



AFRICAN
MISSION ⁺₊
HEALTHCARE

EVERY STEP FORWARD WITH YOU

2024 HIGHLIGHTS



*Every step with you –
providing essential
healthcare for people
in Africa.*

***Treating**
Patients Today*

***Training**
Healthcare
Professionals
for Tomorrow*

***Transforming**
Hospitals for the
Future*

Dear Friends of AMH,

2025 marks the 15th anniversary of African Mission Healthcare (AMH). It's incredible how far we've come thanks to you.



Because of you, we can train doctors to be there for patients before it's too late.

I'm thinking of Dr. Gomez, who is from Gambia. After graduating from an AMH-sponsored pediatric surgery training program at Kijabe Hospital in Kenya, Dr. Gomez moved to a mission hospital in Liberia. Not a moment too soon, because a newborn baby came in with vomiting and severe dehydration. Dr. Gomez diagnosed a congenital condition called pyloric stenosis, a blockage in the stomach, and performed a life-saving operation.

In so many places, for so many patients, more of everything is urgently needed. More health workers. More hospital ward space. More support for clinical care. That's why AMH focuses on what we call "the 3 Ts":

» **Treating patients today:** From surgeries to malaria treatment, we are there for patients who simply cannot wait.

» **Training health workers for tomorrow:** From midwives in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan to HIV care providers in Kenya, we are educating the next generation of healthcare professionals.

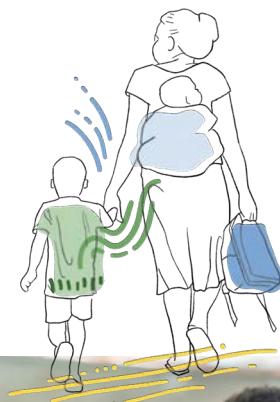
» **Transforming hospitals for the future:** From an expanded laboratory in Kenya to a new maternity hospital in Uganda, we are building crucial capacity for the future.

With your help and our shared commitment to mission hospitals and those in greatest need, African Mission Healthcare is uniquely positioned to make a lasting difference for individuals, families, and communities. Together, we're building health systems that will endure. Your partnership ensures that life-saving care is available when it counts.

Serving with you,

Dr. Jon Fielder
Co-Founder and Chief Executive

In 2024, every step forward began with you.



**1,051
Trainees**

You are shaping
the future of
healthcare in Africa.



**269,831
Clinical Visits**

You are healing
children and adults.



**2,016
Safe Deliveries**

You are ensuring
safe, joyful births.



**1,048
Emergency
C-sections**

You are protecting
mothers in crisis.



**1,204
Cataract
Procedures**

You are restoring
healthy sight.



**6,833
Surgeries**

You are giving people
their lives back.



**23 Million
Current and Future
Patient Visits Enabled
Since Inception**

You are building
healthier communities.



Thank you
for being there for
families throughout
sub-Saharan Africa.



The Mission Hospital Teaching Network (MHTN) means more impact, with you.

Africa faces a shortage of trained healthcare professionals. Your support helps train doctors, nurses, and specialists, ensuring more people have access to quality care.

Recently, a missionary neonatal ICU nurse wrote to us saying, “Thank you so much for the incredible opportunity to attend the Tiny Feet, Big Steps Conference. It is the missing piece our NICU needed...” *She was really speaking to YOU.*

Your generosity helps make sure there are no missing pieces for healthcare professionals across sub-Saharan Africa. You’re there for them every day, promoting organizational excellence,

clinical excellence, and a culture of learning and teaching. What doctors and nurses learn through MHTN today, they bring to their own communities tomorrow.

Dr. Perry Jansen, AMH’s Vice President of Strategic Health Partnerships, echoes our mission statement: *“We envision an African continent filled with enduring and improving health systems — where everyone, everywhere, has access to quality, compassionate healthcare.”*


Because of you, that vision is getting closer — one teaching hospital, one trained clinician, one patient at a time.”



These four essential services work as one — bringing complete, compassionate care to patients who need it most.



AMH has active projects in 11 African countries.

 The highlighted countries show where AMH is providing life-saving care.

Burundi	Malawi
Cameroon	South Sudan
Ethiopia	Sudan
Gabon	Tanzania
Kenya	Uganda
Liberia	





Dr. Mehret Desalegn conducts a clinical visit with a young patient at Kijabe Hospital in Kenya. Doctors like Mehret represent the future of quality healthcare across sub-Saharan Africa. You help make this life-saving work possible.

You stood with determined doctors like Dr. Mehret Desalegn.

Dr. Mehret's story & message to you

I was born and raised in southern Ethiopia, where I witnessed firsthand the profound healthcare disparities affecting children across our continent. As a medical student and later as a doctor, I became increasingly aware of Africa's critical shortage of pediatric surgeons — a gap that leaves millions of children in underserved communities without access to life-saving care.

Through the AMH-sponsored fellowship at Kijabe Hospital, I received world-class training that equipped me to manage complex pediatric surgical conditions. The program's emphasis on both technical skill and compassionate care shaped my approach to serving vulnerable populations.

Today, as a practicing pediatric surgeon and

educator at BethanyKids Kijabe Hospital, I am committed to two equally important missions: providing high-quality surgical care to children in need, and training the next generation of African pediatric surgeons.



The reality across Africa is clear: when we invest in surgical training, we invest in healthier futures for entire communities.

Thank you for supporting me and this critical work of caring for children!

In 2024,
SAFE sponsored
2,945 surgeries
at an average
cost of **\$469**
and **529** normal
deliveries at an
average cost
of **\$29**.



Sarafina and her newborn,
delivered by emergency C-section

This impact isn't
just measured in
numbers, but in lives
strengthened by the
care you help make
possible — every
step of the way.

When you help provide Surgical Access For Everyone...

- » You are helping **mothers** with birth injuries.
- » You are there for **children** in need of surgery.
- » You are standing with **families** across sub-Saharan Africa.

You are keeping them SAFE

“We are building enduring and excellent surgical systems to serve those in greatest need.”

— Beth Wangigi, VP of Impact
and Surgical Capacity Building

Among those in greatest need are women who suffer from birth injuries. Conditions such as uterine damage, obstetric fistulas, and torn tissue around the birth canal can cause severe physical and emotional distress, often leaving mothers isolated from their families and communities. Surgery repairs the tissue... but effective healthcare is comprehensive.

That's why our Surgical Access For Everyone (SAFE) program stretches far beyond the operating room. After surgery, our partners travel to visit the patient in her home (usually by way of harsh roads) to make sure she is healing properly and doing well. We evaluate every step of a woman's care, from triage through discharge and beyond, to improve outcomes. All of the above are reinforced with training for continuous improvement.

The SAFE approach means more women can retain their dignity and their rightful place in the world. It means more families can remain together as they should. It means more joy and life and potential fulfilled.

You were a blessing to Blessings...and all who adore him.



One day in October in a small village in Malawi, Ireen asked her 7-year-old son, “Blessings, why are you not smiling today?”

Her boy pointed to his stomach, which looked the same as always: slightly distended at the belly button. That was normal. It was only a birthmark... or so Ireen thought.

“It hurts,” Blessings said, and described a twisting pain.

Ireen felt a flutter of panic. Her boy — who was always so full of life, who loved going to school every day and playing soccer with his friends — had gone from mile-a-minute joyful adventures to sidelined and saddened. The light he brought into every room had dimmed in the blink of an eye.

All their plans for that day went out the window. Ireen took Blessings straight to the nearest health center. A doctor there diagnosed an umbilical hernia. This explained the “birthmark.” It was not harmless. Not anymore. In fact, left untreated, the hernia could kill him.

Mother and child were sent to Nkhoma Mission Hospital. Throughout their journey, Ireen was plagued by questions. Especially “*Will my boy be all right?*” and “*How can I pay for surgery?*”

Ireen and her mother worked tirelessly in their family farming business, yet they could not afford the cost of surgery: \$401. Their savings were minimal and there was no one they could turn to.

But actually, there was. You see, this is where YOU stepped in.

Because of your kindness, through your support of Surgical Access For Everyone (SAFE), you were a blessing to Blessings...and all who adore him.

The umbilical hernia surgery was a resounding success. Blessings’ pain was gone. His big smiles and joyful adventures were back.

The morning after the surgery, “Blessings woke up excited,” Ireen said. “He even went out to play on the swings. Now he is happy again, and he can focus in school. We are so grateful for his transformation!”



Your generosity gave Blessings his health, his smiles, and his adventures back!

Thanks to you, Chalumba is getting the ICU training he'll need to realize his dream of opening an ICU at Gidel Mother of Mercy Hospital in Sudan.



You are helping Chalumba realize a lifelong dream: an ICU near his hometown



“Growing up in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan,” says Chalumba Mudir, “I saw children and adults suffer and die from treatable conditions. That pain led me to nursing.”

Thanks to you, Chalumba is getting crucial Intensive Care Unit (ICU) training at Kijabe Hospital in Kenya.

“I want to replicate Kijabe Hospital’s ICU model of quality care — step by step — at Gidel Mother of Mercy Hospital back home.”

Chalumba often recalls two patients he saw

while training at Kijabe Hospital. Each of them arrived unconscious in the ICU, where their urgent needs were swiftly met. They regained consciousness and then were able to walk without assistance from the ICU to the general ward.

“I’ll never forget how these two patients recovered so well because they had the care they needed in their time of crisis,” Chalumba shares. “It’s a reminder for me. *This is why I chose this path. This is the vision I carry for my people.*”



The Gidel ICU will focus on urgent needs in the Nuba Mountains, like caring for children after surgery and managing trauma from the war.

Dr. Tom Catena: The Doctor Who Stayed



Most people flee war zones. Dr. Tom Catena moved in. For over sixteen years, this Brown University and Duke Medical School graduate and former Navy surgeon has been the only permanent surgeon serving more than 3 million people in Sudan's embattled Nuba Mountains.

When bombs started falling in 2011 and international workers evacuated, Dr. Tom made a choice. "Leaving," he said, "would be saying my life is more important than theirs."

He didn't leave.

Today, Dr. Tom performs over 2,000 surgeries a year at Mother of Mercy Hospital. He starts each day at Mass, then typically goes about his clinic rounds, performs surgery, does a check-in at the outpatient clinic, and teaches at St. Bakhita Health Training Institute. He might also be called

upon to repair something at the hospital, putting his engineering degree to work.

On call every night, Dr. Tom is responsible for overseeing the care of hundreds of patients each day: for everything from war injuries to childbirth to leprosy... often by generator light when power fails.

Sudan's civil war escalated again in 2023. Childhood malnutrition cases tripled quickly. But your support made sure Dr. Tom's team could **screen over 20,000 children in the past 2 years and provide the necessary care for 632 children.** "It's an absolute life-saver," Dr. Tom says.

Now married to a local nurse named Nasima, with whom he's adopted two sons, Dr. Tom continues his work tirelessly. Perhaps that's why his patients call him "our miracle!"



2024 L'Chaim Prize Winner To Improve Anesthesiology at Mission Hospitals in Four Nations



An American who now makes his home in Kenya, **Dr. Gregory Sund, MD, FCA**, sees his patients as family. Each one is so important. That's why, when doing his rounds, Dr. Sund often calls to mind his wife, Stephanie, and their children, Ella, Piper, and Biniyam. And it's why Dr. Sund is so passionate about improving healthcare in East Africa.

"Women undergoing cesarean deliveries and children in need of surgical intervention face disproportionately high risks," Dr. Sund says.

It was these vulnerable populations that Dr. Sund — who leads the anesthesia department at AIC Kijabe Hospital in Kenya — had in his heart when he proposed a plan to enhance anesthesia care in sub-Saharan Africa.

For this plan, he was awarded

the \$500,000 Gerson L'Chaim Prize for Outstanding Christian Medical Service for 2024.

The L'Chaim Prize was sponsored by African Mission Healthcare co-founder Mark Gerson and his wife, Rabbi Erica Gerson. Since 2016, when Dr. Jason Fader, missionary surgeon to Burundi, became the first recipient, the L'Chaim Prize has been awarded annually to support the life-saving work of a Christian medical missionary who has made extraordinary contributions to healthcare in under-resourced areas.

Dr. Sund says the prize money will be used to introduce a comprehensive intervention package in four AMH partner mission hospitals in Burundi, Malawi, Uganda, and Kenya.

The project will focus on three key areas:

1.) **Strengthening and**

expanding the anesthesiology residency program at AIC Kijabe Hospital (which he helped establish, with support from AMH) and training anesthesia care providers at the other three facilities.

2.) **Making equipment upgrades** including anesthesia machines, pulse oximeters (to measure oxygen levels) and capnography machines (to detect dangerous CO2 levels).

3.) **Implementing quality improvement initiatives** that will optimize care before, during, and after surgeries.

This approach will make tens of thousands of surgeries safer, increasing surgical volume by 20-30% and reducing pediatric surgical mortality rates by up to 50%.

We are so thankful for the life-saving work of Dr. Sund and all the L'Chaim Prize winners!

"Precious can breathe again. I can too!"

Emergency care can be harrowing. But especially upsetting is when a small child is gasping for breath. You wish you could somehow breathe for the little one.



This is how it was for everyone involved when 4-year-old Precious arrived at Kijabe Hospital in Kenya. Her wheezing was ragged and desperate. "She woke up like this," her mother said. "Our local clinic could not help."

Thankfully — because of you — Kijabe Hospital is well equipped with therapeutic oxygen and a backup generator to make sure the life-saving gas is continuously available. **The oxygen was crucial for Precious.** Without it, she may have died.

Instead, Precious was brought to the High-Dependency Unit (HDU) and given a breathing mask and 3 doses of albuterol nebulization. Doctors diagnosed her with a severe asthma attack.

Over the next few days, Precious was given supplemental oxygen care. When she recovered, her mother said, "I cannot thank you enough. I am overjoyed. It is wonderful. Precious can breathe again. I can too!"



Four-year-old Precious received a breathing mask and the oxygen she needed, thanks to you!



YOUR IMPACT

by the numbers

Oxygen can reduce childhood pneumonia deaths by one-third, but it's the least available essential medicine in Africa.

AMH has installed

**5 OXYGEN
PLANTS**

in 3 countries.

Distribution plants in Kenya and Malawi have delivered

125 MILLION

liters of oxygen.

That oxygen supply is enough to treat

**25,000
CHILDREN**

with pneumonia.

*Thank you for helping
AMH bring life-saving
oxygen to people in Africa.*

You are transforming birth injury care in Uganda.

A new 45-bed maternity unit is opening this year at Rwibaale Hospital, so women with birth injuries don't have to wait years to get the care they need.

In Uganda, women with birth injuries wait an average of nine years to get much-needed help. They endure a decade of traumatic, unwarranted loneliness, shame, and distress.

The Rwibaale team aspires to transform care in Uganda for birth injuries. Dr. Sr. Priscilla Busingye, former AMH Gerson L'Chaim Prize winner, describes it as the 9-to-9 goal. She wants to see the average wait time drop dramatically from nine years to nine months or less.

AMH is moving in that direction via a new model of birth injury treatment. The goal is to prepare Rwibaale Hospital so it can provide birth injury repairs year-round.

Members of the Rwibaale team are poised to triple the current number of birth injury eligibility screenings in the community... and

surgeons are expecting to quadruple the current number of birth injury repairs.



Eligible women will receive transport assistance as well as surgery at no cost to them. We expect that recovered patients will naturally serve as “ambassadors” who tell other women about the constant availability of the birth injury service (as opposed to the periodic birth injury camps).

As word spreads, more women will likely self-refer and “walk in” for injury evaluation and repair.

This is how hospitals (and lives) are transformed — thanks to you!





Agnes is embraced by her cousin post-surgery, as her midwife, Violet, looks on and shares in her joy.

To women like Agnes, your generosity means the world!



Over 200,000 women in Uganda live with untreated birth injuries such as prolapse, fistulas, and perineal tears. Yet only a small fraction seek medical treatment. They might live far from the care they need. They might not want anyone to know what they're going through. They might not be able to afford the \$150-500 cost of surgery. (Rural Ugandan women usually earn less than \$500 a year). Or all of the above.

That's why your support of Rwibaale Hospital in Uganda is so important for women and their families.

On the surgery table (at another hospital), Agnes saw her baby die before her eyes. She watched through a hole in a bedsheet meant to keep her from seeing the doctors operating on her as they tried to save her baby from the umbilical cord wrapped around its neck. Agnes passed out. She never held her baby or even said goodbye.

She woke to find she'd suffered a birth injury that left her constantly tired and ashamed of her leaking urine. Avoiding people, she stayed at home or in the fields. Her husband avoided her.

Then Agnes learned of a birth injury camp at Rwibaale Hospital. This was a godsend.

The surgery was a blessed success: *no more leaking, loneliness, or shame.*

"I feel so free and happy because I was saved from a shameful condition," Agnes says. "I had lost peace of mind and body. Now all my worries and discomfort are no more. I will remain grateful for the rest of my life."

Thank you for being there every day for women like Agnes, their families, and their communities who need them!

WHY I GIVE



“The story of African Mission Healthcare — its origin, its people, and its force for good in the world — was one that I wanted to be a part of.”

– DENISE HAYES
African Mission
Healthcare Donor



**None of this
is possible
without you.**

You are saving lives and strengthening communities. *Thank you!*

**And yet the need remains
vast and urgent.**

Please, will you help?

Here are our most pressing needs:

HIV training in Kenya

Expanded maternal healthcare in Uganda

**\$1M in increased surgical capacity
(Surgical Access For Everyone) by 2026**

The urgency of our work is only growing. Recent changes in U.S. government foreign assistance are already significantly impacting the regions where we work. Conflicts rage on in Sudan and South Sudan, complicating supply lines and delivery of care. And as African economies struggle, hospitals and patients are further stressed in a time of declining resources.

Will you give today to treat more patients, train more doctors, and transform more hospitals in sub-Saharan Africa?



Will you be there for more families?

Some impactful ways you can help right now:

\$100 monthly

covers the cost to safely deliver 41 babies in Africa every year.

\$250 monthly

saves the lives of Ugandan mothers and their babies by covering 12 C-sections every year.

\$500 monthly

trains 12 clinicians in Kenya, who will provide care for 2,500 HIV-infected patients every year.

\$2,000

covers 2 months of training for a young Nuba doctor working under Dr. Tom Catena.

\$7,500

funds half the training needed for a nurse anesthetist in Kenya.

\$10,000

distributes 285 oxygen cylinders in Malawi, enough to treat 385 children with pneumonia.

\$15,000

sponsors 30 surgeries in Malawi. This also enhances training for Malawian surgical residents.

\$30,000

trains an OB-GYN in Uganda, where women with birth injuries wait an average of 9 years.

\$60,000

treats 400 children with malnutrition in war-torn areas of South Sudan.

For how to make a gift, please turn the page.



**You
are helping treat
patients today,
train healthcare
professionals
for tomorrow,
and transform
hospitals for
the future.
Thank you.**



Please continue to support this transformational work.

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