



AFRICAN
MISSION
HEALTHCARE

Highlights of Your Impact in Africa Last Year

The
Power
of
Your
Compassion



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From the Co-Founder

Dear Friend,

We're so grateful for your partnership and your help in saving lives and building sustainable healthcare systems in Africa. Because of you, thousands of families in some of the most poverty-stricken areas of the world have access to quality, compassionate medical care.

In 2020 we celebrated African Mission Healthcare's 10th anniversary. With the pandemic, it was a very challenging year for all of us. We are so thankful for your continued support during this difficult period.

The pandemic also highlighted the critical importance of healthcare, both in America and in the majority world. Empowering mission hospitals in Africa to give vulnerable populations access to quality medical care is more important now than ever.

During 2020 you made possible:

- **110,000 direct patient visits**
- 3,900 surgeries and corrective procedures
- Hands-on training for **520 healthcare workers**
- **10,000 continuing education modules** completed on AMH's online platform
- **19 different infrastructure projects** resulting in the construction, renovation, and installation of medical equipment, clinical buildings, training facilities, and housing in 8 countries

These investments will enhance the educational experience of thousands of trainees and will improve medical care for tens of thousands of patients.

In August and September, I spent time in the ward treating COVID-19 patients at Kijabe Hospital in Kenya. I helped start the ICU back in 2005, and I was impressed with the level of care and how the program has grown. Particularly striking was the skill of a group of physician assistants trained in critical care. Kijabe calls them ECCCOs for "emergency and critical care clinical officers." This training is only available at Kijabe, and there are only 30 graduates so far—but they are highly sought after throughout the country. This is just one example of how training local medical workers helps improve the future of healthcare in Africa.

During 2020 we also expanded our Mission Hospital Teaching Network (MHTN). MHTN provides long-term support to mission hospitals that have the capacity to be training centers of excellence, where a new generation of African health professionals can receive mentoring and hands-on training.

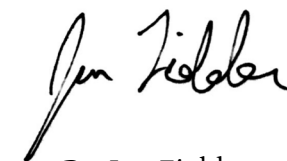
Your support for our SAFE (Surgical Access For Everyone) program throughout the year, especially on Mother's Day, provided life-changing surgeries for more than 2,000 people and helped 655 mothers undergo C-sections to safely deliver their babies. You can read Priscilla's story on page 30.

From villages in remote regions of Uganda, to rural communities in Malawi, to families living in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan, your help is making it possible for mothers, fathers, grandparents, and children to receive the medical care they need.

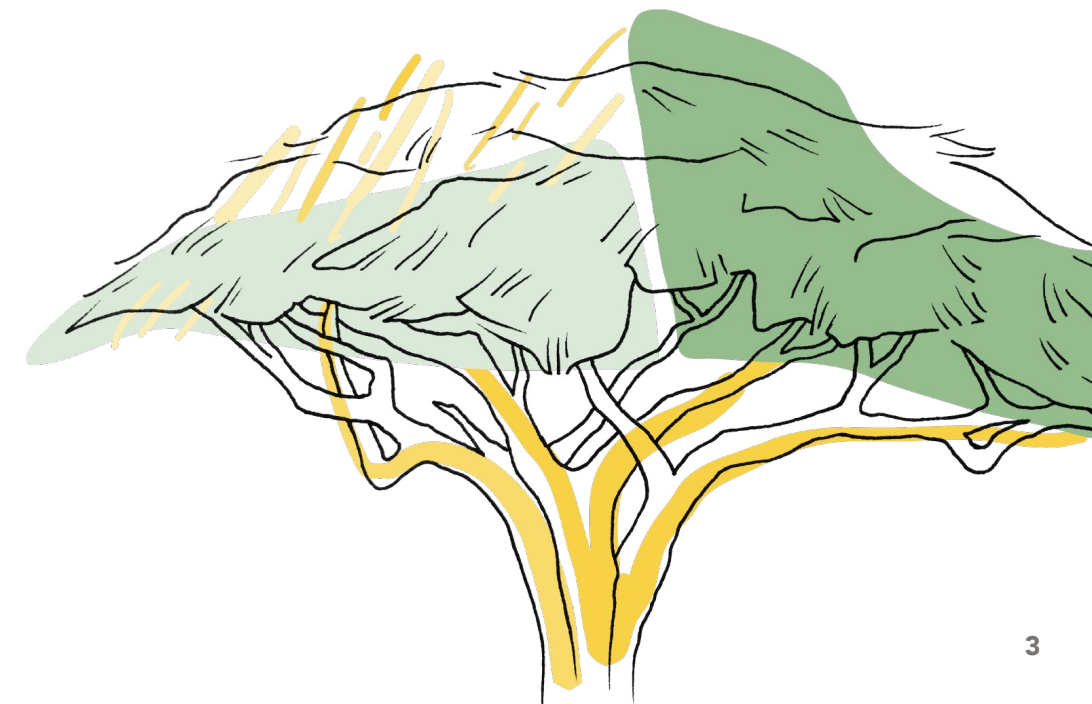
I wish you could meet these people in person, give them a hug, hear their stories from their own mouths, and see what a life-changing difference you're making. Since that isn't possible, we put together this booklet to give you a glimpse into the lives of the people you are helping and to share updates on the key long-term projects that will have a generational impact in communities across Africa.

As we look ahead, there remains much to accomplish, but the future is growing brighter. Thank you for making this work possible and for believing in the resilience and courage of the African people. Thank you for bringing hope to the hurting and forgotten.

Partners in ministry with you,



Dr. Jon Fielder
Co-Founder and CEO



What Makes African Mission Healthcare Unique

Our Supporters:

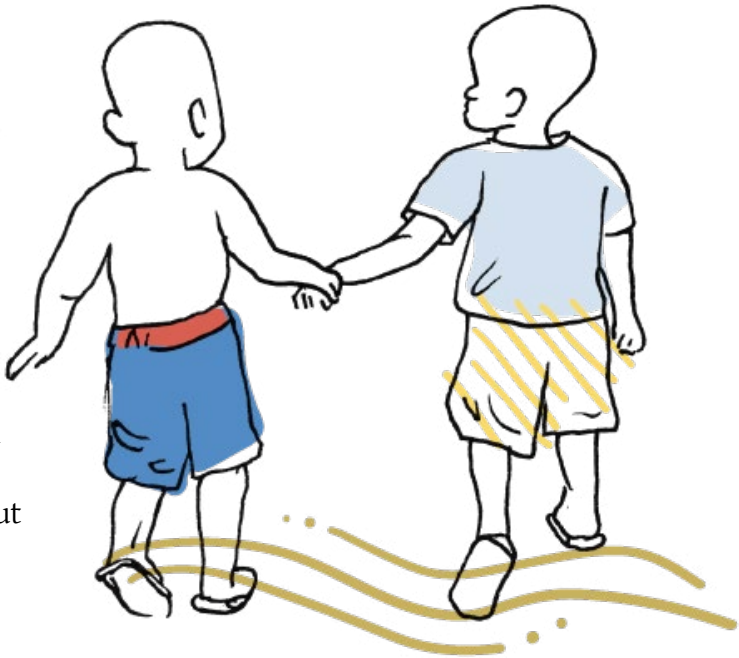
You are the reason this work is possible. We are deeply grateful for your partnership in empowering mission hospitals and African healthcare workers to transform their own communities.

Our Values:

- **We're hands on:** we work alongside our mission hospital partners, rolling up our sleeves to help provide life-changing care.
- **We listen:** guided by our hospital partners, we take the time to understand what's needed and bring together resources to get the work done.
- **We see it through:** we address urgent needs while remaining committed to improving health systems for the long haul.
- **We train:** we multiply our impact by promoting leadership and training the next generation of African healthcare professionals.
- **We get results:** we hold ourselves accountable to make decisions that transform lives every day and achieve lasting impact.

Our Commitment:

We are committed to holistic, long-term transformation of healthcare systems in Africa. We've spent the last 10 years investing in human and physical infrastructure, but we're just getting started.



Your Support: Saving Lives and Changing the Future of Medical Care in the Nuba Mountains



Dr. Tom Catena serves as the only surgeon for 1.3 million people in the Nuba Mountains, an extremely remote region of Sudan. His work brings life-saving medical care to a people that have been oppressed by violence and war for over half a century.

Driven by his deep faith and commitment to serving the poor, Dr. Tom left behind family, friends, and the comforts of life in America more than a decade ago to care for the people of Nuba.

Our goal is to raise \$7.5 million dollars to help Dr. Tom build the infrastructure to teach the next generation of healthcare workers how to provide maternal care, handle trauma, treat malaria, and provide compassionate medical care to the region for decades to come. Because of the generous gifts of partners like you, we're already more than 45% towards our goal, having raised \$3,470,000.



To be part of this transformative work, visit HealthforNuba.com.

"The impact is eternal. Each life is precious. Every person deserves access to quality medical care." – Dr. Tom Catena

Your generosity today helps:

- Support Dr. Tom's vision to **create a training school** to educate nurses, midwives, and physician assistants for Gidel Hospital and the entire region
- Secure the funding needed to **keep Gidel Hospital operational** and provide medicines, supplies, and hospital staff for decades to come
- **Expand assistance to village clinics** to bring primary healthcare closer to the people and strengthen the Nuba healthcare system

*"One reason I'm so impressed by Dr. Tom is that most of the world, including world leaders and humanitarians, have pretty much abandoned the people of the Nuba Mountains. ... Dr. Tom stands out for his principled commitment. ... **You needn't be a conservative Catholic or evangelical Christian to celebrate that kind of selflessness. Just human.**" – Nicholas Kristof, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist*

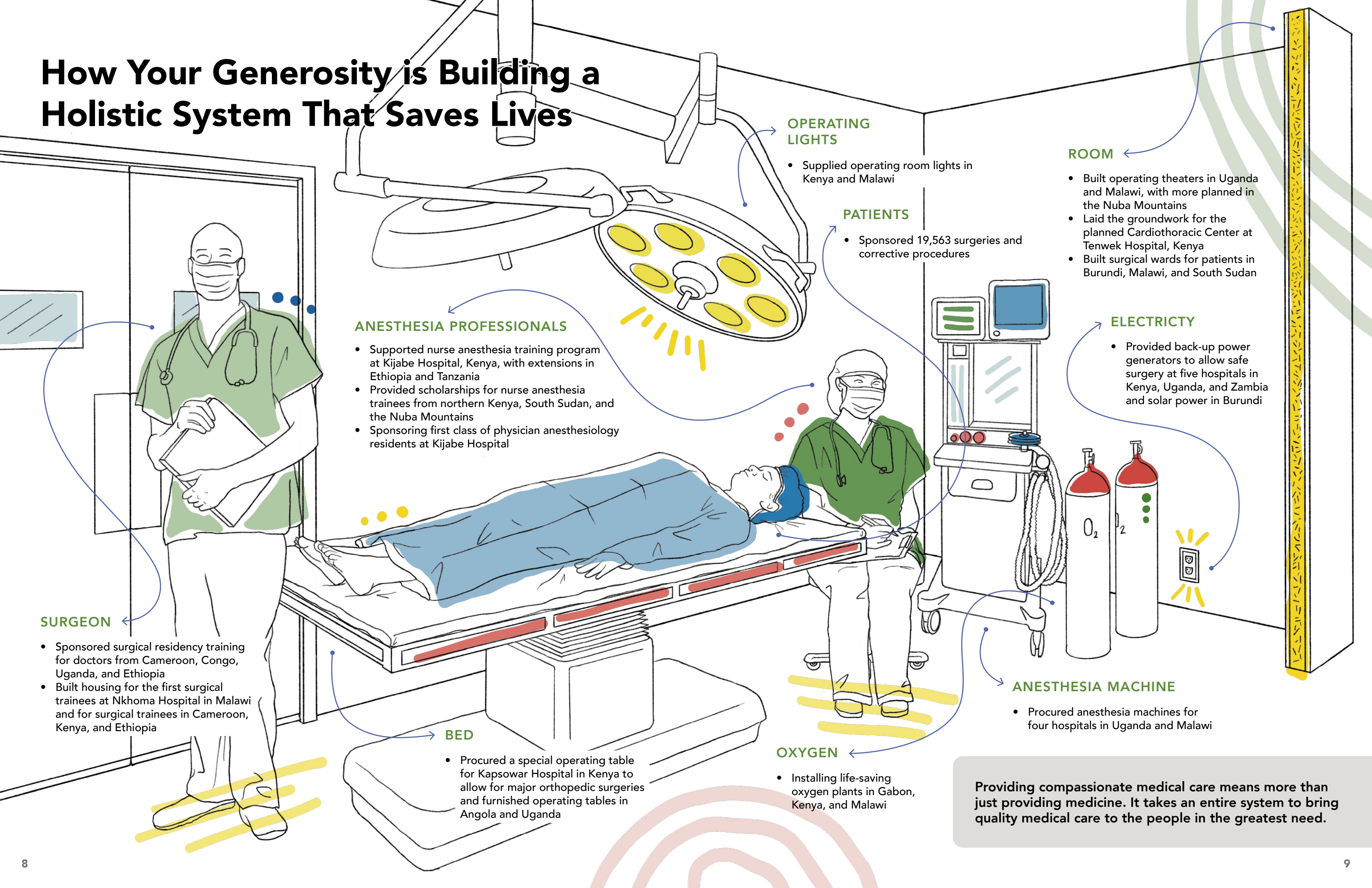


Over the last year, the number of people admitted to the hospital increased by 6% to 6,500. The rural clinic outreach program treated nearly 83,000 patients, an increase of 22%, and administered 11,700 vaccinations. The cease-fire has brought relative peace to the region, making it possible for refugees to cross the border and come to Gidel Hospital for medical care.

*"This past year has been extremely busy as we have cared for more patients than ever before. I'm so grateful for your support that makes it possible for me and the hospital team to continue to save lives here. It might feel like just a 'drop in the bucket,' but when you are here, on the ground, and you look into the eyes of the man who just walked for eight hours in extreme pain to get here, or you see the face of a mother desperate for her baby to survive, or you help a three-year-old burn victim—you see **it's not just a drop in the bucket. They are not just a statistic.** The impact is eternal. Each life is precious. Every person deserves access to quality medical care. And so, with your help, I serve another day. And with your support, we'll build a training center to teach a new generation how to care for the sick and hurting. **My dream is for this work in Nuba to long outlast me.**"*

Dr. Tom Catena

How Your Generosity is Building a Holistic System That Saves Lives



Providing compassionate medical care means more than just providing medicine. It takes an entire system to bring quality medical care to the people in the greatest need.



“Our support for clinical care is both essential and deeply personal. It provides access to quality, compassionate care for people, just like our own friends and family, who otherwise have little hope for such help. When combined with AMH’s other efforts to train health workers, improve hospital operations, and invest in much-needed equipment and infrastructure, it immediately helps these people while also building for the future.”

Jonathan Mwiindi, AMH’s Executive Vice President of Operations

With your support during 2020:

- **110,000** patients received direct clinical care
- **3,900** patients received surgical care
- Patients were served across **nine countries in Africa**, including Sudan, South Sudan, Burundi, and Malawi—some of the poorest regions in the world
- Over \$90,000 was deployed to acquire critically needed personal protection equipment (PPE) and other supplies in response to COVID-19

10 Years of Life-Changing Surgeries: How You are Helping Save Lives



This year marks the 10th anniversary of our **Surgical Access for Everyone (SAFE)** program. Because of your faithful generosity, many at-risk mothers, children, and families have had access to life-changing surgical care.

In 2020 you helped:

- **Sponsor 2,021 individual surgeries**, with an average cost of \$483
- Make possible another **1,969 surgeries and corrective procedures** through AMH program support at hospitals
- Expand our new Emergency C-Section program that sponsored **655 C-sections** for mothers to safely deliver their babies
- Support **12 partner hospitals** where the SAFE program is operating
- Provide for a **63% increase** in patients assisted



Hope That Heals: How a Surgery Changed Elimlim's Life

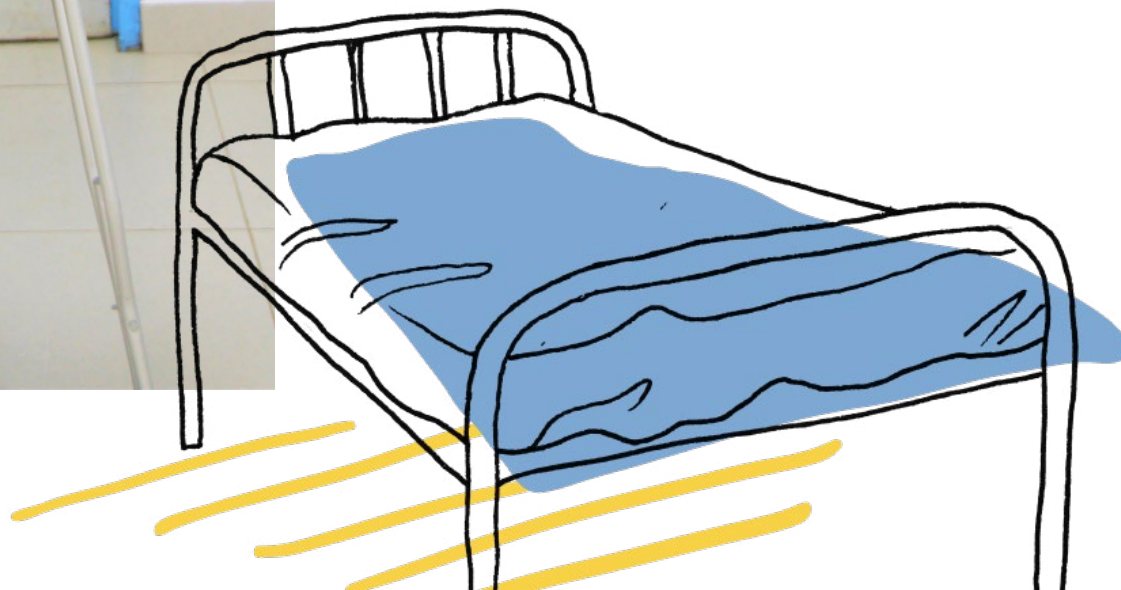


“The bullet almost destroyed my life.”

Elimlim is 20 years old and lives in a remote town in northern Kenya. One morning at 3 a.m. his life changed forever. A former student at his school, who had been suspended, stormed the school on a revenge mission. He killed the gatekeeper and six students and injured more than 15 with gunshot wounds—including Elimlim, who was shot in his left leg.

The next morning Elimlim was airlifted to a referral hospital in Kenya, where they recommended amputation. In crippling pain, Elimlim was devastated by the idea of losing his limb. He knew it would change his life forever and severely impact his ability to provide for his elderly mother, who had been widowed in 2019.

Thankfully, a well-wisher told Elimlim about Kijabe Hospital. There he received quality surgical care, including a SAFE-sponsored bone transport. The operation saved his leg and restored his hope. He plans to go back to school and dreams of building a better future for his family.



SAFE helps maximize your support by:

- Providing **much-needed financial assistance that is earned** by our hospital partners as they perform high-quality surgeries
- Raising surgical volumes, which enables **advanced training, expansion of services, and increased quality of care** throughout the hospital
- **Strengthening relationships with local communities** by extending compassionate, quality care to the most vulnerable
- Improving each hospital's **surgical processes, quality measurement, and cost**

Surgery is extremely cost effective in low-income countries. According to the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery, because of the direct life-saving benefits of surgery, its cost compares favorably with vaccines. Surgery is even more cost-effective than HIV treatment, which is considered a great success in global health. That impact is amplified as we combine SAFE with investments in infrastructure and advanced training at the same hospitals.

“The bullet almost destroyed my life. I had to abandon school due to a lengthy hospitalization. Thank you for supporting my surgery and giving me another chance to get back to my normal life.” - Elimlim

“Women and children are the future. And with so many dying needlessly in childbirth due to lack of equipment, doctors, and other necessary but extremely affordable elements, we want to spread the word that for only \$260 you can easily save two lives.”

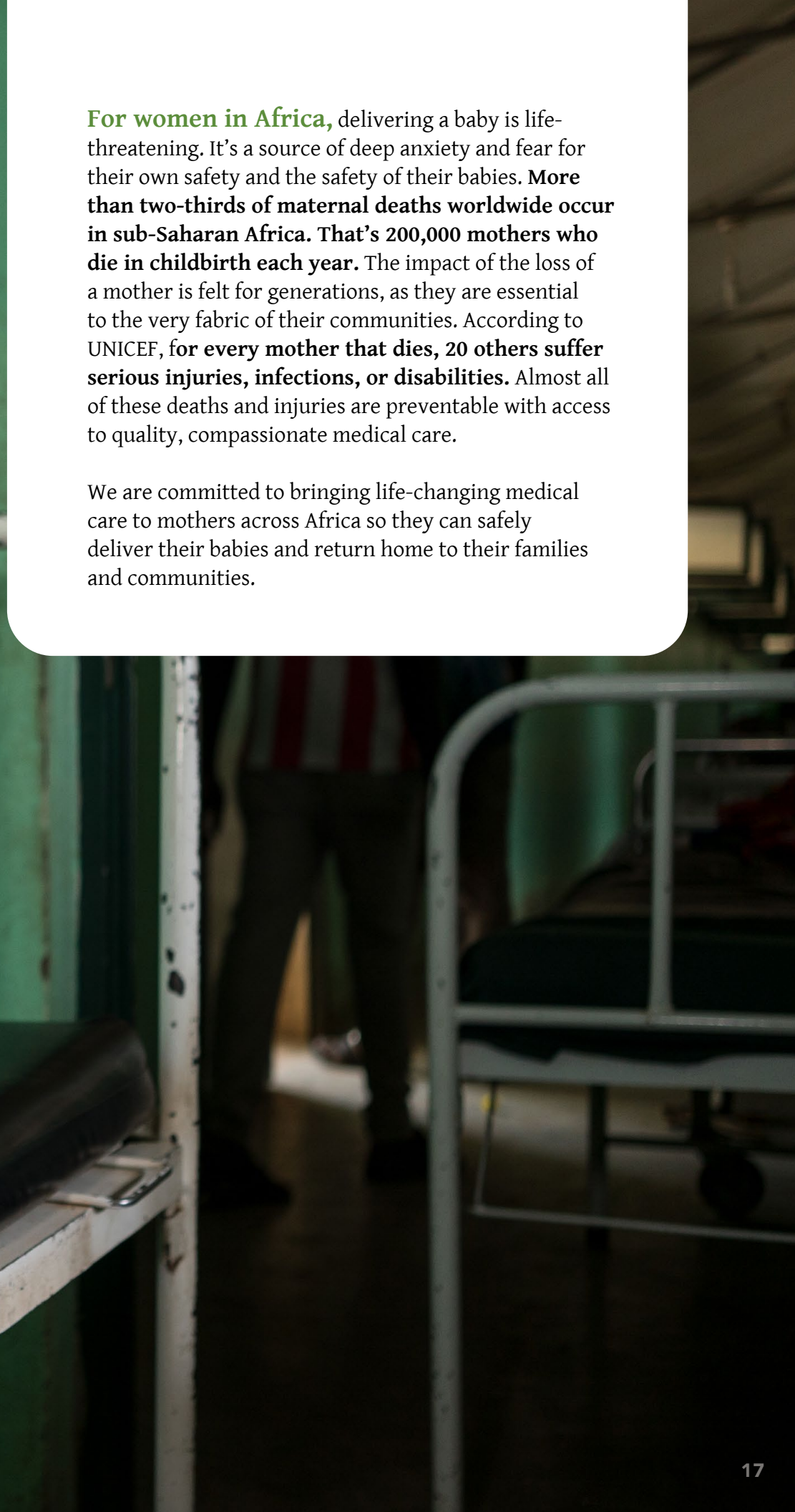
Ashley Stetts, SAFE donor





For women in Africa, delivering a baby is life-threatening. It's a source of deep anxiety and fear for their own safety and the safety of their babies. **More than two-thirds of maternal deaths worldwide occur in sub-Saharan Africa. That's 200,000 mothers who die in childbirth each year.** The impact of the loss of a mother is felt for generations, as they are essential to the very fabric of their communities. According to UNICEF, **for every mother that dies, 20 others suffer serious injuries, infections, or disabilities.** Almost all of these deaths and injuries are preventable with access to quality, compassionate medical care.

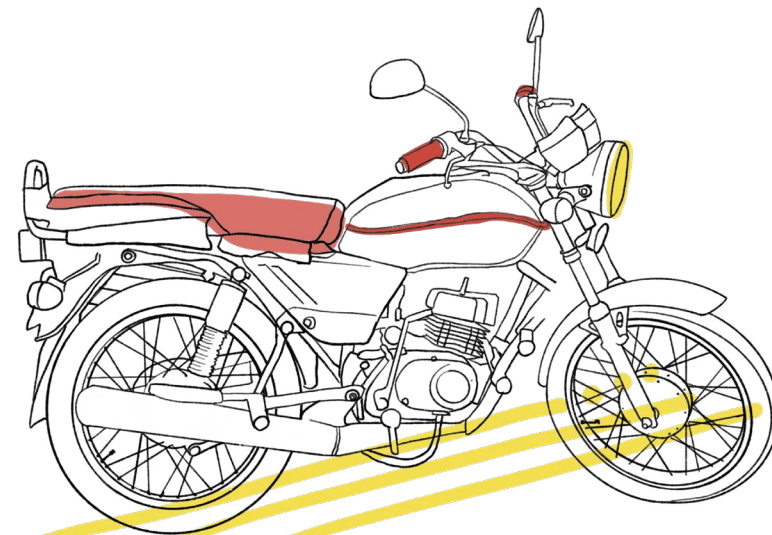
We are committed to bringing life-changing medical care to mothers across Africa so they can safely deliver their babies and return home to their families and communities.



Priscilla's Story: Hope for the Future

It was 8 o'clock in the evening when Priscilla started to labor with her second child. She could feel the pain in her abdomen and lower back. She labored throughout the night at home because she didn't have the money for transportation to the hospital. But as the sun rose, she knew that she needed to get medical care.

Her husband went to a neighbor who had organized a savings and credit organization, which lent him money for the journey. They borrowed the rest from a local teacher. By the time Priscilla, her husband, and her mother-in-law walked to the main road and got a ride on a motorcycle, it had been 12 hours since her labor started. Priscilla said the trip to the hospital was painful, especially whenever the bike went over a bump, which is often on the washed-out roads in Uganda. It took another hour to get to AMH partner Rushoroza Hospital.



They were already in debt simply from trying to get to the hospital.

Priscilla had heard from another woman that Rushoroza cared very much about pregnant women and that she would be well cared for. She had been going to Rushoroza for her antenatal visits since the third month of her pregnancy, taking her father-in-law's motorcycle until mechanical problems left just her husband's bicycle to get to her doctor's appointments.

She says she was well received at the hospital and the nurses gently explained to her that the baby was not in the right position. She was reassured by the nurse, and the doctor took time to explain that she would need a C-section. Priscilla was scared but felt strengthened by how kind the staff was. **She knew that if she'd gone to the hospital closer to her home, she would not have delivered a live baby because they did not have adequate training or equipment to perform a C-section.**

Priscilla was very worried about the cost of the operation, knowing that it was well outside what she and her husband could afford. They were already in debt simply from trying to get to the hospital. When the doctor came back and told her that compassionate AMH partners like you had sponsored her operation, Priscilla was overwhelmed with relief. She gave birth to a healthy baby via C-section.

She spent three days in the hospital recovering after the operation. Her relatives gave her money to purchase rice and soup during her stay. (Most hospitals in Africa are too poor to offer food, so the responsibility falls to the family to provide food for the patient to eat.) She says the nurses were attentive and caring, which was a very different experience from her first delivery at another hospital, where she felt neglected by the staff and was left to fend for herself. At Rushoroza, they also gave her blankets for her baby since she did not have enough. When she was discharged, the hospital team reminded her that she did not have to cover the bill for her operation, but it took a moment for the news to really sink in and for her to believe it was true: **she was alive, her baby was alive, and she was not deeply in debt because of it.**

When she got home, Priscilla and her husband had to do manual labor to pay off even the small debt incurred just to get to the hospital. Thankfully, both their neighbor and the teacher were kind and let her wait until she was fully healed. **Without your help sponsoring her C-section and the support from her neighbors, Priscilla would not have sought better care at Rushoroza Hospital. Both her life and the life of her baby may have been lost.** This is the reality for many families in Africa.

Access to quality medical care and surgical sponsorships save lives and keep families from incurring crushing debt. It's as simple and profound as that.



With your support, during 2020 AMH invested in 19 different infrastructure and equipment projects that enabled both training and patient care across eight countries. These investments translate to care for 130,000 patients.

Your support made these projects possible:

- Laying the groundwork for the Cardiothoracic Center at Tenwek Hospital (Kenya)
- Constructing a medical education building at Kijabe Hospital (Kenya) that will help teach thousands of health workers
- Renovating Maua Methodist Hospital (Kenya)
- Constructing housing for the PAACS (Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons) surgical training program at Nkhoma Hospital (Malawi)
- Building housing for medical residents and doctors at Kibuye Hope Hospital (Burundi)
- Building a pediatric ward at Rwibaale medical center (Uganda)
- Providing continued electrical upgrades at Bongolo Hospital (Gabon)



Infrastructure in Action: The Tenwek Cardiothoracic Center



Rheumatic heart disease (RHD) occurs following untreated strep throat and results in progressive cardiac valvular disease, heart failure, and early death. RHD afflicts 150,000 Kenyans and an estimated 5 to 7 million in Africa. Based on a screening program conducted by Tenwek Hospital, the actual number of affected individuals could be several times higher than these estimates. The prevalence of the disease and extremely limited access to care make RHD one of the last and most significant neglected tropical diseases. Many Africans suffer from a variety of other conditions affecting the heart, lungs, and chest.

Very few options exist for addressing these diseases because existing infrastructure is inadequate and there are not enough trained health professionals. Many people are suffering and dying from treatable conditions. **Every year, more than 15,000 Kenyans desperately need cardiac surgeries, but less than 500 surgeries are performed.**



This lack of access to cardiothoracic care affects all of sub-Saharan Africa. Tenwek Hospital, which already performs over half of the heart surgeries in Kenya, currently has a waiting list of 750 patients. Unless surgical capacity is expanded, many of these people will die. **The planned solutions are the advanced cardiothoracic treatment and training program and the construction of the Tenwek Cardiothoracic Center (CTC).**



Within five years of opening, the CTC is expected to serve patients from across the sub-Saharan region. It will conduct nearly 1,500 cardiothoracic surgeries, 3,000 endoscopies, and 50,000 outpatient visits annually. The CTC will be a comprehensive training center for diseases of the chest and heart, the first of its kind in sub-Saharan Africa.

The CTC will offer a comprehensive array of outpatient and inpatient care, including:

- Open-heart surgery
- Intensive care of the critically ill
- Diagnostic, preventative, and therapeutic treatment of esophageal and pancreatic disorders
- Modern imaging, including echocardiography and computed tomography (CT) scanning
- Laboratory and pharmacy services

AMH's Gerson L'Chaim Prize catalyzed the development of the CTC. With support from the L'Chaim Prize, Samaritan's Purse, and generous partners like you, AMH was able to:

- Construct two modern apartment towers for trainees, faculty, and visiting health workers
- Upgrade and expand water, wastewater, and electrical capacity on the Tenwek campus (scheduled to finish in 2021)
- Complete detailed design and engineering plans for the CTC hospital itself
- Excavate land for the foundation of the hospital

The CTC is scheduled to open in 2024.

Training That Transforms: AMH Expands Mission Hospital Teaching Network

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, AMH launched the Mission Hospital Teaching Network (MHTN) as an extension of the L'Chaim Initiative. MHTN began with two 10-year grants to hospitals in Burundi (Kibuye Hope Hospital) and Malawi (Nkhoma Mission Hospital) with growing training programs. In 2021, AMH expanded this initiative to include a total of **six teaching hospitals in four countries**. These hospitals have been in existence for an average of 75 years, and each has a rich history of meeting the needs of its community, caring for poor and underserved patients, and training local healthcare workers.

Quality training programs have the highest impact within healthy institutions possessing the infrastructure and systems required for excellent care. The MHTN provides financial and technical resources to strengthen the hospitals' systems as they seek to expand and improve the quality of medical education. Strategic investments include a wide range of projects, such as building housing, expanding facilities, upgrading power, and improving hospital governance and administration. The MHTN will also bring these hospitals and their many mission partners closer together, creating avenues for knowledge sharing and promoting greater collaboration.

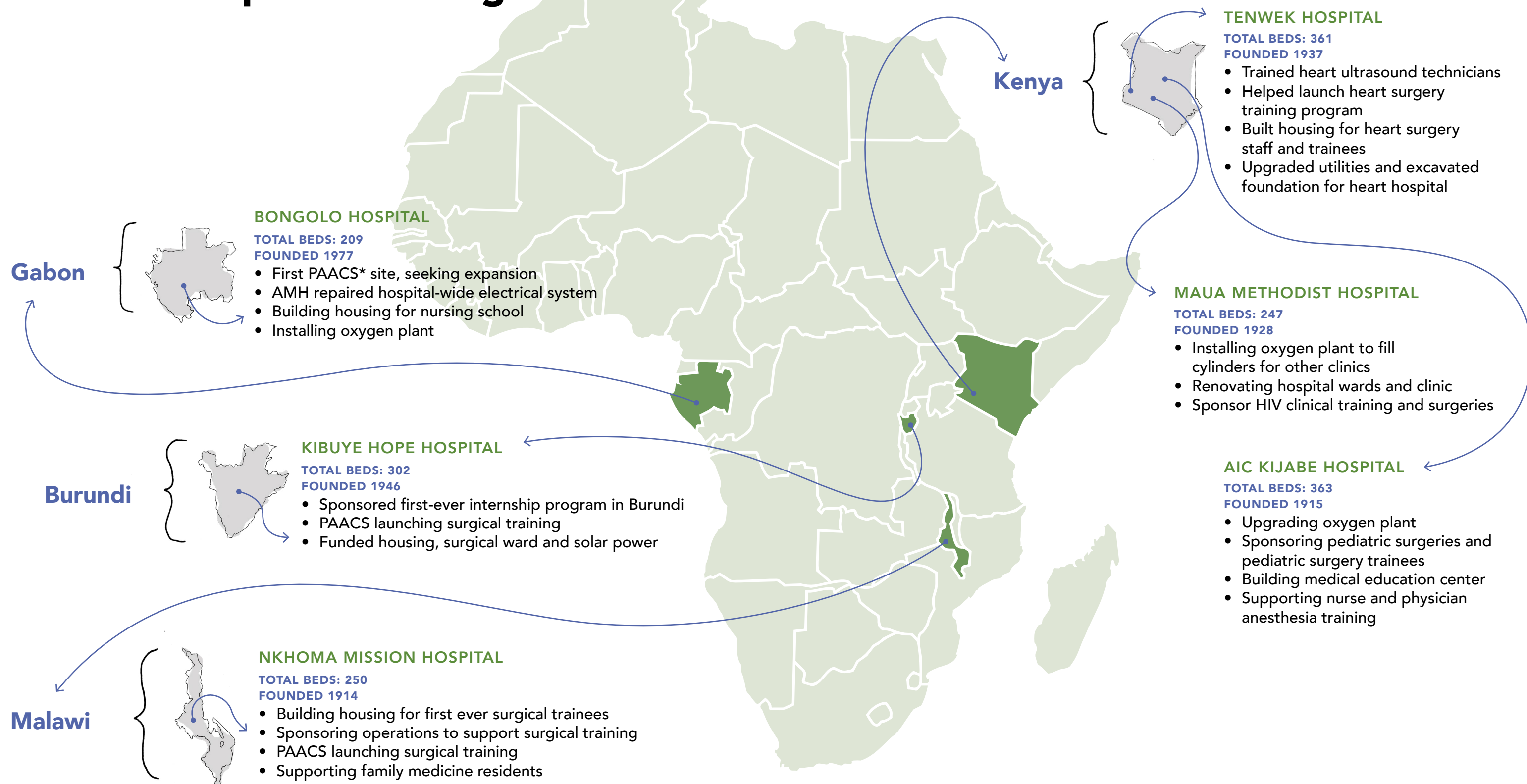
As the MHTN matures, it will progressively grow, adding additional mission hospitals and partners to assure that a new generation of African healthcare professionals will have the opportunity, training, and infrastructure to transform the future of healthcare in Africa.



“The training we are doing at Nkhoma Hospital wouldn’t be possible without AMH.”

Dr. Salvador de la Torre, CEO, Nkhoma Hospital

Mission Hospital Teaching Network



*PAACS, an AMH partner, is the Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons, a network of certified mission hospitals training some of the continent's best surgeons.

The Story of Dr. Jill and Dr. James: A Woman from Idaho, a Boy from South Sudan, and the Life-Changing Power of Medical Care

Dr. Jill Seaman is a small woman with long braids and a fierce determination to help people in rural Ethiopia and South Sudan obtain access to medical care. She's served in remote areas since the 1980s, living in a tent for nearly two decades in the isolated region of Old Fangak in South Sudan.

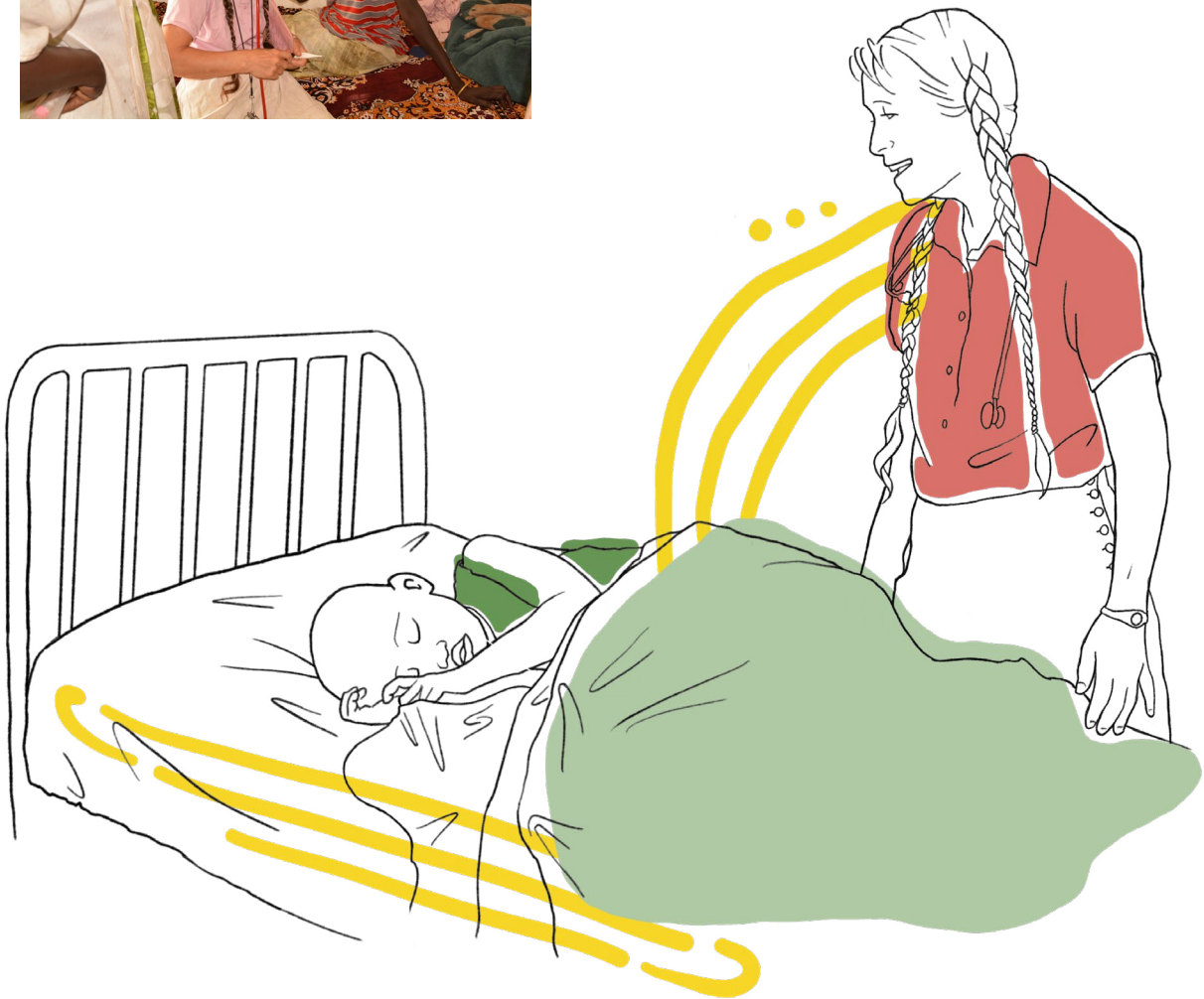
She has received the prestigious Genius Award from the MacArthur Foundation for her innovative work in treating the invasive parasitic disease visceral leishmaniasis (kala azar or "black skin"). Since 2013, AMH has supported Dr. Seaman's Sudan Medical Relief clinic, which focuses on the treatment of infectious diseases among the Nuer people.

Dr. Seaman has saved countless lives, including one little boy named James, who would go on to save many lives himself.

In 2001 James Wal fled the violence in South Sudan and ended up in the Kakuma refugee camp in northern Kenya. There, he excelled academically and was admitted to the medical school at Kenya Methodist University. Unfortunately, in the middle of his training the relative who had been supporting his studies was no longer able to pay his school fees. He knew that other students were sponsored by AMH, so James asked for help.

James received a scholarship from AMH, allowing him to finish medical school and complete his internship. He then reached out to AMH again, asking if there was a place for him to serve in his native country.

AMH Chief Executive Dr. Jon Fielder connected him with Dr. Seaman. James is of the Nuer ethnic group, the same people served by Sudan Medical Relief. Because of the divisions within South Sudan, a doctor from another ethnic group may not be accepted in the region.



"By God's grace you connected me to the respected and knowledgeable Dr. Jill, who is my inspiration. She saved my life at my death bed from kala azar when I was a child." – Dr. James Wal

In Dr. Wal's own words:

"I would like to send my gratitude to the AMH team for your kindness and understanding with regards to all the Sudanese and South Sudanese students under your scholarship. I now understand why you insist on students going back to their own countries after finishing their studies. It was never vital to me because I used to think the country had changed; contrary to my knowledge South Sudan is the same nation I left 19 years back in 2001.

*I appreciate your continued support in my studies and encouragement to come back to South Sudan. **By God's grace you connected me to the respected and knowledgeable Dr. Jill, who is my inspiration. She saved my life at my death bed from kala azar when I was a child.***

Thank you, I can only express my greatest appreciation in words to you all. I am now working in my community where my little knowledge will make a great difference in the remote rural heart of the Nuer land at Old Fangak, South Sudan."

Dr. Wal's presence means there is always a doctor at the clinic, even when Dr. Seaman is in the United States for a few months each year, serving native Alaskan populations. He has become a respected member of a community in desperate need of quality medical care.

At AMH we have seen again and again what happens when your compassionate generosity is invested in the African people. Dr. Wal's story is another example of the impact you are having, not just on James but on the tens of thousands of patients he will care for over his career.

Dr. Priscilla: Bringing Life-Saving Medical Care to Mothers In Uganda



Our 2020 AMH Gerson L’Chaim (“To Life”) Prize winner is Dr. Priscilla Busingye, the first African and first woman to receive the prestigious award. Through her work in maternal healthcare in Uganda, Dr. Priscilla is transforming an entire generation and paving the way for long-term change.

“Knowing that I meet God in every patient gives me great joy.” - Dr. Priscilla

Dr. Priscilla grew up in a remote community in Uganda without access to any medical care. She dropped out of school at the age of fourteen, returning later to learn from the Banyatereza Sisters and joining the order.

She now serves as one of the few OB-GYN specialists in her country and is the president of the Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in Uganda.

She stopped counting how many babies she delivered after 3,000. Dr. Priscilla dreams of building a training center where more women can get life-saving, woman-centered care.

“Ensuring access to quality obstetric care is the primary way to improve the lives of mothers and their children. Building a model center in the village of Rwibaale will enable training and mentoring of other health providers to learn what is possible when care is provided the right way,” says Dr. Priscilla.

The L’Chaim Prize will help her dream become a reality. The center of excellence envisioned by Dr. Priscilla and AMH is projected to deliver 1,000 babies annually, provide primary care for 1,170 vulnerable children under six years old, and offer hands-on training and mentorship for 120 doctors, midwives, and healthcare workers in regional hospitals that will greatly improve the quality of maternal care throughout southwest Uganda. The center will also help restore dignity to 120 women annually through repairing birth injuries and help create more than 50 jobs in the local community.

African Mission Healthcare invests in sustainable systems and solutions to improve healthcare across Africa. Coming alongside Dr. Priscilla’s life work is one way we are empowering that change.

“Dr. Busingye’s life and work are truly amazing. She epitomizes everything that a compassionate, community-minded person could possibly aspire to, regardless of their faith tradition. She ‘loves the stranger’ every day in a genuine and tangible manner.”

Mark Gerson, AMH Co-Founder and L’Chaim Prize sponsor

Past L’Chaim Laureates



Sudan
Dr. Tom Catena



Liberia
Dr. Rick Sacra



Kenya
Dr. Russ White



Burundi
Dr. Jason Fader

What Does the Future Hold?

The last year has taught us the importance of quality medical care and the consequences when it is not available. As the COVID-19 pandemic has clearly demonstrated, years of investment are required to ensure access to life-saving equipment, oxygen, well-trained healthcare workers, and functional health systems. Without these basic building blocks, people suffer even in the best of times and are nearly without hope during the worst of times.

We envision an African continent filled with improving healthcare systems where doctors and nurses get the hands-on training they need to serve their communities, where the electricity works and doesn't go out halfway through an operation, and where oxygen is accessible. We dream of an Africa where every mother can safely deliver her baby, where every father has access to surgery after a roadside accident, where children born with clubfeet can get the treatment required to run and play like little ones should.

Because of you, that future is possible. For over a decade, African Mission Healthcare has come alongside mission hospitals to empower them with infrastructure, training, and financial support to provide quality, compassionate healthcare. We can't wait to see what the future holds as we expand those efforts and educate a new generation of doctors, surgeons, nurses, and physician assistants to care for the hurting and forgotten.





To make a life-changing gift today, visit AfricanMissionHealthcare.org/Donate.



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