shipped on March 7. There is 285,120 KAH meals in the container. This food will reach Tanzania in April if all goes as scheduled. This is a lot of meals, but not nearly enough, many will die.

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**"Teaching for
Tomorrow"**

We're on the Web!
www.outreachafrica.org



Updates

A New Cottage Industry

Outreach is supporting a new cottage industry of Batik making which is being developed in Nkungi. The Mamas create the Batik and use the Batik to make pouches on which they sew a small carved animal. These pouches are purchased by Outreach for the packaging of the fresh roasted coffee. Outreach continues to purchase many more baskets, bracelets, coffee pouches and carved animals to give cash to the families of Nkungi Village.

Over 7,000 baskets, nearly 1,000 bracelets along with 10,000 pounds green coffee beans, were shipped by container to Iowa and received in December. Your generous contributions through the purchasing of baskets, bracelets and coffee, provide funding for the water, food, medical, and education projects in the village.

A Call to Action

Outreach must purchase a Toyota Land Cruiser pick up to transport the Porta Doc unit. The Porta Doc will be used to provide medical care to the children and prenatal care to the women in the remote villages. The cost of the pick up is \$30,000 and we have to date collected about one half of the funds needed. We will be accompanying a second medical team to Tanzania in June.

We need to raise the additional funds by April 1 to get the truck on order and delivered for this teams use. The Outreach Medical Mission of 2007 plans to use the Porta Doc extensively to conduct "bush clinics". If you or any organization could assist us with this funding please contact us for additional information.

Upcoming Travel to Tanzania

Following is a schedule of our upcoming travel to Tanzania. We will be working hard to support all of our ongoing programs, while we are in-country and will continue to share our experiences through photo's and newsletters.

Dates:

May 17 – May 28, 2006

June/July 2006
(exact dates TBD)

Sept/Oct 2006
(exact dates TBD)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!