

IcFEM Dreamland Mission Hospital Christmas Newsletter 2017



Thanks to your help and support DMH has treated a record number of patients this year. We have seen over 45,000 patients through the door and are still counting! We thank God that with over 200 days of government strikes we have been able to provide a service to the local community. If DMH had not been running many patients would have had to travel miles to another private hospital or potentially would not have had any care at all. The Kenya Medical and Dentist Board have now recognised us a level 4 hospital (out of 6 levels). This is a big milestone and put us only one level below a full referral hospital.

We have seen a record number of maternity cases this year. In fact, the numbers have grown so much we had to invest in a new maternity bed. We have had nearly 1000 new little babies born at DMH since January. A few years ago we would see maybe 100 deliveries. We continue to treat those with malaria, typhoid, TB, HIV and range of tropical diseases. The National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) has helped us to insure the poorest patients against the rising cost of healthcare and is also meaning that as a hospital we are becoming more sustainable. In the New Year we hope to offer a range of surgeries totally free on NHIF, opening the doors for those who just can't afford the real cost of surgery.



We have seen a growing number of orthopaedic cases. In order to cater for this we have built a new orthopaedic centre. We are extremely grateful to all the donors who have made this possible. The centre is now open, and will be filled with extra equipment over the next month.

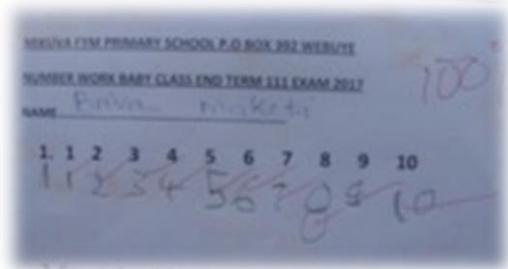
This centre will help children who have surgery and also adults that need rehabilitation. Mellan, Justus and Henry are delighted with it and know that it will be very well used. This centre helps children like Bravin (photo below). He is 6 years old and the 5th born in a family of 6. Bravin was operated on in June 2016, though some of his family members opposed the operation. They wanted to follow the traditional way of living as his uncle lived with clubfoot the rest of his life. Some believed that Bravin's feet would straighten with time as he grew up. Now looking back, they are ashamed that they opposed the operation, and have changed their minds and behaviour towards Bravin, having seen his radical transformation



Bravin is doing well since the orthopaedic clinic. He is an active participant in physical activities such as running, jumping and playing around with others. His teachers testified that he also performs well in class, as evidenced by some of his exam papers photographs. Bravin is in baby class but he can already read and write, which is rare in most public schools in Kenya. He would go through in 2 classes in Early Childhood Education [E.C.D.E] rather than

3. This means that from baby class he would skip the middle class to top class because of his age and excellent performance. When he grows up he would like to be a teacher. He likes teaching his fellow colleagues.

Bravin's parents work hard too to ensure that Bravin accomplishes his vision. Previously, Violet, his mother, had to take care of Bravin full time because of his condition. But now that he can be more independent, it has freed her up to get a job. This the school kindly provided, making her a cooker in the canteen. This income has meant she with her husband could start a sugar and banana plantation at their home, bringing in some more stable income. The father is also working full time in the Kenyan flower industry. They are so grateful for the free surgery Bravin received. They are so happy and overwhelmed at the grace of God in their lives. Without it, Bravin would still be disabled, and they would no doubt have remained in serious poverty. The surgeries changed their lives, and the future of this bright young boy.



We also continue to provide an eye surgery service at DMH. This year Kiprop has assessed over 6000 patients, with the world health organisation stating that more than 80% of eye conditions can be improved or cured, the eye service is still vital in the community.

Anne is 21 years old, a single woman with a family of one child. She is a small businessperson. In June 2017, Anne's eyes irritated her. Anne went to one of the hospital nearby her home. She had given some of the medicines, which were effective for a period of one year.

In June 2017 Anne had the same problem, but now she reported she could not see out of either eye. She went back in the same medical facility and the clinician referred her in DMH for optic special service. Anne could not see, therefore, it was very difficult to her to operate her shop. She said she was very desperate, as she could not support her child, for example, helping her child doing homework and assignments; she was unable to identify clean clothes from the dirty ones. One of her family member operated her shop but this reduced her income.



Anne came in the hospital; and Kiprop diagnosed her with early onset cataracts. He operated within a week. After the whole operation, she was able to walk on her own, she could help her family members performing some house chores and she was able to monitor the progress of her business. Anne was delighted to receive her

eyesight free of charge. She was very thankful to the donors who supported her. Anne thanked God. She would continue serving Him with her whole heart and mind, saying without this hospital I would have remained blind forever.

The increase in patient numbers had meant an increase in staff numbers. We are working on the recruitment at DMH, one way of helping to retain staff is to build good quality accommodation. We are very grateful to the donors who have allowed us to build another 2 bedroom house for the emergency theatre staff, it will allow the anaesthetist and his family to live on site. The house will be finished by Christmas and once painted in the new year will be the new home for theatre staff.



If you know anyone who would like to come and work with our staff we always welcome volunteers; good accommodation is available!

We would also be grateful if you could share this need within churches, hospitals and communities that you are part of or connected with.

We are extremely grateful for all the support, prayers and encouragement we get. The hospital continues to have a significant impact on this community. If you would like to visit, help financially, pray for the hospital or would like more information please do not hesitate to contact us. The best way is via email: dreamlandhospital@icfem.org or by calling +44 (0) 161 408 0850. Please leave a message and we will get back to you.

Thank you again for all your support

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Becky Nightingale and Ruth Nabie

On behalf of all the DMH management (Sister Margaret, RCO Kipro, Sister Jael, Sister Agnes, Claire and Ben) and with thanks to all the patients who agreed to tell their stories.

If you wish to donate:

Visit www.justgiving.com/ICFEMDMH, or

Text IDMH99 followed by the amount (e.g. £10) to 70070.

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