



# KIWOKO HOSPITAL NEWSLETTER



April 2022



## *From our Medical Director*

Warm greetings to all our Readers!

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2022.

There is a gentle wind of optimism blowing as we are now a few months past the last wave of COVID 19, which was

mild compared to the previous ones. Indeed, now there is a glimmer of the previous normal activities all around us. There has been a rise in movement and a return to business as we learn to live in a world with COVID. The only dampener to people's spirits has been the soaring fuel and commodity prices when many have low financial reserves following the long lockdown period we have just come through.

Additionally as a Country we are now in a period of mourning. We have just lost the Speaker of the 11th Parliament of Uganda only 10 months into his term of office. The Ugandan media is awash with eulogies to the late Rt. Hon. Dr. Jacob L. Oulanyah who is soon to be buried. We as the Kiwoko Hospital Community would like to take this time to condole with the bereaved family and friends as well as fellow Ugandans over his untimely death!

Let us all draw comfort from the words of Paul in Philippians 4:6-7, "***Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all***

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*understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”.*

In my reflections on the current season we are in, I thought also of the life and times of Jesus Christ on earth. I wondered what the popular media of those days said about Him when He passed away. Unfortunately someone who had died on a cross in that day and age did not even warrant to be eulogized so Jesus had no eulogy we know of despite all the good He did!

In general, a eulogy talks of an end. It talks of the good things which were done during one's life but which they will no longer be around to continue doing. However, unlike any other man who has ever lived, Jesus resurrected and, not only that, later ascended into heaven. What good would an eulogy have been then?

We are currently in the period of Lent which precedes Easter. It is a time we (Christians) set aside each year to remember the love of God that is poured out through Christ Jesus on the cross in His death; and His defeat of death, sin and Satan in Christ's death and resurrection that brings Eternal Life to you.

As we go through this time, let us take time to reflect on Jesus. As you do so don't stop on His miraculous conception, or His humble birth and childhood, or even the miracles and triumphs of His ministry but remember He went through all that to die, be resurrected and ascend back into heaven with the victory over sin and death. Yet even that is not the end of the story, for He will surely come again! To believe in Him we cannot pick and choose what aspects to take as truth. If we do that then we have created someone else to believe in. Do you believe in the Jesus portrayed in the Bible? Have you experienced His love and forgiveness? If not, it is not too late!

It is important to live our lives well and this may attract the accolades of men but let that not be an end in itself because that is not the end of you. There is a life yet to come which will last for eternity which we need to prepare for. Have you and I lived our lives as though they end at grave or have we been mindful of eternity? How we respond to Jesus today while we still have breath will determine our eternity.

God bless you as you choose Jesus today.

*Dr Peter Serwadda*

## ELECTIVES AT KIWOKO HOSPITAL



Prior to COVID-19, each year many overseas elective students spent time at Kiwoko Hospital learning about healthcare in an environment very different to their home experiences. Often students chose Kiwoko Hospital as it has been recommended by a friend or colleague! The Guest House has been very quiet over the past 2 years due to COVID restrictions and the cancellations of many electives. During 2021 a small number of students spent time at KH, but with the further lifting of COVID restrictions the diary for 2022 and 2023 has been rapidly filling up! Anne-Christin Wrzal (*above*), a medical student from Jena in Germany, is currently doing her elective at KH and says the following: ***“I have now spent two unforgettable and intense weeks as an elective student here in Kiwoko. I am incredibly grateful for the many impressive experiences, new friendships and close insights into a completely different healthcare system I have gathered already and look forward to the coming weeks.”***

For further information about volunteering, electives or visits to the hospital, contact Stephen Park (Visitors and Volunteers Coordinator) by email: [visitors@kiwokohospital.org](mailto:visitors@kiwokohospital.org)

# *Kiwoko Hospital's Annual Budget*

## THE VALUE OF PARTNERSHIPS



***Laureen Babirye, Kiwoko Hospital Business Development Manager, explains how Kiwoko Hospital's annual budget is structured and how partnerships are essential for Kiwoko Hospital to continue providing excellent healthcare at affordable costs.***

Even as Kiwoko Hospital (KH) runs her 31<sup>st</sup> year, this rural not-for-profit hospital is still focused on offering quality and affordable health care services to the poor and vulnerable people living in Nakaseke, Nakasongola and Luwero districts of central Uganda. Nearly 60% of KH's annual budget is funded by partners and donors.

### DESCRIPTION OF KH'S ANNUAL BUDGET

The hospital's budget is divided into four sections, which are: General hospital budget, Restricted Funds, Health Training Institute budget and Capital Expenditures with the difference being the source of funds and how they are eventually used.

#### 1. General Hospital Budget / General Fund

Income to the general hospital comes from various channels that include: Friends of Kiwoko Hospital's (UK) monthly donation, patient fees collections (after subsidy), hospital vehicle hire fees, income generating projects (hospital guest house, training centre and Ian House among others). All other donations from individuals, churches and organisations that are not restricted are reflected in this section of the budget.

#### 2. Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are given with the aim of running specific hospital programmes. For instance, Adara Group, one of our partners has for over 20 years given towards Maternal and Child Health work. Mildmay on the other hand has and continues to give towards the running of specific programmes in the HIV department. The Primary Health Care Grant by the Ugandan Ministry of Health is another example of funds that are restricted.

*“Kiwoko Hospital... is still focused on offering quality and affordable healthcare services to the poor and vulnerable...”*

#### 3. Health Training Institute Budget

Kiwoko Hospital owns a Health Training Institute that offers certificate courses in Nursing, Midwifery and Laboratory Techniques. Fees collected as tuition from students are used to run the institute.

#### 4. Unfunded Obligations / Capital Expenditure

Usually as we develop the budget, a list of items/activities that are needed by the hospital but have no source of funds attached to them is generated. These items are usually capital expenditures that may include medical equipment and infrastructure development. On many occasions, some hospital activities/programmes may also find their way to this section of the budget. Funds needed to finance activities/programmes/purchase items under this section are obtained through fundraising processes/campaigns. Today for instance, we see different organisations coming on board to help raise funds required to expand and refurbish Kiwoko Hospital's main operating theatre.

*Continued overleaf*



## WHAT ARE WE SPENDING MONEY ON?

On average, Kiwoko Hospital runs an 8,000,000,000 Ugandan shillings (UGX) (approx. £1.7 million / US\$2.3 million) annual budget. Income comes in through different streams, and the hospital spends this accordingly.

Restricted funds are used to run programmes/activities under Maternal & Child Health care, HIV, Community Based Health Care, for which they were given. On the other hand, funds in the general hospital budget are used to: purchase medical supplies, pay staff salaries/wages, cover the cost of utilities, ICT related costs and general operational costs. As a busy hospital, it is unsurprising that some of the general operational costs are significant. Examples of these include:

1. **ELECTRICITY** On average Kiwoko Hospital spends 12,000,000 UGX per month (approx. £2,500 / US\$3,300). This translates into a staggering 144,000,000 UGX (approx. £30,500 / US\$40,000) to power the hospital each year.
2. **WASTE MANAGEMENT** KH spends approximately 7,000,000 UGX per year (approx. £1,500 / US\$2,000) on waste management. This includes both medical and non-medical waste.



*Some of Kiwoko Hospital finance team*

To paint a greater picture of how Kiwoko Hospital obtains funds and manages budgets, in this issue of the KH Newsletter we bring you:

- **Communication** from two of our long-time partners, **Friends of Kiwoko Hospital (FOKH)** and **ADARA Group**, who have for more than two decades supported KH General Fund and Restricted Fund budgets respectively.
- **Two patient stories** of how donors continue to have an impact on the cost of care for our patients.
- An update on the **theatre expansion project**, a much anticipated improvement in infrastructure that will positively impact patient care. This is an example of a capital expenditure project.
- The enrolment of Kiwoko Hospital into the **Changing Diabetes in Children project**, highlighting the connection between Kiwoko Hospital, and the Ministry of Health, donors and Nsambya Hospital to enable improved care for children, adolescents and young adults with Type I Diabetes.
- **Updates for the Eye Clinic**, including generous donations, a successful Eye Camp in a remote area of Northern Uganda and planned community outreach.

***Every donation makes a difference, enabling Kiwoko Hospital to provide excellent healthcare services to many patients each year. Thank you!***



# *Long-time Partner* **FRIENDS OF KIWOKO HOSPITAL (FOKH)**



*Thank you to Kenneth Finch for this summary on the vision and invaluable support of FOKH. Ken has first hand experience of KH having volunteered as Finance and Administration Director for nearly 7 years from 2006-2012 and continues to support KH in many ways, including in his role as Honorary Treasurer of FOKH.*

The journey of Friends of Kiwoko Hospital is one that mirrors that of Kiwoko Hospital. The origin is that of a group of friends of Dr Ian and Robbie Clarke who supported them as they ventured to the Luwero district of Uganda and to Kiwoko devastated by the civil war in the 1980's. As the work at Kiwoko grew and Ian's clinic became a hospital so the "Friends" formalised their status into a charity as 'Friends of Kiwoko Hospital'. From the beginning FOKH was based on relationship and fellowship with the team at Kiwoko and to support Kiwoko personally, prayerfully as well as financially.

The committee, as well as many of the faithful supporters, have travelled to Kiwoko and many have worked at the hospital. A deep knowledge is embedded



in the charity as well as strong friendships with so many staff members at Kiwoko.



*Former Chairman, Dr Roy Millar, who served in this role from the early days of FOKH until recent years.*

FOKH determined very early on that finances should primarily go to support staff salaries. By so doing patient fees have over the years been maintained at an affordable level. This is vital when Kiwoko serves a population the majority of whom are subsistence farmers.

In the current year for example FOKH will donate £228,000 directly to support salaries. In addition other funds raised for specific purposes will also be sent over. Again in the current year funds have gone to finance the COVID response at Kiwoko Hospital, to purchase a new stock control system for the pharmacy, to support the Hospital Mission Team, to support the hospital Good Samaritan Fund for impoverished patients as well as funds to build a new Theatre.

At FOKH we feel privileged to have stood beside Kiwoko Hospital for 30 years and more. With our continued prayers.

*For more information visit*  
[www.fokh.org.uk](http://www.fokh.org.uk)



*Dr Roy Harper, current Chairman of FOKH, taking a break from ward work and enjoying a cup of tea during one of his trips to Kiwoko Hospital*

*The Kiwoko-Adara partnership has been invaluable in enabling provision of excellent maternal, newborn and child healthcare services in our catchment area and beyond. Thank you to the Adara team for providing this report.*

Adara and Kiwoko Hospital have been deeply intertwined in partnership for more than two decades. Together, we've greatly expanded access to quality maternal, newborn and child health care for the people of the Nakaseke district.

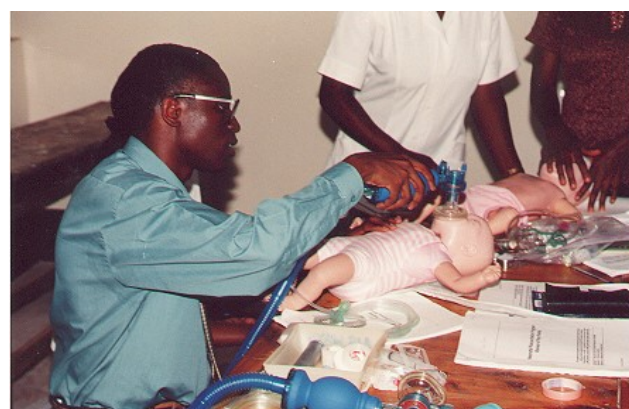
Our journey began when Adara's Founder and Chair, Audette Exel AO, travelled to Kiwoko Hospital in 1998, and was immediately inspired to be a part of its life-saving work. Together, we launched Kiwoko's first ever neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) in 2000. In the following years, demand for the unit grew astronomically. To meet the hospital's growing needs, Adara and Kiwoko expanded and upgraded the NICU and maternity ward in 2009.



Reflecting on more than 23 years of partnership, Adara and Kiwoko have much to celebrate and be proud of. Since the upgraded NICU officially opened in 2010, it has supported more than 10,000 babies and maintained an 89% survival

rate to 2020. The unit was named a Centre of Excellence in Newborn Care by the Ugandan Ministry of Health in 2018 in recognition of its high standards of care and extraordinary achievements.

In the maternity ward, admissions rose by 50% between 2010 and 2019 – caring for close to 36,000 women. Despite this huge growth in admissions, maternal deaths as a proportion of deaths fell by 50% in this time – a testament to the high quality of care the women received from Kiwoko's staff. We have also seen an increase in the number of women seeking antenatal care throughout their pregnancies, growing the annual number of antenatal appointments by 111% between 2010 and 2019.



**Dr James attending neonatal resuscitation training in the early days**

Together, we have piloted a number of innovative programmes that have the potential to save thousands of premature babies in low-resource settings. For example, Adara and Kiwoko have partnered with global health non-profit PATH, Seattle Children's Hospital and the University of Washington to develop a new



**Kiwoko Hospital NICU in the early days**





**World Prematurity Day 2019 celebrations in Busia, Uganda. At the event, members of KH and Adara were recognised as newborn health champions by the Ugandan Ministry of Health.**

COVID-positive patients. Indeed, since June 2021, 173 patients have received inpatient care for COVID at Kiwoko. Adara will continue standing with our friends and colleagues at Kiwoko to ensure they are prepared to continue to support the community during the pandemic.

Adara's Founder and Chair, Audette Exel AO, could not be prouder of the place Kiwoko Hospital is at today. *"I will never forget my first visit to Kiwoko Hospital in 1998."*, she says. *"The passion and the excellence of the Kiwoko team made an enormous impact on me. The Kiwoko-Adara partnership has created an extraordinary level of maternal and newborn health care, showing what is truly possible. We see thousands of babies cared for each and every year by the incredible Kiwoko teams. We see Kiwoko Hospital and Adara sharing our knowledge with others who also want to provide lifesaving maternal and newborn health services in Uganda. And we see what is truly possible when people from across the globe stand together to make change."*

**For more information visit [www.adaragroup.org](http://www.adaragroup.org)**



**Audette Exel, Adara's Founder and Chair, with Sr Christine in Kiwoko Hospital NICU in the early days.**

technology - a low-cost Bubble CPAP Kit that can be used without electricity. This is a critical tool in treating respiratory distress syndrome (RDS) in premature babies. In 2021, we assessed the usability and acceptability of the device at Kiwoko Hospital, with 14 babies enrolled in the study. After evaluating feedback and making necessary adjustments, we hope to see the kit manufactured and commercialised. We believe countless lives could be saved by making this technology available across the world.

Adara and Kiwoko have not only celebrated some incredible achievements but have also worked hand-in-hand through times of crisis – most notably, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The heroic effort of the hospital's staff in overcoming several waves of COVID-19 has prevented significant suffering in the community. Adara supported Kiwoko by providing PPE resources, oxygen concentrators and guidance on COVID-19 prevention and treatment protocols. With Adara's support, the hospital set up a dedicated, 18-bed respiratory ward, hugely important to the care of

***"The Kiwoko-Adara partnership has created an extraordinary level of maternal and newborn health care, showing what is truly possible."***



## *Patient Story*

# **60-DAYS IN KH'S NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT - only 40,000 UGX paid!**



Just like any first-time mother, Nabukenya Moureen and her husband were excited to learn of her pregnancy. To both, this was great news. They could not wait to have their baby and therefore did everything as advised by the medical personnel. Moureen received antenatal care at a health facility in Wobulenzi. Unfortunately, at the 6 month mark, Moureen was told that she was to give birth to a premature baby and was advised to seek immediate care at Kiwoko Hospital. On 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021, she gave birth to her daughter who weighed 1.3 kilograms. Moureen describes the kind of support that she received from Kiwoko Hospital staff with joy. She recalls the encouragement and advise that she got from the team when she failed to nurse her baby on their first day in NICU.

She also recalls the follow-up calls that she received from the hospital after her baby had been discharged. Today, Moureen's five months daughter weighs 4.8 kilograms despite the fact that she has been suffering anaemia. Moureen's baby has continued to receive care at Kiwoko Hospital where she has been transfused four times. There is great improvement as Moureen noted that her child is now making a full month without requiring transfusion.

Moureen who lives 33 kilometres from Kiwoko Hospital in Kyevuunze, Wobulenzi was happy to learn of the availability of free accommodation and meals for mothers that had their babies admitted in Kiwoko Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. The majority of Kiwoko Hospital's clients travel several kilometres to receive care and, in some cases, roads become nearly impassable during the rainy seasons.

*"She was too tiny. I was scared that I failed to nurse her on the first day."*



*An example of an impassable road*

Moureen paid a total of 40,000 UGX (approx. £8.50 / US\$11) after her baby spent two full months admitted in Kiwoko Hospital's NICU. The cost of care in NICUs elsewhere in the country range from 200,000 to 1,000,000 UGX per day depending on whether the facility is private or government owned. Without partnerships and support from donors like you, we never would have been able to offer these kinds of services at costs as low as this.



**NICU mother's accommodation, made possible by donations from Adara Group**



**The bed capacity in KH NICU is officially 38, but with nearly 120% occupancy. A very busy unit!**



## Patient Story

# ACCESS TO CARE DURING THE 2ND COVID WAVE -

## Margret's Story



*Nalubega Margret was one of the patients who required hospitalisation during the 2nd COVID wave. She runs a drinks stall in the market outside the hospital and sells majorly to patient attendants. Here Margret shares her experience of COVID.*

"I had COVID-19 symptoms for nearly two weeks before I agreed to seek care in any health facility. I was afraid of leaving my children home with no one to attend to them. My husband and I spent a lot of money buying medicines that friends who had recovered or whose relatives had healed recommended. Having learnt of the situation in hospitals across the country, the costs of medical oxygen, we were afraid of how much we would have to pay following admission. As the days went by, my condition worsened. I had a sore throat, fever,



*"The loss of a close friend to COVID-19 greatly affected me. I decided to seek care at Kiwoko Hospital."*

difficulties in breathing and lacked appetite. The loss of a close friend to COVID-19 greatly affected me. I decided to seek care at Kiwoko Hospital. While there, a COVID-19 test was done that confirmed that I had the virus. I was immediately admitted to the hospital's respiratory ward where I spent 1.5 weeks. I appreciate the care that I received from staff at Kiwoko without having to travel to Kampala for treatment. This way, I stayed close to my family who on a daily basis, brought food and other supplies. Upon

discharge, I paid a total of UGX 475,000 (approx. £100 / US\$135) that included all the medication that I was given. Looking at how much we spent at Kiwoko Hospital, my husband and I regret having spent time out of the hospital. We spent more money out there due to the fear of what we had heard regarding costs of COVID-19 treatment. Together with my husband, we have 5 biological children and also take care of 3 of my brother's children. I am happy to be back to my daily routine. I am healthy."

Kiwoko Hospital focuses on bringing quality services closer to the people that it serves. During the second COVID-19 wave, the cost of medical oxygen per day was 5,000 UGX (approx. £1 / US\$1.40). We are so thankful to every individual and organisation who supported us during the COVID pandemic. This support enabled us to provide better care at heavily subsidised costs. We never would have achieved this without the support of friends and partners like you.



*Margret working at her stall*



## *Project Update* **EXPANSION AND REFURBISHMENT OF KH'S MAIN OPERATING THEATRE**

The expansion and refurbishment of the main operating theatre at Kiwoko Hospital is a project that best explains capital expenditure.



*Photographs of the current operating theatre space at KH*

In February 2021, Kiwoko Hospital engaged three (3) organisations to whom we placed a request to fund the expansion and refurbishment of Kiwoko Hospital's main operating theatre. The three organisations - ECHO International Health Services, Solo Retailing Limited and the Friend Brothers - committed to raise a total of £84,000 to £90,244 that is required to complete this project. So far, a total of £59,000 has been raised with ECHO International Health Services giving £20,000, Solo Retailing Ltd donating £10,000 and £29,000 coming from the Friend Brothers.



The number of women requiring caesarean sections at Kiwoko Hospital has grown over the years. Therefore, expanding the main operating theatre to create two new maternity theatre rooms will help the



*A patient who received maternity services at  
Kiwoko Hospital*

hospital avoid scenarios where women that require emergency caesarean sections cannot quickly access theatre services, simply because all theatre rooms are in use. With a well-equipped maternity theatre, outcomes for mothers and babies in the region will be improved. Dr Nsubuga Mushin, KH Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, is excited to see this project happen. He has outlined the reasons for increasing caesareans and the importance of this project to the care of pregnant women and their babies in a video which can be viewed on the Kiwoko Hospital YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=95hBD7hK46I>

*Continued overleaf*



## FUNDING GAP

Through three different organizations, £59,000 has been raised. This leaves us with a funding gap of £25,000 to £31,244 depending on exchange rates. Four brothers, Jack, Hamish, Arthur and Euan Friend will be rowing across the Atlantic Ocean this December to raise funds for three charities, Kiwoko Hospital being one of them. More recently, the brothers held a fundraising ball on 04<sup>th</sup> March 2022 where they raised funds that contributed to the £59,000 total for theatre. More information can be found at <https://www.thefriendshipatlantic.com/charities>



**PHOTOS** (clockwise from top left): *The FriendShip Ball was a huge success; Rowing practice; Launching the boat with family; The Friend Brothers at the FriendShip Ball.*

## WHAT IS EXPECTED ONCE CONSTRUCTION IS COMPLETE?

Lastly, once the theatre expansion and refurbishment work is complete, the hospital will be required to equip the new and refurbished spaces with the right machines and instruments. So far, a total of £100,000 from Red Earth Limited, UK has been raised for the purchase of theatre equipment and instruments. To view a provisional list of equipment that will be required in the maternity theatres as well as the refurbished spaces, including estimated costs [click here](#).

**For further information on this project,** a 12-minute video has been produced by KH in collaboration with Kasule Joseph David and Wasajja Patrick. This video can be viewed on the hospital YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFPQdu87kWc>.

**For further details regarding this or other projects, please contact:**  
[businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org](mailto:businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org)

## *Partnerships* **CHANGING DIABETES IN CHILDREN PROJECT**

Kiwoko Hospital established a Diabetes clinic in 2001, an innovative step at the time, which has provided care to hundreds of people with diabetes since. Currently 150 patients are registered, with others attending on a less formal basis. The clinic is partially funded by donors, so that patients pay a subsidised registration fee to cover consultation, finger-prick sugar testing at clinic and diabetic medications. Providing best care for patients can be challenging, often related to financial constraints: some patients can not obtain money for transport to attend clinic regularly or to have basic blood tests (e.g. kidney function); the majority of patients on insulin and other medications that can cause low sugar levels can not afford a home glucometer or test strips, making control of their diabetes difficult; many patients have other things that require their money (health related, school fees etc) and have significant dilemmas as how to 'divide the pot' of funds.

So with this in mind, we were very excited to be approached in early 2022 by a team from St Francis Hospital Nsambya, Kampala about the possibility of extending the Changing Diabetes in Children project to patients attending Kiwoko Hospital. Launched in 2009, the project is a partnership of Ministry of Health of the Uganda Government and Novo Nordisk. It provides free-of-charge comprehensive management of Type I Diabetes to children, adolescents and young adults (up to 25 years of age). The programme is currently coordinated by St Francis Hospital Nsambya on behalf of and with the support of the Ministry of Health and other partners. To this date, the program has enrolled more than 2,000 patients with type 1 diabetes that continue to receive care through its more than 40 health facilities that have been established and running across the different regions of the country. The services provided under this program include the continuous supply of injectable insulin, insulin syringes, self blood glucose monitoring kits and strips, educational materials and healthcare worker training.

*“It provides free-of-charge, comprehensive management of Type I Diabetes in children, adolescents and young adults.”*



**Denis Mubangizi and Wenceslaus Sseguya from St Francis Hospital Nsambya handing over supplies from the Changing Diabetes in Children project to some of the KH Diabetic Clinic staff.**

The team from St Francis Hospital Nsambya have attended Kiwoko Hospital twice, assessing the potential of enrolling our patients and thereafter bringing supplies. KH Diabetes clinic have so far identified 15 patients who fall within the project remit, but expect this number to gradually increase with time. Not only are clinic staff excited about how this project will positively impact our patients, as the project is starting to be rolled out patients at the clinic are also expressing gratitude and excitement about the difference the services provided by the project will make to their lives.



# *Partnerships*

## EYE CLINIC AND OUTREACH



*We are thankful for a number of partnerships which are leading to exciting developments in KH Eye Clinic services and outreach opportunities.*

### **LENSOMETER AND GLASSES DONATION**

For some years, No Other Name Africa Ministries led by Mr Dick Clarke have supported the Eye Clinic at Kiwoko Hospital. This has included teams visiting and helping with outreach, and the donation of glasses and equipment. Earlier this year they organised the delivery of a donation of **22,091** pairs of glasses and a lensometer to measure their strength. They also organised for Sekyewa Frank, Kiwoko Hospital's Ophthalmic Clinical Officer, and a number of nursing staff to receive training in the use of the donated lensometer.



*Receiving the large donation of glasses*



*OCO Frank using the lensometer*

### **AMOLATAR EYE CARE MISSION**

Kiwoko Hospital, together with Amai Community Hospital in Amolatar district, held a 2-day Eye Camp at Amai community on 2nd & 3rd March 2022. This community lives in a difficult to access part of Northern Uganda, approximately 6 hours north of Kiwoko, including a 45-minute boat journey. The camp was aimed at reaching out to the poor and vulnerable, and was supported and funded by No Other Name Eye Glass Ministry.

A number of eye care services were offered to patients during the camp, including consultation, comprehensive eye examination, investigation and diagnosis for refractive errors, prescription of glasses, dispensing of drugs and referral for surgery or more specialized care where needed. Health education was also provided. A total of 329 patients benefited from the above eye care services with 90 patients referred on for specialized eye care.

In his report on the camp, OCO Frank noted the following achievements:

- God gave us strength and grace to see 329 patients out of 560 patients that had been registered.
- As a team from Kiwoko, God enable us to raise funds to pay transport costs from Amolatar to Kampala for 2 parents with their 3-year-old boy who has bilateral congenital cataracts. We connected the boy and his parents with Mengo Hospital in Kampala where he can get his surgery done for free.
- God enabled us to put our faith in action during the camp — we shared the Gospel in word and deed, and 9 adults gave their lives to Jesus Christ to be their LORD and Saviour.

Frank also noted there were some challenges:

- Lack of enough translators (language barrier).
- Lack of enough skilled eye workers. There were only 5 people on the team so it wasn't possible to see all 560 patients who were



*Large crowds attended the Amolatar Eye Camp*

registered.

- Patients didn't have funds to travel to Lira Regional Referral Hospital for cataract surgery because it's very far from where they live.
- Few healthcare services available locally; regular outreach eye camps would benefit the community.



**PHOTOS from the Amolatar Eye Camp: A young patient who needed referral; A girl receives a prescription of donated glasses; OCO Frank assess a patient.**

## REGULAR COMMUNITY OUTREACH

OCO Frank has a desire to reach out through regular eye camps in the community. Ballygowan Presbyterian Church in Northern Ireland have caught his vision, and committed to supporting this outreach through prayer and by providing at least £1000 annually. Frank recently recorded a short video to say thank you (see KH YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wD3IWiGixmo>).

### *The Vision*

*“He has sent me to  
bring recovery of sight  
to the blind.”*

LUKE 4:18

It is our desire to provide not only eye clinic facilities at Kiwoko Hospital, but also to reach out to the many people in our district who cannot access the eye clinic for whatever reason. In the past we have carried out occasional community outreach clinics (depending on finances). However, it is our desire to start a regular community outreach programme.

### *The Plan*

**WHAT?** Monthly community outreach clinic

**WHY?** Many patients cannot reach the hospital easily due to location or cost of transport; others are not aware of their needs, or if they are aware of need perhaps are not aware that we can help

**WHERE?** To each of the 9 sub counties of the district of Nakaseke

**HOW?** We plan to visit each sub county in the district at least once per year, reaching out to different places in each sub county each year.

**COST?** We estimate each outreach could cost up to 1,000,000 UGX (approx. £215 /US\$280), to include a preparation visit to the site, mobilisation, transport of the team, and cost of basic resources needed.

**For further details on Eye Services and other projects, please contact:** [businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org](mailto:businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org)



**OCO Frank assessing a client**



# MINISTRY UPDATES



*Mission and ministry is at the heart of Kiwoko Hospital. Indeed, one of the four strategic goals of Kiwoko Hospital is "Sustained sharing of God's love through hospital and community-based approaches". This section of the Hospital Newsletter provides updates on some of the ministry activities occurring in and around the hospital, and lots of additional prayer points.*

## **KH GETS A NEW CHAPLAIN**

Being Christ-centered, Kiwoko Hospital has a Chaplaincy office which oversees the spiritual affairs within the Hospital Community. For the past eight years, this office has been in the hands of Rev. Stephen Ssemaganda. At the end of 2021, Rev. Stephen was transferred and replaced by Rev. William Mirimu Zziwa who commenced his duties as the new Hospital Chaplain in January 2022.



**Rev. William with his wife and son**

Rev. William Mirimu Zziwa is married to Mrs. Mirimu Ritah and God has so far blessed them with one 3-month old baby boy, Peter Fredrick Mirimu Zziwa.

They are in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year in marriage and the 4<sup>th</sup> year in ordained ministry. As a family, they are very grateful to God for sending them to His Mission field of Kiwoko Hospital.

Thirty years ago, Rev. William's mother, Mrs. Deborah Zziwa, by the help of the midwives gave birth to Rev. William from this very hospital, in what is currently known as the Female ward which was by then the Maternity ward. Rev. William thanks God for bringing him back home that he may serve God and also make His name glorified more from here.

Professionally, Rev. William holds a Diploma in Journalism and Mass Communication from The International Institute of Business and Media Studies, Kampala, and a Bachelor's Degree in Divinity from Uganda Christian University, Mukono. Rev. William gave his life to Christ on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2002 and since then he is thankful that the Mighty hand of God has nurtured his soul in the salvation journey and he has seen Him make wonders all the way.

Rev. William's prayer is that God will use him just as an instrument to spread the Gospel in this community and strengthen the faithful, but also to continue growing up spiritually together with the rest of the Hospital family members. As a hospital, we pray that Rev. William and his family will settle well into their new role and soon feel at home here in Kiwoko.



**Many people attending Open-Air Morning Prayers**

## **OPEN-AIR MORNING PRAYERS**

Since December 2021, Morning Prayers has been conducted twice monthly in the main hospital compound outside paediatrics ward. The aim of having these open-air meetings is to reach out to patients, attendants and staff who do not normally attend the daily Morning

Prayers in the Chapel. These meetings are conducted primarily in Luganda, which allows a large number of staff and patients to understand and become involved. It has been very encouraging to see the interest and attendance of many people, and we pray that through the meetings people will hear, understand and respond to God's Word.

## WARD MINISTRY

Ward Ministry has also recommenced, mostly involving students from KH Healthcare Training Institute and led by a number of members of staff.

## STUDENT BIBLE STUDIES

Student Bible study small groups started again recently for first year students who commenced studies at the KH Healthcare Training Institute (KHHTI) in February 2022. There are 7 groups of approximately 15 students each, working through Christianity Explored together. We are thankful for the leaders, who are staff members from throughout the hospital. Pray that the students would find the studies helpful, and be open to ask questions about what they are learning and their own faith.



*Chaplain and some of the Ward Ministry team*

## PRISON MINISTRY

Prison Ministry was halted during COVID. We praise God that the paperwork needed to allow the team to reenter prisons was recently granted. The team will soon recommence visits, attending different prisons weekly, holding meetings and distributing gifts e.g. soap, biscuits to the prisoners.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Following a nearly two-year break due to COVID restrictions, the twice-monthly Sunday afternoon Children's ministry, Suubi, also recently recommenced. This started with a welcome party on 27th February 2022, with games, sodas, chapatis and samosas, as well as cake to celebrate the February babies. Around 165 children were present, with numbers continuing to rise up to 187 children at the end of March club. This year's theme is Faith in Action, based on James 1:22. Pray for the new leaders of Suubi as they plan and run the clubs each month. Pray that the children would have fun, but more importantly learn from God's Word and develop personal relationships with Him.



*Photos from the Suubi Welcome Party*





# VOLUNTEERING AT KH



Tom and Gemma Withers (*left*), a married couple from the UK, currently work in the physiotherapy department. They arrived in early January 2022 and will volunteer until August 2022. Amongst other things, they are involved in day-to-day department activities, skills development, teaching and student Bible studies. Thank you Tom and Gemma!

We continue to welcome (and need!) volunteer healthcare professionals to work alongside our national workers on a short, medium or longer term basis. There is so much we can learn from each other! Would you be interested in spending a sabbatical at Kiwoko Hospital, or perhaps you are recently retired and would like to do some voluntary work?

Currently we have particular need for **GENERAL SURGEONS, PHYSICIANS** and **ANAESTHETISTS**, those in the training years and beyond!! However, we encourage anyone interested, no matter their background, to get in touch.

For further information about volunteering, electives or visits to the hospital, contact Stephen Park (Visitors and Volunteers Coordinator) by email: [visitors@kiwokohospital.org](mailto:visitors@kiwokohospital.org)

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***“Oh, how abundant is your goodness,  
which you have stored up for those who fear you...”***

Psalm 31:19a

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## KEEP PRAYING...

God calls us to pray without ceasing: ***“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”*** [1 Thes 5: 15-18]. Thank you for continuing to uphold Kiwoko Hospital, our staff, patients and community before our God.

- Continue to praise God! We thank Him for His continued faithfulness, provision and care through which we keep on serving 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—through financial giving, education, prayer, encouragement...
- Continue to pray for the hospital leadership as they make many decisions about the present and future running of the hospital, and that they would know God's guidance in everything.
- Thank God for all our staff, each with an important role at the hospital.
- Thank God that many ministry activities have been able to recommence. Praise Him for new opportunities, such as Open Air Morning Prayers, to share God's Word. Pray for new team members to settle well.
- 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.



## 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](http://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]



Kiwoko Hospital  
PO Box 149, Luwero  
UGANDA, East Africa  
[businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org](mailto:businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org)

# DONATIONS

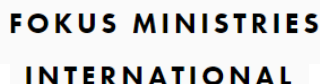
Kiwoko Hospital cannot exist without the faithful giving of our friends and supporters. Without you we would be unable to provide the high quality healthcare our patients deserve. As well as individual supporters, a number of registered charities support the work of Kiwoko Hospital in bringing good news 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org).

<b>Name of the Bank:</b>	Stanbic Bank
<b>Branch:</b>	Luwero Branch
<b>Account Name:</b>	Kiwoko Hospital
<b>Account Number:</b>	9030005970384
<b>Swift Code:</b>	SBICUGKX
<b>Sort Code:</b>	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](http://smile.amazon.de)), chose your charity and proceed as normal from there!