

## IcFEM Dreamland Mission Hospital (DMH) Newsletter October – December 2014

As we look forward to celebrating Christ's birth this Christmas we have much to celebrate and thank God for at DMH. The start of 2014 saw the final walkways, equipment and furniture being installed in the new buildings and by April the theatre was ready to open its door for the first surgeries. The club foot surgery programme led the way, followed by further orthopaedic surgery and by October the cleft lip and palate surgery. The lab gained a clinical chemistry machine and expanded its services, Kiprop went from being a student to a qualified eye surgeon and the staff team grew by over 20. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has supported and prayed for the hospital, it has made this transformation possible.

The period of October to December has continued in the same vein as the rest of the year. Although the hospital is still looking for a full time resident Doctor, it has managed to employ locum Doctors on a full time rota. We currently have 3 Doctors covering the hospital 24/7. This has meant that the theatre services have been expanded to include C-sections and hernia repairs as well as further orthopaedic surgery done by Dr Rotich. The first C-Section was done at the end of October. Below is a photograph of baby Lillian and her Mother.



Lillian was born at 2:00 in the morning at DMH. Her mother had been to another hospital but her labour did not progress well and there was not an anaesthetist available. She was transferred to DMH and little Lillian was born safely in the new theatre. We are grateful that the hospital also now has a working ambulance so patients like this can be transported on a bed and with appropriate equipment. The ambulance needed a new engine and after years of complications, the correct engine arrived at DMH. It is a huge blessing to the community to have access to an ambulance that can transport them if they have a medical emergency.

In the last newsletter we showed photographs of the cleft lip and palate surgery. There was a little girl called Belinda who was 11 months old and only 3.8Kg. She was so unwell that she could not be operated on. Belinda started a feeding programme at DMH, staying in the hospital for 2 weeks and then going home, coming back to be weighed and given food every 1-2 weeks. Belinda is now a much healthier little girl and feeding well. She now weighs over 6 Kg and if she continues to progress will be booked for surgery in about 9 months' time.



ABOVE LEFT: Belinda feeding well!

RIGHT: Ashley one of the children with club foot

The club foot surgical programme is still continuing with 27 operations being done between October and December. The children and their families are also delighted with services offered at DMH. One Mum of a child who had cleft lip posted on the Facebook page saying.

*“I am so grateful to IcFEM for the noble job you did on my daughter and to all who have cleft lip and palate complications. On behalf of my family I say may God bless the mission and all the doctors who did their best to put a smile to our children, brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles. Blessings to..... all the Doctors, nurses and all staff at IcFEM Dreamland Mission Hospital. Food was tasty throughout, security was at its best, and services...wow!!! Not forgetting spiritual nourishment each day that grew my faith. BLESSINGS.”*

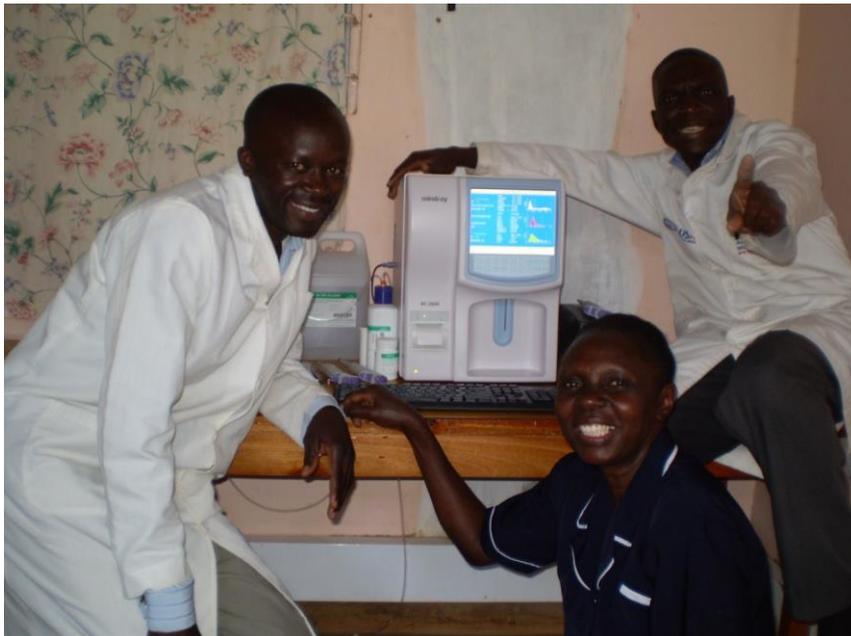


It is not just the theatre that has continued to grow over the last few weeks. Kiprop has continued to expand the eye service, adding a refraction service. This has allowed patients that need glasses to see into the distance to have them prescribed and fitted at DMH. He is delighted with his new glasses shop and the community are delighted they no longer have to travel to get this service. The eye microscope broke down in October, having taken some time to fix it, Kiprop is now catching up with cataract surgeries. Over the 6 weeks it was broken he developed a waiting list of over 100 patients. We hope that by the end of December that at least 80 of these patients will have had surgery. The eye service is still a key part of the hospital and offers a very important service that is not available at other local hospitals.



*ABOVE LEFT: Kiprof and Becky with new glasses RIGHT: Kiprof assessing an eye patient*

The lab have also seen expansion as thanks to some generous donors the lab has gained a new machine to do a full blood count. This has meant that patients do not need to go to other hospitals for blood tests before surgery and has also meant that our lab staff no longer have to jump on motorbikes down a muddy road with samples of blood for emergencies. This is a huge development for the whole team. The rest of the hospital continues to provide the other services; X-ray is extremely busy since it was fixed in September. The patients and staff are very grateful to everyone who helped with the repair. In the months it was broken some patients had to travel over 3 hours to get an X-ray. In other staff news, the hospital has employed extra kitchen staff, a new nurse and a clinical officer. Ruth Nabie has also been employed 3 days a week as the new CEO. Becky's role has changed from running the hospital on a day to day basis to being based back in the UK, focusing on the future development of the hospital, reports and assisting the Kenya team where required.



*Charles, Derek and St.Jael delighted with the new blood analyser machine.*

2015 brings many more plans, and there is a huge need to expand the HIV service. We are delighted that we have been given funding for the drugs required to treat HIV and for a machine for the lab to test the patient's immune system. The machine should arrive in early

2015. There is a need for funding for the basic baseline blood tests to ensure that these drugs are given safely. The aim is to be able to provide all these blood test free of charge to the patients. As the hospital has grown so has the need to feed many patients, Gladys is currently cooking on wood outside because of a lack of space. The hospital is therefore raising funding for a new kitchen. We have raised £6500 towards this and need to raise about another £6000. We would like to start this building work by spring 2015.

We are extremely grateful for the support that you give to DMH and this community. The hospital has developed and grown dramatically over the last year; we hope the newsletters over the last year have shown how the services have progressed. If you would like a copy of any previous newsletters or any more details please contact [dreamlandhospital@icfem.org](mailto:dreamlandhospital@icfem.org).

If you wish to donate you can also visit [www.justgiving.com/IcFEMDMH](http://www.justgiving.com/IcFEMDMH) or Text IDMH99 followed by the amount (eg £10) to 70070

If your church, company, women's group or anyone else would like a talk or update on the work of the hospital please feel free to contact Becky at [dreamlandhospital@icfem.org](mailto:dreamlandhospital@icfem.org).

Thank you again for all your support and prayers, do feel free to pass this newsletter on to other interested parties.

Happy Christmas and many blessing for the New Year.



*New CEO Ruth Nabie with RCO Kiprop and the fixed operating eye microscope!*

Becky Nightingale and Ruth Nabie (On behalf of all the DMH management. Sister Margaret, RCO Kiprop, Sister Jael, Sister Agnes and Claire)