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THEY HAVE A DREAM

And for Presbyterian Churches in Mombasa, Kenya, it's a hospital



Someday there will be a hospital on this land in Kenya.

“We want to build a hospital,” members of the Pwani Presbytery told MBF’s Interim Executive Director Dr. Maria Zack when she visited Kenya recently. In an area with poor government health care, many road accidents from a dangerous highway and numerous injuries of factory workers, the hospital is needed. Also, Christian patients are sometimes denied service at the Muslim hospitals. Already, these determined Christians have raised enough money to buy the land for the hospital.

Pwani Presbytery sees its dream of a hospital as part of an overall plan for evangelism in an area that is 60% Muslim and where about two-thirds of the population of 3 million people live below the poverty level.

Some of the churches in the Presbytery hold community health clinics in rural areas. Pam Ator, MBF Development Director for the Southeast, visited one of those rural churches last December.

“While we were in worship,” she says, “outside in the church yard, the crowd was growing for the clinic.” Areas for vaccinations and HIV/AIDS testing were set up outside. Inside at the examining stations, Kenyan doctors and nurses worked feverishly to examine patients, make recommendations, and prescribe medicines. A sign-in table was just outside the church door. “As many times as I went in and out, it

was mid-afternoon before I saw the sign-in line diminish,” says Pam.

MBF recently designated funds to help the Kenyan medical professionals in the Pwani Presbytery continue their rural health clinics.



The line forms for one of Pwani Presbytery's clinics in Kenya.



Weighing in at a Pwani Presbytery's clinic in Kenya.

Hospitals in Malawi Grateful for Funds that came JUST IN TIME



One of our partner hospitals in Malawi must pay \$200 to fill an ambulance like this with diesel fuel.

“The money came in the right time when the Hospital is undergoing critical financial challenges,” writes the accountant for Ekwendeni Hospital in Malawi after receiving a welcome check from MBF. “It has helped us to have some essential drugs readily available to patients that we attend to.” The gift to Ekwendeni Hospital

was possible because of donors who did not forget about their brothers and sisters in developing countries.

To keep a hospital like Ekwendeni running means funding a number of things we may not consider. Medicines, of course, are at the top of the list, but so is fuel for generators and ambulances and staff salaries. Dr. Martha Sommers, Medical Officer at Ekwendeni Hospital sent the following estimates of some of the costs of keeping the hospital running:

- \$200 to fill the ambulance with diesel fuel
- \$50 one week of inpatient hospital care
- \$10 use of hospital bed for one day
- \$20 drugs to treat a person with severe Malaria
- \$300 to spray one hospital ward with DDT against mosquitoes

At Nkhoma Hospital in Malawi, Dr. Barbara Nagy reports her joy in receiving funds from MBF for bednets to protect vulnerable sleeping children from mosquitos carrying the deadly Malaria virus. She had just sent a critically ill child home without one because of lack of funds.

“I personally feel we are swimming up Niagara Falls every day, due to the huge numbers of extremely sick children,” Dr. Nagy writes, “but we all know we have a big push from behind due to all of you who are praying for and supporting us.”

UPDATE Hôpital Ste. Croix in Haiti



Interior of one of the hospital rooms after the earthquake.

The devastation of Haiti’s earthquake is still being felt at Hôpital Ste. Croix (HSC) in Léogâne, but spirits are rising as plans for the renovation or replacement of damaged buildings begin to take shape.

Renovation of the one-story building is progressing well, and should be completed by the end of this year. Under the capable hands of the Director, Dr. Gladys Memnon, the hospital serves 70 inpatients and 1,390 outpatients each month. Dr. Memnon says the presence of FSIL Nursing School students who perform clinical studies has been a great asset to the hospital.

MBF is working alongside our partner, the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti, whose health professionals have kept both the hospital and FSIL Nursing School operating since the earthquake. Even though much of the international aid focused on Port au Prince, the dedication of HSC and Nursing School staff and students and the gifts of concerned Christians have given the people of Léogâne continued health care. MBF is grateful for the ongoing support of donors for our partner in Haiti to continue this vital health ministry and rebuild the critically needed facilities.



The nurses’ station at HSC is once again buzzing with activity.

Did You Know?

	Malawi	United States
Population	14 million	310 million
Life Expectancy	44 years	79 years
Malaria	6,000,000 cases per year	1,200 cases per year
TB	48,000 cases per year	11,500 cases per year
HIV/AIDS	11.9% of population	.6% of population

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