



Dreamland Mission Hospital

DMH Newsletter: Christmas 2020



This is our Christmas Newsletter, but it could easily be called our Thanksgiving letter! As at Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the light of mankind who came into a world of darkness, we can't help but recount the rays of light that have shone through in what has been a dark year. Even though COVID-19 has brought many financial restraints for all of us, we have received more donations for the DMH work in 2020 than any other year. Below you will see what your support has enabled us to do and the difference it has made to lives devastated by poverty and disease. As you read, please know that your support, however small or large, keeps us going and is a massive encouragement to the team in Kenya. We do thank you, and we thank God for you!

Light in Darkness: How your support has helped us through the Pandemic

The virus continues to spread through Kenya without signs of stopping. The cases are rising in Kimilili, putting pressure on us and the government hospital. Our first priority was

to ensure the safety of our staff, and with your generosity we were able to purchase sufficient PPE to maintain safety.



As well as mass stocks of PPE, we have achieved the following thanks to your donations:

1. Public Health Training and Food supplies to 600+ people in deprived villages:





2. 12 new isolation bays to strengthen our capacity for COVID patients





This significant building project has also provided employment for so many in our village during a time when so many lost their work due to the restrictions. .



3. New Theatre lights and operating Equipment



4. 15 new Oxygen Concentrators



5. Hundreds of surgeries for needy patients

We have operated on 200+ children this year who suffered from a deformity such as cleft lip & palate or clubfoot. We have performed a further 400+ surgeries on eye patients, the majority of them being blind before surgery. These cases are in addition to the regular general surgeries ongoing in the theatre.



Lucy is just one child who went through our free orthopaedic clinic successfully. She was born with clubfoot. Her condition made her an object of controversy in the community. Everlyne, her mother was very worried about her, but she could not afford any treatment for Lucy, coming from a poor area where they rely on subsistence farming. Thanks to your donations, Lucy underwent successful surgery on both feet. Below are pictures of her at her home in her new donated shoes. Her family are delighted and hopeful for Lucy's future.



Esther was found by our community health worker in a lot of pain. She has been suffering with goitre for over 3 years to the extent that she could no longer work because of the pain. Even breathing had become difficult. Thanks to your donations this year, we were able to purchase lab equipment in order to rightly diagnose goitre and to then go ahead with surgery. Esther has had a successful surgery. Below is the first time she has smiled in years, and what a wonderful smile she has. In 2020 we have seen over 50 thyroid cases with many more on our waiting list for surgery.



COVID-19 19 Update

We mentioned that the virus has continued to spread in Kenya with wave 2 causing significantly more problem than wave 1. Many of its affects are being felt now more than ever, as mortality rates rise and hospitals are under increasing pressure. We work in close partnership with the Kenyan government, and rely on income from the state-run National Health Insurance Scheme. The majority of our patients access our services with NHIF. Sadly, the NHIF has significant delays on processing payments and limits on surgeries that can be done due to COVID. Furthermore, the government nurses, allied health professionals and some pharmacy staff went on strike 2 days ago with an indefinite ending and Doctors are threatening to join them. Our local government hospitals are now "referring" all inpatient to mission hospitals with immediate effect. This has put huge pressure on DMH, our beds are full and we likely facing large bills for extra drugs, supplies , PPE and staff overtime. Staff today have been collecting blood donations to allow us to provide safe maternity services. We are aware you have given so much, but if you could help us at this time of crisis please do consider donating to our COVID appeal.

The pandemic has also affected our staff, who struggle to continue working with the threat of the virus to them and their families. Yet we are in high spirits. For praying supporters please do pray our stay safe. Many hospitals around us have failed to pay staff salaries due to the financial challenges raised in the pandemic. We are deeply grateful that the staff have been paid every month, and once again your support is key to this. As Christmas approaches, our staff are safe and enjoying the festive season, even as the work load remains extremely high.



Please share this newsletter to anyone you know who has given to the cause but who may not be on our contact list.

You can donate via our [just giving page](#) or via our [website](#) (please choose Dreamland Mission Hospital in the dropdown section) or you can request our UK bank details by emailing us at dreamlandhopsital@icfem.org.

Perhaps you may also like us to do a talk at your church, community group or school? Could you do an event for us? If this interests you please get in touch on dreamlandhopsital@icfem.org and we can arrange something.

Further updates on the work that DMH does can be found on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

Thank you for your attention and support! It is greatly appreciated!

Have your friends or family lost touch with us?

If your friends or family say they are no longer getting updates from DMH it is because we did not get a reply to our previous newsletter asking to be kept on the mailing list. If they wish to re-added please ask them to email dreamlandhospital@icfem.org or fill in the form at the link <http://eepurl.com/dtVLrj>

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mailing list
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If you would like to support us please visit <http://www.justgiving.com/IcFEMDMH>

If you would like more information about the hospital please contact the team at dreamlandhospital@icfem.org