



## FRIENDS OF EAST AFRICA FOUNDATION

*September 2021 Newsletter*



A Sudanese general recently brought his wife from South

Sudan to deliver their child at the Ruth Gaylord Hospital. The staff was gratified that the hospital's reputation for excellence in maternal and pediatric care was reaching beyond Uganda's borders. The hospital also serves Chinese and Indians, currently residing in Uganda, as regular outpatients.

The Ruth Gaylord Hospital has been operating at capacity these past couple of months to accommodate the second wave of Covid 19 patients. Uganda is being hit hard by the Delta Variant. This past spring the government was able to secure doses of the Astra Zeneca vaccine from India's Serum Institute, one of the largest vaccine manufacturers in the world. This vaccine along with that made by Johnson and Johnson work well in Uganda's conditions. Both can be

stored at normal refrigerator temperatures. Then the Delta variant hit India hard, and the Serum institute could no longer resupply Uganda. Uganda's infection rate remains high with only about 1.4 percent of its population vaccinated.



Sadly, Sister Proscovia Nassejje, IHMR, who served as the first administrator

of the Ruth Gaylord Hospital, died July 14 of Covid 19. Prior to becoming the hospital's first chief executive officer, she studied management at the University of St. Thomas and shadowed senior administrators at what was then known as Hennepin County Medical Center and now, Hennepin Healthcare. May Heaven embrace her!



On a happier note, I am proud to report that Sister Elizabeth

Nakku, IHMR, who received both her master's and doctor's degrees from the University of St. Thomas, and who returned to Uganda this summer to take up duties as a professor, has graciously agreed to assist part-time, remotely, with some FOEA Foundation administrative work previously managed by Patricia Sirek who retired June 30.



Morgan Kisitu, another St. Thomas alum, resides in Entebbe

where he owns and operates a travel agency he founded, 1000 Shades of Green Tours and Safari Company. He has kindly agreed to take up another one of Pat's responsibilities, editing this newsletter.

Last year, 2020, the hospital logged 35,000 patient visits, up five percent

over the previous year. The previous year, before Covid lockdowns, the hospital grew 35 percent.

Work on the landscaping for the three, newly completed apartment buildings was slowed by the lockdowns but is now expected to be finished by mid-September. Eight of nine apartments in the Gary Holms Residence are now leased, as are three of eight in the Thomas and Susan Bisanz Residence and one of eight in the Dennis and Megan Doyle Residence – the last building to be completed. The three buildings house 25 beautiful, two-bedroom apartments.

God is clearly in this work. How else explain the many hearts that have opened to help make high quality, affordable health care available to so many so quickly.

You have our heartfelt gratitude!

Reverend Dennis Dease

President

## New and upgraded services

A number of services have been added thanks to funding from Friends of East Africa Foundation.

These include

- ✓ A brand new 4WD Ambulance
- ✓ Isolation rooms for patients with contagious conditions
- ✓ A new dental chair and equipment
- ✓ A 5-part hematology analyzer
- ✓ Cardiac and endovaginal probes

- ✓ Upgrades to the Neonatal Unit: infusion pumps, a sterilizer, phototherapy, infant radiant warmer, patient monitors
- ✓ Ultrasonic nebulizers
- ✓ Optiflow machine
- ✓ A structure to house HDU, ICU and endoscopy

Projects whose funding has been secured and implementation pending

- Endoscopy services
- High Dependency Unit (HDU)



*This new, Toyota Land Cruiser Ambulance with 4WD is a gift from John and Sue Morrison and replaces the old ambulance which was near its life's end and breaking down and out of service more and more frequently.*



*Amaal Amirah Atai, female, one year and two months. She had checked in to see a pediatrician. She was diagnosed with anemia and acute pharyngitis. (The baby is on her mother's lap. The mother did not volunteer her name but consented to the photo being taken and used). In orange head scarf is nurse Salma Juma; in the white clinical coat is pediatrician Dr. Dorothy Nanfuka Gingo.*



*Audrey Najjuma, female, 10 years old. She was in good health and had been brought in to receive HPV vaccine. Administering the vaccine is Annet Namyalo, nursing director.*



*Asham Ssemuwemba, male, 2 years and 6 months. He was accompanied by his father and attending to them is pediatrician, Dr. Dorothy Nanfuka Gingo. He was treated for dermatitis.*



*Sumayia Nagadya, 32 years old, had undergone an elective cesarean section on 18th August 2021 and delivered a baby girl with birth weight 3.0 kilograms. They were discharged on 22nd August in good health. The nursing team are Annet Namyalo (nursing director) and Peninah Nalukwago (midwife)*

**Table 1: Patient visit summary for the past 3 years**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>OUTPATIENT</b>	20146	19369	16020
<b>INPATIENT</b>	445	457	452
<b>ANTENATAL VISITS</b>	1462	1586	1306
<b>NORMAL DELIVERIES</b>	294	293	274
<b>ULTRASOUND SCAN</b>	3091	2581	2324
<b>DENTAL</b>	627	671	698
<b>O.R. / THEATRE</b>	244	200	165
<b>XRAY</b>	425	526	120
<b>NICU</b>	93		
<b>ECG</b>	54		
<b>IMMUNIZATION</b>	7680	7140	2689
<b>HEPATITIS B VACCINE</b>	199	199	
<b>ANTI-RABBIES VACCINE</b>		15	
<b>FREE EYE GLASSES</b>	38	89	493
<b>FREE MEDICAL CAMPS</b>	86		56
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34,884</b>	<b>33,126</b>	<b>24,597</b>
<b>Notes:</b>			
<b>Growth from 2019 to 2020</b>	5%		
<b>Growth from 2018 to 2019</b>	35%		

## **RUTH GAYLORD HOSPITAL PRIORITIES, 2021-2022**

1. **Electrical Power Transformer (EPT) and Accessories:** Our power consumption as a hospital has gone up in recent years due to addition of new large equipment, yet we continue to use the village EPT with the neighborhood and yet it is only strong enough to power homes. With this funding, we shall extend a 3-phase power line to the hospital and get power adequate to run our facility without the challenges we have been facing with fluctuating power strength, sometimes inadequate to run powerful equipment at peak time, such as Xray, autoclave sterilizers, air conditioning, refrigerators, UPS gadgets and other heavy power consumers: **\$18,570**
2. **Oxygen and Medical Air Plant:** To generate oxygen and medical air for patients who need oxygen therapy: **\$100,000**
3. **Intensive Care Unit: \$193,290**
4. **Back-up power generator:** For the Morrison Residence Apartments: **\$22,857**
5. **Mortuary Equipment: \$21,805**
6. **Mortuary Building: \$25,714**

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The Friends of East Africa Foundation, 2130 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105**