



December 2021

KIWOKO HOSPITAL **NEWSLETTER** *30th Anniversary Celebrations*



From the Medical Director

Very warm greetings to all our readers.

I hope this edition finds you well. It is a unique newsletter commemorating our 30 years of existence as a hospital but also referencing the fact that it is Christmas and a New Year looms large. I hope you can also gain encouragement that The Lord has not forgotten us; He is very much with us as he was in the past, and He is not finished with us yet!

We had a lovely week of celebration with various build up activities the 30 years celebrations which culminated on the 19th November. We tried to engage and give back to the community in a small way through a 2 day medical camp organized by the hospital. Over 650 people were beneficiaries of the different services which were offered over those 2 days. It was amazing to see how the Lord used so many of our local partners to help cover some of the expenses needed in that period.

It can be a challenge to know when to celebrate more so when you have gone through a period with

...continued overleaf



INSIDE THIS SPECIAL CELEBRATION ISSUE

From the MD	1-3
From the Board Chairperson.....	3
From the Founder.....	4-6
30th Anniversary Activities.....	7-13
From the beginning: Moses Ssekide.....	14
Reaching out in Ministry.....	15
Celebrating Access to Care.....	16-17
Container arrives from Ireland.....	17
HIHA Awards.....	18
NICU Award.....	18
Prayer Requests ...	19
Donor thank-you..	19
How to donate.....	20

**“Oh give
thanks to the
LORD, for he
is good, for
His steadfast
love endures
forever!”**

Psalm 107:1

the challenges we faced from COVID and the social distancing it created. But it is my prayer that by the end of it all, many were encouraged and re-envisioned to carry on the mission that was begun here all those years ago. We all need such moments of reflection from time to time.

It seems today we are constantly in or between waves of COVID! Many of us have also experienced great challenges and even personal loss in the last year and half. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. But, we also want to thank the Lord for how we have moved from a period of profound fear and despair to a time of hope in spite of it all as we inch our way forward through the uncertainties.

On behalf of the Board and Management we would like to thank all our past staff in Kiwoko Hospital for your great work and faithfulness in carrying on the mission of **bringing hope and healing to this area**. In the same way we would like to thank all staff present today for continuing this work. Your coming to join has been an answer to prayer. Thank you for the work well done!

Finally, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all of you near and far who have stood in the gap for us through praying and giving in cash and kind, but also through your giving of your time, talents and words of love and encouragement. You have been such a blessing and help greatly to make the work lighter! We thank the Lord for you and pray that he continues to bless you too.

We are believing on the Lord for another 30 years of even greater impact and invite you to continue this journey with us!

As I finish, let me share a story I came across recently. I was challenged to think about Kiwoko Hospital, even as I read the story.

“There were two warring tribes in the Andes, one that lived in the lowlands and the other high in the mountains. The mountain people invaded the lowlanders one day, and as part of their plundering of the people, they kidnapped a baby of one of the lowlander families and took the infant with them back up into the mountains.

The lowlanders didn't know how to climb the mountain. They didn't know any of the trails that the mountain people used, and they didn't know where to find the mountain people or how to track them in the steep terrain.

Even so, they sent out their best party of fighting men to climb the mountain and bring the baby home.

The men tried first one method of climbing and then another. They tried one trail and then another. After several days of effort, however, they had climbed only several hundred feet.

Feeling hopeless and helpless, the lowlander men decided that the cause was lost, and they prepared to return to their village below.

As they were packing their gear for the descent, they saw the baby's mother walking toward them. They realized that she was coming down the mountain that they hadn't figured out how to

climb.

*And then they saw that she had the baby strapped to her back.
How could that be?*

*One man greeted her and said, "We couldn't climb this mountain.
How did you do this when we, the strongest and most able men in the village, couldn't do it?"*

She shrugged her shoulders and said, "It wasn't your baby."

What can I say? Very simply, **THANK YOU** for treating Kiwoko Hospital as your baby.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2022!

Dr Peter Serwadda



From the Board Chairperson



When I was a young girl growing up in Lukuli Village, Makindye Division, I would accompany my Mother to dig in our banana garden. I would every now and again stand, hands on hips and assess my progress. My mother would tell me to keep digging not looking back since this would slow my progress.

As I think about Kiwoko Hospital and her 30-year-old journey I am convinced we need to stop, hands on hips, and assess how far we have come. This helps us as a community to see what God has done for us, in us, with us and through us. We look with wonder at the physical growth, at the multiplication of specialities; we see the increase in Staff and the trainings and experiences the

Staff has had – all coming out of the small one-roomed outpatient facility. We remember the challenges Kiwoko Hospital has shouldered – the HIV and AIDS epidemic, the haemorrhagic fevers, especially Ebola, and the current Covid-19 pandemic. What a God! What a journey! Congratulations to the Management and Staff of Kiwoko Hospital for a job well done.

We cannot forget those who have been part of this journey: the many Friends and Partners as well as the Community that have made Kiwoko Hospital what it is today. We are grateful to The Boards of Governors that have supported and walked this journey with the Hospital Management Team. We are privileged to have Friends of Kiwoko Hospital (FOKH) who have not gotten tired of supporting financially, guiding, skilling, praying and encouraging the Hospital Management Team to meet its targets and aspirations. Thank you ADARA, UPMB, Mildmay and The Ministry of Health of the Government of Uganda for trusting Kiwoko Hospital and for the willingness to work with us and fund community programmes through us at Kiwoko.

Special thanks go to our patients and their families who have trusted us and continued to seek and come for the services we offer. This is a statement of trust which we cannot overlook. We thank the Community around us for supporting our work while giving us the freedom to grow and expand.

To all of us as we celebrate our 30th Birthday remember:

***“Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin,
to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel’s hand.” Zechariah 4:10***

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL!

Dr Ekiría M. N. Kikule

From the Founder: The past, present and future of Kiwoko Hospital

Dr Ian Clarke provides some reflections and some special photograph memories of the early days.

It seems a long time ago since Robbie and I, and our children, arrived in Kiwoko in our borrowed CMS car, laden down with all our worldly possessions, but the years have passed and now it is thirty years since the birth of Kiwoko Hospital. All those years ago we had no idea that our work would result in something so lasting and significant, and we are grateful to the people who have made the hospital what it is today. We may have been the pioneers of Kiwoko, but without a long line of people who followed, there would be no Kiwoko Hospital. Neither does the hospital stand on its own, but is one of three, consisting of the hospital itself, Friends of Kiwoko Hospital (FOKH) and Adara; each contributes to the whole, like the legs of a three-legged stool that would collapse without the support of the other two.



The initial purpose of Kiwoko was to bring hope to a war torn community. There was then a real sense that out of death comes resurrection, and the very stones which were used to build the first ward were taken from the rubble of houses destroyed in the bush war. During the immediate post war years there was not only the aftermath of the war to cope with, but a high rate of TB, the unfolding epidemic of HIV, and an extremely high maternal mortality rate. It was these needs that drove us to do what we could, and it was that sense that we were bringing back hope to the community that motivated us through many difficult times.

During the event that marked the 30 year anniversary Cannon Eric Ssebigajju, the Diocesan secretary, recalled that when he had been a teacher in Kiwoko he had witnessed me get involved in all sorts of tasks, many of them non-medical. But the salient feature was not what I did myself, but that the community owned the work and got involved. I commented that I might have been a 'Jack of all trades', but I could have done nothing without a team. Even when my family and I had to leave suddenly because I had developed cancer, there was a team to take over, and for the following thirty years there have been



Left—Dr Ian sent the community team to mobilise disabled people for rehabilitation. They met Nakato in a wheel chair and took her to Dr Ian thinking that a disabled woman was having AIDS. They described her as helpless, staying in a hut neighbours constructed using banana leaves. Nakato was admitted to the ward and lived there for over 25 year until she died.

Above—The day Dr Ian returned from the UK after treatment, Bishop Kawuma handed over Luwero diocese to Bishop Bugimbi, who became the first Kiwoko Hospital Board Chairman.

[Special thanks to Moses Ssekide for telling the stories behind the photographs]

hundreds of committed people who have moved Kiwoko Hospital from one phase to the next. Some are no longer with us, such as John Ando and Donald Brownlee, and some have retired, like Margaret Kacence and Sister Justine Mukasa though there are still some 'historicals' such as Moses Ssekidde, Christine Otai, Connie, Sarah, Milly and Bosco who are still active at Kiwoko.



Dr Ian with some nurses

We ourselves were sponsored by CMS Ireland and we are very grateful to Rev Cecil Wilson who played such a key role in the support of the hospital. CMS continued to play a vital role sponsoring many key figures who followed me – Richard and Heather Montgomery, Donald and Una Brownlee, Nick and Kate Wooding, Jim and Margaret McAnlis and Rory and Denise Wilson, but over the past years that leadership has been taken over by Ugandans – Dr James Nyonyintono and Dr Peter Serwadda. This is a great development and it has been inspiring to watch the next generation of young Ugandans take on the leadership and guardianship of Kiwoko Hospital.

Since Kiwoko has always been a charitable hospital it has been heavily subsidized, and would not exist without the support of FOKH and Adara. Friends of Kiwoko has been stalwart in support and for many years the person who held it together was Ian Taylor, assisted by such people as Michael Johnston, Roy Millar,

Jim McAnlis, Alan Vincent, Ken Moles and the current chairman Dr Roy Harper.

Sometimes the work of fundraising can be unglamorous and tedious, but without it Kiwoko would long since have ceased to exist. It is gratifying to see that young people, such as the Friend family's two sets of twins, have taken on the mantle of fund raising in their planned row across the Atlantic! Twenty years ago a young lady, Audette, arrived unannounced in Kiwoko and decided to adopt the place. Since then Adara under the leadership of Audette (Later awarded the honorary Order of Australia for her philanthropic work) has ploughed millions of dollars into Kiwoko to enable them to offer subsidized maternity care and develop the best rural neonatal intensive care unit in the country which consistently produces exceptionally high survival rates.

Since Kiwoko has now been in existence for over thirty years, the leadership has passed from one



Left and Above—The triumphant return of Dr Ian and family. People walked from Kiwoko to Luwero to pick him. They gathered in all trading centres waving tree branches. They also contributed some money to buy the kitengi and kanzu (traditional dress).

generation to the next, with the current team consisting of young Ugandans including Dr Peter, Medical director; Dr James, NICU and Maternity; Rebecca, HR; Alex, Finance; Laureen, Business Development, and Julius, Nursing. This team is supported by the board under the chairmanship of Dr Ekiria Kikule with representatives from the Church of Uganda, the MOH, the community, the staff and donors. Dr Peter and his team have done a sterling job over the past few years and it is encouraging to see how they have provided leadership during the difficult times caused by Covid-19.

Over this whole period I have had a bird's eye view since I am a lifetime board member. Most recently I have been chairman of the finance committee, with the support of a real finance person Ken Finch (previous finance director of Kiwoko and IHK). In this capacity it has been a pleasure to work with the executive team, and I have been impressed by these young professionals. When I spoke at the 30 year celebrations, my challenge was that we can look back over 30 years and be satisfied with what we have accomplished, but what will the future bring? Where will we be in 30 years or even in ten years? The future does not depend on the past, but on what our vision is today, what drives us forward? What is our passion? We can coast comfortably in the present, but we will run out of momentum for the future - unless we are motivated and driven. Thirty years ago the motivation was the desperate needs we found, the tragedy of the war, the onset of AIDS. But what drives us today? What drives Adara? What drives FOKH? What drives the current leadership of Kiwoko?

If I were to be honest I would admit that I would not have believed that Kiwoko Hospital could have survived all these years and be true to its initial vision, but it has – to the credit of all those involved in all three legs of the tripod. Now we must be inspired as to how this institution will continue to be a role model for faith in action. Will Kiwoko continue for many more years to bring hope to the community, healing to the sick, life to mothers and babies, and solace to the destitute? The answer is it will - if those involved continue to have that same sense of vocation and purposefulness that has marked it thus far.

Thank you Dr Ian for all you have done, and continue to do, for Kiwoko Hospital.



Dr Ian with a friend

The Kiwoko Hospital Healthcare Training Institute commenced as a training school for Community Health Workers then Nursing Aides



30TH ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITIES



Human Resource and Administration Manager, Rebecca Orishaba, chaired the organising committee for the special 30th Anniversary events. Rebecca gives an overview of the celebration activities.

Kiwoko Hospital has thrived for 30 years since its incorporation on 24th September 1991 when it was opened by the late Vice President of Uganda, Samson Kisekka. Staff and students looked forward to this day and a questionnaire to guide management on how they would like to celebrate the hospital's momentous achievement was circulated among them. A theme of ***“Thanking God for the past, trusting Him for the future”*** was selected.

A road map of attainable events was done and it was a week of different activities that started on 13th to 16th November, 2021 with sports matches such as football, volleyball and netball games between different hospital departments and students competing amongst themselves. As luck would have it, for football the hospital lost the game to the young stars (students) who won by 2 against 1. The hospital team emerged the best in volleyball winning with two sets, and for netball the surgical team won against students with 17 points to 9 points.

On 16th to 17th November, 2021, the hospital held medical camps by offering free testing for non-communicable diseases, COVID-19 vaccination, eye care services for diabetic patients and others, a blood donation drive, in addition to orthopaedic and general health consultations. All these were supported by different partners, such as Uganda Protestant Medical Bureau (UPMB), Nakasero Blood Bank, Mengo Hospital, Nakaseke District and many different suppliers.

A team of 48 people from the town council, students and staff of the hospital visited different homes of the elderly to do Bulungi Bwansi (beautification of the earth) on 13th November 2021, followed by cleaning of the general hospital and the market area on 18th November 2021.

Final celebrations were held on 19th November, 2021 with staff, students and the community marching around Kiwoko Town Council. The Uganda Red Cross Band was contracted to offer these services. The celebration then moved to the grounds of the Healthcare Training Institute (HTI), hosting more than 869 guests who included amongst others: Honourable Member of Parliament of Nakaseke District Central Allan Mayanga, Board of Governors, District officials, Kiwoko Police Officers, staff, students, suppliers and our neighbouring community members. The Guest of Honour was Dr Ian Clarke the founder of Kiwoko Hospital who attended with his wife, Mrs Robbie Clarke.

Different departments and students gave presentations, with some nurses and hygiene (cleaner) staff composing and performing original songs. Kiwoko Hospital was recognised for being the best neonatal hospital and a centre of excellence in Nakaseke District by the District Health Officer. The day ended with cake cutting and awarding of gifts to long serving staff who have worked for the hospital for 10, 20, 25 and 30 years.

Special thanks go to the organising team which comprised of 52 staff, sports and staff representative committees as well as departmental in-charges, who worked hand-in-hand with my office to ensure well coordinated and successful planning of all events, including observance of the COVID-19 SOPs.

[More detailed reports are provided on the following pages.]

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

As part of the 30th anniversary celebrations, Kiwoko Hospital planned some activities to give back to our local community. On Saturday 13th November, a team of 30 staff and students volunteered to help a number of local elderly people with practical work including cleaning dishes, mopping the house, sweeping outside the house and slashing the compounds. The recipients had been previously identified and spoken to by a village leader in collaboration with the team leader and hospital representative, Nakato Becky. Thank you to those who volunteered, and the community for continuing to support Kiwoko Hospital.



The team of hospital volunteers



One of the recipients



*Frederike with Pamela,
student at HTI*

“Hi, I am Frederike and I am a medical student from Germany doing an internship [medical elective] at Kiwoko Hospital. Last Saturday I joined the community work. We met at 7:30 with a lot of nursing and midwifery students. Everyone grabbed a tool and we walked to the community all together. When we arrived at the houses we split up into teams. Each team cleaned one compound. It was a great experience for me, because I hadn't been to the community before and I got to know so many nice people. We all worked together and were done fast. It was a good feeling to see what we had done afterwards. We were picked up and brought back to the hospital. I will remember the community work when I go back to my home country and would happily do it again.”

SPORTING COMPETITIONS

The 30th celebrations would not have been complete without interdepartmental sporting competitions, which as usual provided much fun and excitement for hospital staff and students. Matches were held in football, volleyball and netball cumulating in finals on the 4th day. Various hospital departments were grouped together to form 2 teams, and the Kiwoko Hospital Health Training Institute (KHHTI) provided a competitive 3rd team. Big congratulations to the winners:

FOOTBALL - Kiwoko Hospital Health Training Institute (KHHTI)

VOLLEYBALL - Combined Medical/Surgical Team

NETBALL - Surgical Team

Despite some challenges with uniforms and balls, the competitions progressed well with the hospital facilitating pitch hire, qualified officials, refreshments and prizes. It was great to see lots of staff and students competing or cheering



on their friends and colleagues. The prize

of a goat for each winning team was received with great excitement! Many thanks to Kiwoko Hospital Sports Committee for their integral role in organising these successful and enjoyable tournaments.



The Medical Football team



One of the football matches



Very happy with the prize goat!



Height & Weight station

MEDICAL CAMPS

On Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th November, Kiwoko Hospital hosted medical camps. The medical camps were held at the local primary school and coordinated by Kiwoko Hospital PNO, Mr Julius Ojuka. Services provided included:

- General health screening for non-communicable conditions, including blood pressure, height, weight and blood sugar level checks
- Health education talks
- Orthopaedic and general medical/surgical consultations
- Subsidised medications
- Blood donation
- COVID-19 vaccinations



Dr Peter consulting at the medical camp

In total 132 people attended the 2-day camp. Of these, 59 had orthopaedic issues; 21 were noted to have high blood pressure; 52 had other conditions. The COVID-19 vaccination was available on one day, due to availability, with 187 people receiving it. The blood donation drive was also successful, with 82 people donating over the 2 days. Kiwoko Hospital are thankful to all those who provided funds to enable the medical camps to run—including UPMB, banks and many local suppliers.

Medical camp photographs (from Right, clockwise): PNO, Mr Julius Ojuka, leading by example by donating blood; dispensing medicines; consultation time; COVID vaccination drive.



EYE CAMPS

At the same time as the medical camps were running at the local primary school, eye care services were being provided at Kiwoko Hospital. This was coordinated by Kiwoko Hospital's Ophthalmic Clinical Officer, Frank Sekweya, and provided in collaboration with Mengo Hospital, Kampala. Community outreach is usually provided by Mengo Hospital two times each year at Kiwoko Hospital and, on this special occasion, they kindly agreed to attend for 2 days rather than the usual one. They also brought a van to do diabetic retinopathy screening, the first time this service has been provided at Kiwoko Hospital or in the vicinity. 175 people were attended to: 86 of



OCO Frank Sekweya attending to a patient



A Mengo Ophthalmic Specialist reviews a patient

whom attended for their first ever diabetic retinopathy screening; 26 people were assessed for and received reading glasses, and 3 required distance glasses.

We are thankful to Mengo for their significant and continuing input, and look forward to continuing this partnership in the future. One of the challenges encountered was mobilisation of patients—this has become more notable since COVID-19, which has caused financial challenges for many including leading to increased transportation costs. Some of these people, especially those deep in the villages, will likely only be reached through community outreach which KH Eye Clinic hopes to restart in the future.



Diabetic consultations at Eye Camp

EYE CAMP SUCCESS STORIES

OCO Frank Sekweya notes that some patients stood out as having particularly benefited from the camp:

- ⇒ A 3 year old boy who had a significant penetrating eye injury due to an accident with a knife — transferred to Mengo Hospital for free surgery
- ⇒ A 14 year old girl with Diabetes and cataracts in both eyes — to have free surgery through Mengo Hospital
- ⇒ A 12 year old boy with cataracts in both eyes — to have free surgery through Mengo Hospital
- ⇒ A 13 year old girl with a tear on the surface of her eye due to an eye injury — transferred to Mengo Hospital for free repair surgery

HOSPITAL CLEAN-UP

The community work continued on Thursday 18th November with cleaning of the hospital. This was headed up by Becky Nakato, Anaesthetic Officer, who ably mobilised a team of willing volunteers. She provided the following report: “Thursday 18th was our climax for community work! The team agreed to meet at OPD at 7am. We thank God that one set of students joined us, alongside a number of volunteers from amongst hospital staff and families. We chose to begin our scrubbing from OPD, where every corner was thoroughly scrubbed. We had very good team work and every one on the team had a role to play. When we had convinced ourselves that the place was clean enough, then we started scrubbing all the hospital streets (walkways). We continued to work hard as a team and went clockwise around the hospital, that is from OPD to Pharmacy, alongside Laboratory and Paediatric ward, past Female ward and Maternity until we reached Male ward! The cleaning helped the hospital hygiene staff and this enabled them to join the band on the 19th November. We are so grateful to the people who gave us their time and the good team work that kept us going. We really had fun and much as the work was huge we didn't feel it until we reached the finishing point! Thank you so much everyone who turned up that day. Thank you for the work, well done! Today the hospital still looks clean because of this wonderful team.”



Becky also helps with hedge trimming



Cleaning the hospital paths

BAND PARADE

The week of planned anniversary activities culminated in a day of celebration on Friday 19th November. This commenced with the Uganda Red Cross band leading a parade around the hospital grounds and then through Kiwoko town.



Leaving the hospital with the banners



The band leading the parade



A large crowd marched into Kiwoko town



A colourful and joyous parade!

CELEBRATION PARTY

The celebration party was filled with music, dance, singing, drama, speeches and presentations. A celebration meal was provided for all attending. The theme of the celebrations was reiterated many times, ***“Thanking God for the past, trusting Him for the future”***. A huge thank you to all who organised and contributed in any way to such a wonderful occasion. Praise God!



12 *Dr Peter in discussion with the DHO*



Dr Ian Clarke, Founder, addresses the crowd



Traditional dancing

*“Thanking God for
the past,
trusting Him for
the future.”*

**KIWOKO
HOSPITAL**
WE TREAT, JESUS HEALS



Drama



Dr Ian and Dr Peter in discussion



Celebrating 30 Years of Existence (1991- 2021)



A goat for the organising committee



Cake cutting ceremony

From the Beginning: Moses Ssekide

Only a small number of staff remain who worked at Kiwoko Hospital (KH) from the very early days.

These staff are fondly referred to as “The Historicals”. **Moses Ssekide**, Community Based Health Care Programme Manager, is one of these individuals. He is a master storyteller, full of fascinating information of the beginning and talks passionately about how far God has brought KH.



How did you first become involved with Kiwoko Hospital?

I am a resident of Lumpewe village, just 7km from Kiwoko. We heard that a group of foreigners were in the area, preaching and teaching the Bible. Then information came that they needed help doing community health work (CHW). So I joined as a volunteer, going in advance to the villages and helping as was needed: sweeping, puts out mats, finding benches etc. Dr Ian then invited me to join weekly classes on CHW topics such as sanitation. This was followed by official training through AMREF and OXFAM near Nakaseke at the end of 1989 when I upgraded from Community Health Worker to Community Health Trainer. In March 1990, I officially joined KH and was given a new bicycle and a salary! Since then I have been supported through O levels, teacher training, diploma and degree in health administration plus many other courses—all this to provide better care for the patients and community.

What are some of your first memories?

It was shocking to see a foreigner coming as there was nothing to admire in the area: the roads were full of skulls and dead bones; weapons were abandoned and many people were still being killed or injured; there was no food. Yet Dr Ian and his family came preaching the love of Jesus and the Gospel, and showing it in action. They humbled themselves, seeing patients on a mat on the floor and were prepared to do every job that was needed, not just doctoring. Through this they motivated the community: we knew we could also do so much the same.

What makes KH different from other institutions?

There is a feeling of ownership, especially for the people who were here from the start—we see it as ours. KH means so much to us. KH is also different by giving transparency in what happens, and we can always ask for answers from the management team. Services are available and reliable. And the people are friendly!

In three or four words, summarise KH!

Kiwoko Hospital—Our Pride!

“We treat... Jesus heals.” What does this mean to you?

A retired midwife came up with this motto, and we all agreed fully with it. We were nothing, right from the beginning. Dr Ian humbled himself—he hadn’t planned to build a hospital. In many ways we were too inferior to start a hospital, doing something that people with diplomas and degrees would struggle to do. Yet it was God using us to do everything; we were and continue to be instruments of God.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the KH Newsletter readers?

There is something that surprised me. Out of bad, the hospital developed. When Dr Ian became sick in 1992, he had to leave abruptly and, honestly, we did not expect him to return. Yet God used this. If Dr Ian had stayed it would have been too difficult for the next generations. God took him abruptly and we had to organise ourselves to do what needed to be done. It was God’s plan, like cutting the cord, separating the baby from the mother—essential. God was in control, and He is still in control.

REACHING OUT IN MINISTRY



We praise God some hospital ministry activities recommenced when COVID restrictions lifted, including Morning Prayers and evening prayer meetings. Others remain 'on-hold' or have significant restrictions in place, including children's work, ward ministry and prison ministry. We look forward to fully recommencing the work when allowed. We also thank God for some wonderful opportunities to reach out in practical ways to the local communities, showing God's love in action.



Providing a shelter at a local prison

COVID restrictions mean most visitors are not allowed into prisons. **Beatrice Asiime**, Finance Officer, heads up the Prison Ministry and recently reported: "We ourselves were so amazed at what is going on in the prisons that we visit. They have established their places of worship and are so much dedicated to it. This was testified by the inmates themselves and the officers in charge as well. We give God thanks and the glory goes back to Him. At one of the prisons they had made up a worship shelter of tarpaulin, but the tarpaulin is torn and usually they suffer from both heat and rain. Also they don't have chairs. So they brought forward a request to be supported financially so they can replace the tarpaulin with some iron sheets and maybe get some chairs. We are not yet allowed to visit the prisons, but we took them some items like soap, drinks and bread to help them during this period. We are so much grateful for your prayers and support." The hospital ministry team provided finances so that a number of weeks ago a carpenter and supplies were brought to the prison and a new shelter constructed.



The construction team at work



Completed shelter along with donated benches



The current house

Providing a house for a local grandmother

A ministry team member was made aware of a very difficult situation in the local area. A grandmother, who is a widow, has been striving to care for her young orphaned grandchildren as well as her own mother (also a widow), despite very limited finances. Unfortunately the small house they live in has become uninhabitable with large gaping holes in the grass roof and mud walls. The community have expressed a willingness to help through providing labour, but need building supplies. After prayerful consideration, the hospital ministry team have agreed to fund the supplies needed to build a basic 2-room, tin-roof house. Another opportunity to reach out to the community at this time of celebration, showing God's love in action.

To the individuals and churches who have contributed to the ministry fund over the years, enabling ministry within and outside the hospital compound, a sincere THANK YOU!

CELEBRATING ACCESS TO CARE

Laureen Babirye, Kiwoko Hospital Business Development Manager, provides an brief update on how Kiwoko Hospital

continues to strive to provide access to health care services for all.

For three decades, Kiwoko Hospital has extended high quality and affordable health care services to those in need. Our work has steadily grown over the years from a clinic under a tree to a 204-bed hospital, providing essential health care services to thousands of lives every year. It is with the support of partners and donors that we continue to offer the much-needed care, now with emphasis on improving our specialist services.



Kiwoko Hospital continues to grow!

In the last financial year (2020/2021), Kiwoko saw a total of 27,072 patients through its Outpatient Department and admitted 7,717 people to its five wards. Indeed, during the last five financial years we had been seeing an increase in the number of patients. That was until 2020/2021, when COVID-19 arrived: the restrictions that come with it and its effects on economies has generally had an impact on the number of people seeking facility-based care. Additionally, with restrictions on public transport, patients found it rather difficult to access care.

Kiwoko Hospital strives to provide quality health care

In Uganda, quality health care is scarcely available or unaffordable for most people living in rural/remote areas like Kiwoko. Factors such as lack of appropriate medications, medical equipment and staff capacity are significant access and uptake barriers. In order to address these challenges, Kiwoko Hospital has for long invested time and resources in building and maintaining strategic partnerships with both local and international players to bring about change. Here are just two recent examples of many:

“Kiwoko Hospital has for long invested.... [in] strategic partnerships... to bring about change.”

1. CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING PROGRAMME

Women living in the greater Luwero Triangle region in central Uganda have for long not had access to cervical cancer screening services. It is not until early 2021 that the Ugandan Ministry of Health (MoH), together with Mildmay Uganda, partnered with high volume health facilities, such as Kiwoko hospital, to extend this vital service to the community. Since starting the programme on 3rd March 2021, our clinical team have screened over 470 women, the majority of whom were women living with HIV/AIDs, a group prioritized due to the higher prevalence and persistence of HPV infections in this group. A total of 15 women tested positive at screening, 13 of whom were treated at Kiwoko while the remaining two were referred out for further management in Kampala. In order for Kiwoko Hospital to continue offering this service, medical supplies will be needed on an ongoing basis. ***Thank you to the MoH/Mildmay Uganda and Lois Marie Foundation*** who have given towards medical supplies for this program.

2. SICKLE CELL CLINIC

Kiwoko Hospital's sickle cell clinic is one of the departments where the importance of partnerships/ collaboration and small steps is felt. In 2020 we reported that we had received a donation of an Hb Electrophoresis machine from Hilfe Für Kiwoko - the only machine of its kind in Nakaseke, Nakasongola and Luwero districts. More recently, St. Aldates Church in the UK donated a total of £800 to be used to run 125 Hb electrophoresis tests for patients that are attending our sickle cell clinic and have never had the opportunity to have this test done, often due to the cost of the test elsewhere, including the additional

transport costs required to reach other facilities. ***Thank you to Hilfe Für Kiwoko and St. Aldates Church*** for your input into the lives of our patients with Sick Cell Disease.



Providing quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a massive challenge to healthcare providers worldwide. As a hospital, we have been overwhelmed by the support of so many individuals and organisations who have supported Kiwoko Hospital through the COVID-19 pandemic. This support has come in many different and needful ways: financial; donations of needed resources, such as PPE; advice; and prayers. Amongst others this support has ensured that our staff have had all the PPE they have needed, allowed the hospital make essential infrastructural changes such as install hand hygiene facilities throughout the hospital and develop a respiratory ward, and enabled Kiwoko Hospital provide high quality care to patients with COVID-19 at highly subsidized costs. ***Thank you to each and every contributor to the Kiwoko Hospital COVID-19 response fund.***

A PATIENT STORY: Celebrating access to affordable and high quality care



We are thankful to Dr James Nyonyintono, Kiwoko Hospital Clinical Programmes Manager and General Surgeon, for this honest and personal story.

“It was Sunday night after 10pm as our family was gathering for prayer. Our daughter sat on a broken pram wheel. Suddenly it gave way. We all stared at her. Helping her up I realised a one foot rod had gone through her posterior. As a surgeon I knew this was not a small issue and needed urgent attention. After a short prayer, we rushed to the hospital. I was delighted to have been

attended to by the surgeon-on-call, imaging technician, anaesthesia professional and nursing team within one hour, and shortly after our daughter had major surgery and has since recovered very well.

The recent enrolment into the Kiwoko Hospital Community Insurance Scheme made it more affordable to meet the hospital bills. We are very thankful for Kiwoko Hospital’s mission and celebrate prompt access to high quality care, and the kind expressions, gifts and prayers from friends and colleagues at Kiwoko. God bless you all as we work towards Christlikeness.”

CONTAINER ARRIVES FROM IRELAND

The 10th September 2021 marked the arrival of a container of medical donations from Ireland. It was a busy and exciting day as a large group of staff worked under time constraints to unload and separate the contents, including some large and delicate X-ray equipment. ***Thank you*** to all those involved in getting this container to Kiwoko Hospital: ***Africare*** charity for organising the container, and all the individuals involved in sourcing such valuable resources. The difference that donations like these make to the care we can provide to our patients is simply immense.



Kiwoko Hospital appreciates all its partners/supporters and we shall be sharing a more detailed patient care report in the next Hospital Newsletter in early 2022.

HEROES IN HEALTH AWARDS 2021

The Heroes in Health (HIHA) Awards were instituted in 2019 by the Uganda Ministry of Health with the support of Xtraordinary Media. The HIHA website explains more about these awards: “HIHA is a rewards initiative instituted to recognize outstanding individuals, entities, organizations, services, products, and programs. This is a public choice award, where members of the public will nominate and vote their heroes. The strategic objective is that by shining light on their outstanding contributions; individual, community, non-profit, public and private players in the health sector will be rallied to innovate, serve the public better and to embrace global trends in the delivery of efficient healthcare to Uganda’s citizens.”



Kiwoko Hospital is absolutely delighted to announce that the hospital achieved 2nd place in the Mission and Faith-Based Health Facility category. Additionally, two previous Kiwoko Hospital staff received awards: Sr Christine Otai and Sr Cornety Nakiganda continue to have close working connections with Kiwoko hospital through their work with Adara Development seeking to further improve maternal and newborn health. Newborn National Trainer, **Sister Christine Otai**, was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award for her dedicated service to newborns for almost 40 years. Sister Christine has cared for thousands of newborns over her life and helped establish the Kiwoko Hospital neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). In recent years she has been working with Adara Development using her skills and expertise

to train the next generation of NICU nurses. Community Midwife, **Sister Cornety Nakiganda**, came 3rd in the Midwife of the Year category. **Congratulations!**



KH NICU—A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

We are also delighted to announce that on Wednesday 17th November, World Prematurity Day, The Ministry of Health recognised Kiwoko Hospital’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) as a centre of excellence in newborn health.

Thank you to all our staff and donors who have contributed to this award.



KEEP PRAYING...

We are so thankful for the faithful prayers of so many over the past 30 years and longer! The Bible tells us, ***“The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.”*** [James 5:16]. Prayer is powerful because our God is powerful. Thank you for continuing to uphold Kiwoko Hospital, our staff, patients and community before our God.

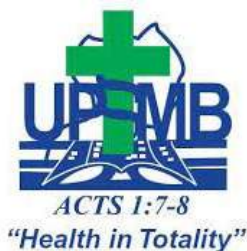


- What a mighty God we serve! We thank Him for His faithfulness, provision and care over the past 30 years and as we continue to serve the people of our local communities and beyond.
- Praise God for all our partners, donors and supporters. Kiwoko Hospital can only function due to the partnership these organisations and individuals provide in so many different ways.
- Continue to pray for the hospital leadership as they make many decisions about the present and future running of the hospital.
- Thank God for all our staff, each with an important role at the hospital. Praise God for the many staff who have contributed over the years to make Kiwoko Hospital what it is today.
- Pray for every patient and attendant who comes to Kiwoko. Pray that they will experience God's love in action, and that they would know God's speaking voice into their lives.
- Pray that in everything happening at Kiwoko Hospital, God will be glorified.

***“For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations.”***

Psalm 100:5

A heartfelt thanks to all our partners, donors and supporters who have contributed to the work of Kiwoko Hospital over the past 30 years. These include, but are not limited to:



FOKUS MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Kiwoko Hospital is a private, not-for-profit, mission hospital in rural Uganda. We are so thankful to our supporters for their ongoing significant contribution to the work of the hospital.

If you have enjoyed this update newsletter please forward it on to family, friends and colleagues. We are currently in the process of developing our own website. In the meantime, for more information on Kiwoko Hospital, go to the FOKH website: www.fokh.org.uk

SOCIAL MEDIA



We post regular updates on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. Videos are also uploaded onto our [YouTube](#) page. [Click links to access]



onto our

[YouTube](#) page. [Click links to access]



Kiwoko Hospital
PO Box 149, Luwero
UGANDA, East Africa
businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org

DONATIONS

Kiwoko Hospital cannot exist without the faithful giving of our friends and supporters. Without you we would be unable to provide the high quality healthcare our patients deserve. As well as individual supporters, a number of registered charities support the work of Kiwoko Hospital in bringing good news to the poor, in word and in action.



Friends of Kiwoko Hospital (FOKH) is a registered charity based in Northern Ireland (UK charity Ref. 104586) set up to support Kiwoko Hospital. **All donations come to KH.** www.fokh.org.uk



Adara Group has registered charities in a number of countries. Further information can be found at: <https://www.adaragroup.org/development/get-involved/donate/> **Please specify any giving is for KH.**



FOKUS Ministries International is a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organisation based in USA. www.fokusministries.org **Please specify any giving is for KH.**



Hilfe Fuer Kiwoko eV is a non-profit organisation recognised in Germany. <https://hilfe-fuer-kiwoko.de/> **Please specify any giving is for KH.**

DIRECT GIVING

For some people, including local donors, giving directly to the hospital may be the more appropriate method. If doing this, please get in touch with our Business Development Manager to ensure the donation is allocated to the correct account: businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org.

Name of the Bank:	Stanbic Bank
Branch:	Luwero Branch
Account Name:	Kiwoko Hospital
Account Number:	9030005970384
Swift Code:	SBICUGKX
Sort Code:	042047

COMMISSION



A number of KH charities can obtain commission through specified Amazon purchases. Use the Amazon Smile starter page relevant for the country you are in (e.g. smile.amazon.de), chose your charity and proceed as normal from there!