

## FAITH WHICH TRANSFORMS

Welcome back to the CAHO CHRONICLE. Thank you for your prayers and financial support of the healthcare ministries of the Free Methodist Church in Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Haiti. You are part of a cadre of dedicated followers of Christ who have seen a need and have responded. To paraphrase James 2:14-16, “What good is your faith if you don’t show it with your actions. Suppose you see a brother and sister in need but do nothing to address that need, what good does that do?” In this newsletter, you will see the many ways in which hospitals affiliated with CAHO are addressing longstanding disparity in healthcare. By giving you are living a faith which transforms.

You can support life changing healthcare by giving through our website, [www.gocaho.org](http://www.gocaho.org) (updates coming soon). You can also mail your contributions to: CAHO, PO BOX 580, Spring Arbor, MI 49238. Indicate the project or medical ministry you would like to support.

Tim Kratzer, Editor

**OUR MISSION:** To support, promote, and facilitate Christian healthcare through partnership with hospitals and clinics affiliated with the global Free Methodist Church, primarily those in Central Africa and Haiti.

**OUR VISION:** The internationalization of medical ministry at CAHO affiliated hospital and clinics, bringing Christ-followers of multiple nationalities, ethnicities, denominations, and skills together to provide quality care in the name of Christ to all who have need regardless of ability to pay.

**SPRING MEETING—PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE 31ST ANNUAL CAHO CONFERENCE IN SPRING ARBOR MI, APRIL 21-22. AMPLE TIME WILL BE PROVIDED FOR FELLOWSHIP AND UPDATES FROM OUR PARTNERS IN RWANDA, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, AND HAITI. MORE INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE IN A SEPARATE EMAIL AND AN UPCOMING NEWSLETTER.**

*<sup>9</sup>“Two are better than one,  
because they have a good return for  
their labor:  
<sup>12</sup>Though one may be overpowered,  
two can defend themselves.  
A cord of three strands is not quickly  
broken.” Ecclesiastes 4:9&12 (NIV)*

## We Celebrate You

As CAHO begins its 33<sup>rd</sup> year, we are grateful for the many without whose support this journey would not have lasted. On behalf of the CAHO Board and those with whom we partner, thank you! As with any journey, however, it is helpful for to revisit the questions “Why CAHO and is it still needed”? Let me share with you several brief thoughts.

## Why CAHO? Built for Relationships

The foundation of CAHO is relationship: relationship with our Savior Jesus Christ and his call on our lives to this journey; relationships with others also called to participate in global healthcare ministry; and finally, relationships with national colleagues and partners serving in areas of continued need. At the time of CAHO’s founding, mission agencies were withdrawing from active support of hospitals and clinics that they had founded as national churches assumed leadership. However, significant healthcare disparities remained. How could we, and those who had supported us, walk away? The question in James 2:15-16 penetrated our hearts, with the answer from Ecclesiastes pointing towards a new type of partnership: “internationalization” of the healthcare ministries, with national and expatriate colleagues working together---a strong “cord of three strands”.

## Our Call to Mission Continues

Is CAHO still needed? The healthcare disparities and the mandate for partnership as part of a Christian witness remain as strong as ever in 2023. Many things have been accomplished over the past three decades, but the needs have not diminished as you will see in the articles that follow. What does CAHO still do? Invest in long-term partnerships, mobilizing individuals and groups to work together; provide support that enables CAHO partners to provide “quality and compassionate care in the name of Christ to all who have need regardless of ability to pay”; maintain a priority on investment in people over structures; and keep faith with our global Christian brothers and sisters as we provide support and serve together.

Thank you again for your partnership without which the “great CAHO experiment” would not continue.

*Glenn Snyder, President*

# NUNDU NEWS

## BUTTERFIELD PARTNERS WITH DNH TO EXPAND SOLAR

Butterfield Memorial Foundation is partnering with DNH to expand its solar installation. Could you imagine surgery, an intensive care unit, 24-hour nursing care, maternity and neonatal unit without reliable electricity? The reality is that there was no sustainable electricity or running water for this 110-bed hospital until the first solar power system was installed in 2018. The Butterfield Memorial Foundation (BMF) assisted in funding that first installation. BMF again is partnering with DNH in providing a generous \$200,000 grant. The balance of this \$307,027 project is being funded by individual donors.



DEACONESS NUNDU HOSPITAL (DNH) — a hospital of 110 beds, serving a population 300,000 in the province of South Kivu, the Democratic Republic of the Congo



This 17 KVA system will be expanded to 51 KVA.

## LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

DNH is a center for hope and healing, shining a light in the darkness. The pediatric service has been impacted by the NICU established by Dr. Marx, made possible by the present solar plant installed in 2018. Having an expanded reliable energy source allows the hospital to grow and thrive. That DNH remains a beacon of God's light and healing is a testimony to the dedication of the staff along with God's provision. The future is bright at Nundu thanks to the Butterfield Memorial Foundation and our individual donors.

## THE IMPACT OF SOLAR POWER

The impact of electricity 24-7 on the quality of medical care has been significant. Surgery can be performed day or night. Intensive care can be delivered at a higher level, including the provision of supplemental oxygen. The current system has only been providing about two-thirds of the energy needed. A diesel generator makes up the difference, consuming about 1000 liters of fuel per month at a cost of about \$1200. The current system, installed in 2018 with a capacity 17 KVA, requires expansion to support current operations as well as provide for future needs. The expansion as designed will triple the capacity of the present system providing affordable and sustainable energy for the DNH campus for the foreseeable future.



Dr. Marx in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit



Joseph



Nancy, Christine, Dr. Marx, Elsie

## MEET DR. LWABANYA MARX MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Born at Deaconess Nundu Hospital in 1983.  
In 1996, at age 13, fled to Tanzania from his home village Lusenda.  
Seeing his father's work as a Community Health Worker in the refugee camp, made the decision to study medicine.  
2002 – Entered the University of Bukavu Medical School, graduating in 2009.  
2010 - Joined the Hope Africa University faculty and initiated Neonatal Care in 2017.  
June 2018 was called by Bishop Lubunga of the Free Methodist Church, DRC to be Medical Director of Deaconess Nundu Hospital.

## **Dr. BYAMUNGU JOINS DNH STAFF**

Dr. BYAMUNGU KAGENDEREZO Pahari is the first surgeon to join the Deaconess Nundu Hospital staff. He completed a four-year surgery residency at Kampala International University (KIU) in November 2022.



Dr. Byamungu, with wife Francine and son Mike Graduation November 2022

The son of a Free Methodist pastor, he is a member of the Free Methodist Church. After completing secondary school at Nundu, he became active in teaching children the Good News. In 2009 he joined Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF), with the mission of empowering churches to instruct children in their communities.



## **DR. BYAMUNGU GIVES THANKS**

Dr. Byamungu and his family (father, mother and elder brother) came to Nundu in May to thank Dr. McGee and Randy and Alice Mathewson for supporting him in school. We celebrate the successful completion of his surgical training and his commitment to serve.



From left to right : Pahari's elder brother, Randy Mathewson, Alice Mathewson, Dr. McGee, father, mother, Dr. Byamungu, and Pastor Sam Kirui. (Father's name is Kagenderezo Munonia Kabandula but commonly called Pastor Kagende and mother is Clementine Asaku Kagende.)

## **MEDICAL SCHOOL AND EARLY TRAINING**

In 2010 Pahari enrolled in the University of Bukavu Medical School, Democratic Republic of the Congo. He had dropped out of school due to lack of finances, but after prayer and fasting, support started coming in. After completing a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, he did a one-year internship at the Panzi Hospital in Bukavu. He then volunteered at Deaconess Nundu Hospital for two years and served as a lecturer at the Nundu School of Nursing.



Surgery suite at DNH

## **CALLED TO SERVE**

Dr. Byamungu feels called to provide surgical care to the underserved in the rural area around Nundu and beyond. He has already made an impact by taking on complicated surgical cases and describes his surgical training as preparing him for a wide variety of procedures. He also enjoys teaching and mentoring students in keeping with the way he was encouraged in his professional and personal development.

# Haiti Healthcare Advocate News

The Guardian

"Haiti, a country in crisis without an elected government"

PBS

"Fear, violence and chaos grip Haiti as gangs seize power"

BBC

"Haiti police riot after crime gangs kill 14 officers"

What do you say when all the press has to report on is bad news? Amazingly, our pastors in Haiti resolutely respond "God is in charge and we praise him." While not one pastor, church member or Haitian on the street likes what is happening in their world, the Christians remain resolute in their commitment to Jesus Christ. We love and admire our Haitian friends. The uncompromising faith they have in Jesus Christ is a shining reminder of what it might be like to be a first century Christian!



In the meantime, the physical suffering of the Haitian people persists. Friends of the Haiti Healthcare Advocates continue to support the Claire Heureuse Hospital in Marchand Dessalines and the Suzanne Wesley Clinic in Vialet. Claire Heureuse is open and seeing patients despite skyrocketing operational costs, the devaluation of the Haitian gourde and a lack of available medical supplies and diesel.

Claire Heureuse Hospital is alive and well despite tumultuous times.

The Suzanne Wesley Clinic in southern Haiti continues to see patients in a prefab building constructed after the 2010 earthquake. The new clinic building project, approved in 2018 and put on hold first due to covid-19, then due to the turmoil after the assassination of President Juvenal Moise in July 2021 and finally due to the current political crisis, has started anew. Cement, rebar, sand have been purchased and we are working with Pastor Nortrius and a Haitian contractor to start the foundation! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Vialet Clinic building project back on course.

Prayer support: requested and appreciated

Financial support may be directed to: CAHO Haiti Healthcare account PO BOX 580, Spring Arbor, MI 49238.

Contact information: [ddsnyder5@gmail.com](mailto:ddsnyder5@gmail.com) and/or [jim@centralrr.com](mailto:jim@centralrr.com)