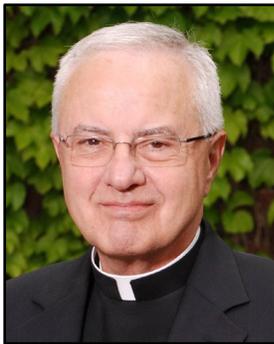




# FRIENDS OF EAST AFRICA FOUNDATION

August 2020 Newsletter



Usually at this time of year, the “dog days” of summer, we’re reveling in bright sunshine but looking forward to autumn’s sounds: school buses, crunching leaves and, of course,

cheers from our football stadiums.

Instead, this fall approaches with an uncertainty and dread that began in early spring. Many of us and our friends, neighbors and family members have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic sweeping the globe.

Our separateness is exaggerated. We humans are social beings, unaccustomed to wearing masks and “social distance.” We yearn to embrace one another, gather, pray together, comfort each other. We are impatient to get past this and get on with our regular lives.

*At the Ruth Gaylord Hospital Maganjo (RGHM) entrance, staff screen visitors with infrared thermometers.*

*RGHM has been assessed by Uganda’s Ministry of Health as a possible facility to help manage COVID-19 patients if government facilities become overwhelmed. Private hospitals have not yet been authorized to manage confirmed cases.*

I hope you find some respite in this issue of the Friends of East Africa Foundation newsletter. It’s filled with good news! May it bring you the same joy and satisfaction that it did for me – including this message I received July 20 from Ruth Gaylord Hospital CEO Peter Kiggundu:

*There has been a very low prevalence of confirmed [COVID-19] cases in Uganda, just over 1,000 and most ... were truck drivers wjp picked it up at border posts with neighboring countries. No deaths so far. Confirmed cases from the community have been few and mostly in districts bordering neighboring countries. Kampala has been largely spared so far (thank goodness).*

In that grateful spirit, I pray for your health and wish you every blessing!

Reverend Dennis Dease  
Chair of the Board of Directors  
Friends of East Africa Foundation



# Smiles all around as RGHM dedicates new facilities Feb. 1



RGHM's new neonatal intensive care unit was dedicated Feb. 1 to honor Karen Fults Kaler. Her husband, Dr. Eric Kaler, president emeritus of the University of Minnesota, funded the new unit last November as a birthday gift for his wife, a longtime NICU volunteer at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital.

“We were delighted to be able to support a NICU at RGHM,” Eric Kaler said. “That the Friends of East Africa Foundation is based in Minnesota, and that University of Minnesota doctors regularly work at the hospital, gave us confidence in the hospital and makes the word smaller and more connected. During our visit, we saw how RGH staff provide incredible service for so many. We saw how valuable our investment is in helping to provide care for the tiniest patients.”



*Major funding from the Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation enabled a second operating room at RGHM and the hospital's new Joseph & Mary Alice Dease Centre for Diagnostic Imaging, named for the parents of Father Dennis Dease and his seven siblings. Pictured above: Bill Dease and his wife, Sherry.*

*Below, clockwise: Dedication guests; Charles Lugemwa, chair of the board, Hope Medical Clinics Uganda; dedication entertainers the Ndere Troupe, a renowned Ugandan dance and drum ensemble.*



# New residents waiting for apartments on RGHM campus

The new apartment residences on the campus of the Ruth Gaylord Hospital soon will be ready for occupants, and we're told there's a waiting list already!

Interior painting is underway at the Gary S. Holmes Residence (right), while interior doors, closets and kitchen furnishings are being installed.



*Gary S. Holmes Residence should be ready for occupants soon.*

In the Susan and Thomas Bisanz Residence, glass installation is taking place, while interior doors and kitchen furnishings are being completed and more painting gets done.

At the Megan and Dennis Doyle Residence, exterior and interior painting still needs completion, as do doors and furniture finishing.

The development's main gate is nearly complete, and pavers and other landscaping soon will begin.

Rental income from the new buildings will cover costs of future hospital equipment replacement, ambulance maintenance, public health outreach (such as immunization clinics and patient-education programs), and gaps between patient payments and the full costs of care.

The residences also will help meet growing demand in the Maganjo area for affordable, safe and secure housing.



*A gated community on the hospital campus, the Doyle Residence (top center) and the Bisanz Residence (right) join the Holmes Residence around a center courtyard.*

## Friends: Please help us meet hospital's funding priorities

Raising funds during a global pandemic and its accompanying financial uncertainty is challenging at best. We hope you will consider the needs of the Ruth Gaylord Hospital Maganjo as you plan your charitable contributions this year:

Purchase a **CBC hematology analyzer** for detecting a wide range of disorders, including anemia, infection and leukemia – \$16,667

Purchase a **cardiac phased array probe and Doppler kit** for cardiac diagnostics and echocardiography – \$7,000

Purchase an **endovaginal/transvaginal probe** for examination of female reproductive organs – \$5,500

Provide **oxygen piping** to all essential areas – \$32,473

Provide a **new sterilizer, infusion pump, injection pump** and other upgrades in the Kaler NICU – \$9,778

Create a two-bed **Mini-High Dependency Unit** for critical patients and post-operative monitoring – \$9,518

Purchase and install an **optiflow system** for delivery of warmed, humidified oxygen, used in treatment of respiratory distress – \$6,994

Purchase **ultrasonic nebulizers** for treatment of respiratory diseases – \$3,250

Make **Dental Clinic upgrades**, including a new chair, X-ray viewer, intra-oral camera and monitor, scaler



*Meet tiny John Henry, whose mom arrived at the Ruth Gaylord Hospital Maganjo in preterm labor, and delivered this little guy, who weighed just over 3.5 pounds. After 12 days in RGHM's new NICU, John is now growing nicely at home!*

and suction unit, stools for the dentist and assistant, magnifiers, medicine trays and towel racks – \$11,452

**Pavers and landscaping** for apartment gardens – \$63,000

Create and equip an **Endoscopy Unit** for diagnosis and treatment of gastrointestinal disorders – \$14,740

### BIG NEWS

**You now can donate online!**

We're now able to accept your gifts online via PayPal!

Visit our website, [foeafoundation.org](http://foeafoundation.org) and click 'DONATE TODAY' to get started.

It's quick, easy and secure!

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.