



FRIENDS OF EAST AFRICA FOUNDATION

December 2019 Newsletter



This is the “speed season” for celebration:

Isn't it just like us to always go “pedal to the metal”? But before you get too carried away, why not take a few minutes, draw in a deep breath and

simply thank God? And next, join me in gratitude for:

- Surgeons from the University of Minnesota Medical School faculty, who recently spent their Thanksgiving holiday week giving free surgeries at the Ruth Gaylord Hospital Maganjo – twice as many as last year, thanks to the Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation and Gary Holmes. Their major support helped us build and furnish a second operating room at the hospital.
- Father Joseph Luzindana, youth chaplain of the Kampala Archdiocese; the Franciscan Choir of Kampala's Christ the King Church; actor and comedian Abby Mukiibi Nkaaga, and Uganda's internationally renowned Ndere Troupe (pictured right) – all of whom will be on hand to welcome guests for a grand dedication Feb. 1, 2020, of three new facilities at RGHM: The Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation Operating Room II, the Mary Alice and Joseph Dease Centre for Diagnostic Imaging, and the Karen

Fults Kaler Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

- And last, but certainly not least: You, who have opened your hearts to grant the gift of health to those in need, half a world away!

As our Ugandan friends say, stay blessed – and have a very Merry Christmas!

Dennis Dease

Reverend Dennis Dease





Your gifts can make hospital's Christmas wishes come true

As you make your year-end giving plans, know that we are eager to make the following "Christmas wishes" come true at the Ruth Gaylord Hospital:

- ❏ Create a two-bed Mini-High Dependency Unit for critical patients who don't need highly specialized equipment – \$9,518
- ❏ Make Dental Clinic upgrades, including a new chair, X-ray viewer, intra-oral camera and monitor, scaler and suction unit, stools for the dentist and assistant, magnifiers, medicine trays and towel racks – \$11,452
- ❏ Upgrade equipment in the suite for mothers in labor – \$25,895
- ❏ Purchase an ultrasound scanner. Not only are these useful for "seeing" babies in utero, but they also are essential for locating blood clots and tumors and assisting with some biopsies – \$44,800
- ❏ Purchase a CBC hematology analyzer for detecting a wide range of disorders, including anemia, infection and leukemia – \$16,667
- ❏ Purchase and install an optiflow system for delivery of warmed, humidified oxygen, used in treatment of respiratory distress – \$6,994
- ❏ Provide a new sterilizer, infusion pump and injection pump – \$9,778
- ❏ Purchase an ultrasonic nebulizer for treatment of respiratory diseases; this kind of nebulizer works at high speed, turning liquid medicine into an inhalable mist. – \$3,250
- ❏ Provide oxygen piping to all essential areas – \$32,473
- ❏ Create and equip an Endoscopy Unit for diagnosis and treatment of gastrointestinal disorders – \$37,000.



Patients waited hopefully at the Ruth Gaylord Hospital for consultations with surgeons from the University of Minnesota Medical School.



Visiting University of Minnesota anesthesiologist Dr. Monica Lupei (right), took Peter's blood pressure during his surgical consultation at the Ruth Gaylord Hospital. Standing left are nutritionist Claire Naluwu, who served as a translator during their visit, and general surgeon Dr. Julie Ottosen, an assistant professor in the Department of Surgery at the U of M.

Social media spread the word about free surgery mission at RGHM

Surgeons from the University of Minnesota Medical School, led by Dr. Gregory Beilman and Dr. Jeffrey Chipman, recently completed their fourth surgical mission to the Ruth Gaylord Hospital Maganjo.

The visiting team performed 40 surgeries free of charge to patients during the last week of November. These "surgery camps" have been enormously successful, and now their reputation has even spread to a neighboring country.

One patient, Peter, traveled nearly 400 miles – a nine-hour drive – from his home in Juba, the capital city of South Sudan.

Peter's niece, Mami, had learned about the opportunity on the Facebook page of Hope Medical Clinics Uganda, RGHM's sponsoring organization. Peter arrived in Uganda on Nov. 24 and had a hernia repaired on Nov. 26. His surgery was successful, and Peter looked forward to being released from the hospital very next day.



RGHM takes better health on the road

In an effort to make health care affordable and accessible to all, the Ruth Gaylord Hospital takes its “show on the road,” with a Mobile Health Clinic.

In Uganda, the costs of transportation can be prohibitive to patients seeking care. So clinic staff make trips to villages for health care education, immunizations and school screenings.



Construction progressing nicely on apartment buildings



They're taking shape! The new apartment buildings on the campus of the Ruth Gaylord Hospital should be ready for residents as early as July 2020. Pictured above, left to right above, are the Megan and Dennis Doyle Residence, the Susan and Thomas Bisanz Residence, and the Gary S. Holmes Residence.

The Friends of East Africa Foundation is a Minnesota nonprofit corporation designated by the International Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are fully tax deductible.