



GLOBAL HEALTH

Newsletter of Global Health Ministries

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July - August 2005

Capital Campaign to Raise \$700,000

The drive to raise funds to expand GHM's warehouse and shipping operations kicked off May 15th at the organization's annual Volunteer Recognition Event, held at Saint Michael's Lutheran Church in Roseville.

In thanking the volunteers, Pastor Tim Iverson said that Global Health Ministries' growth in mission paralleled their faithfulness in preparing the shipments of medical supplies and equipment that have doubled in the last three years. "The warehouse expansion will enable us to catch up with increased requests for shipments," Iverson said, "but also in providing safer and more comfortable work space, to express our gratitude to you, the volunteers, who have made our mission possible."

A capital campaign will now seek \$700,000 to purchase and renovate

warehouse space next door to GHM's current location. "We were very lucky the building became available just when we needed it," Iverson said, "since it will save GHM a lot in relocation costs and agent fees, and enable us to continue our operations without interruption."

The three-year drive will include nearly 70 presentations at churches in nine states around the country to celebrate the story of GHM's growing mission and invite gifts and pledges to help finance the expansion. Friends of GHM should look for invitations to events in their region on the following schedule: September 2005- North and South Dakota; October 2005-Wisconsin and Iowa; November-December 2005-Iowa and Twin Cities; January 2006-Arizona and California; February 2006-Washington, Colorado; March-July 2006-Minnesota.

Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing celebrate

April 30, 2005 was a grand day at Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing. The graduating class of Phebe Nursing School students held their first commencement ceremony since returning from exile last year. It was a most joyous occasion and a reflection of resiliency, commitment and perseverance of the God-given human spirit.

The 16 graduating students remained with Phebe during their exile in 2003 and returned to Phebe's home site in June 2004. According to David Jones, Hospital Administrator, "They never stopped their studies or rendering aid to the people of Liberia. They continued in the face of overwhelming destruction and chaos. April 30th was their day to celebrate God's accompaniment."

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Fall conference emphasizes "Expanding Our Borders: Growing in Mission"

Our annual conference on global health will be held on Saturday, October 22 at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church in St. Paul.

The theme of the conference will be "Expanding our Borders: Growing in Mission."

The program will include breakout sessions on topics such as:

- GHM volunteer opportunities
- Follow-up conversations with keynote speakers
- Short term volunteer mission
- Health care leadership/management in the developing world
- Current success and challenges in combating HIV/AIDS

Come and consider how Christ's commission applies to us. Learn about specific health projects sponsored through GHM; and learn how you can become involved.

An orientation session for first-timers will begin at 8:30 a.m.



Chair of the Capital Campaign Bea Haagenson, Director Rev. Tim Iverson, and Board President Carol Berg sign the purchase agreement for the new warehouse space.



On October 22, 2005, GHM Conference on Health Care keynote speakers Hanitrinirina Liliame Ramanantsoa (left) and Dr. Radnrianantenaina Elson will address "Sharing the Good News through Health Outreach" and speak about their experiences in Madagascar.



Direct Lines

from the
Director

“Expanding Our Borders: Growing in Mission”

We’ll be speaking a lot on this theme in the coming year of Capital Fund Drive activity, and we’ll use it as the focus of our October 22nd Fall conference at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church in Saint Paul. It’s going to be a year filled with opportunities to visit all parts of the country and tell the story of GHM.

We want to share with you the excitement we feel about God’s call to grow in our mission. We want to invite as many people as possible to catch the vision that inspires us, and to join us in more perfectly fulfilling the potential God sees in Global Health Ministries: to bring hope and healing in Jesus’ name to His children in need.

Personally, I have had no doubts since practically my first day on the job that there was great potential for us to grow. I happened to be in East Africa visiting some of our partners. The need for supplies and equipment, staff training and facility renovation of the Lutheran mission hospitals I visited was as undeniable as the faith and commitment of the leadership to persist in serving was an inspiration.

And then there were our brothers and sisters, crowds daily pressing in upon the hospital grounds—as they once did long ago with hands outstretched to Jesus—trusting and relying upon the Church’s health ministry to restore them to life and health. Millions afflicted with AIDS, a multitude dying each year from malaria, countless more suffering and dying because of unclean water. Does anyone believe that we could possibly have had any other choice than to do our best to respond to all this as if God Himself were calling to us from the expectant crowds?

At that time three years ago, less than half of the hospitals I visited in Tanzania had ever asked for support from Global Health Ministries. Today, we are shipping and providing grants to nine new hospitals in that country alone. Considering that not so long ago we were shipping eight times per year, you can see how quickly we have become acquainted with our potential for growth.



Bea Haagenson, who will serve as Chairperson of Global Health Ministries’ Capital Funds Campaign, reviews blueprints for the warehouse expansion project.

It seems as if the more we have grown, the more the strains and challenges of keeping up have become apparent, and the more the call of God has made itself known. In our efforts to grow in service we have become, it seems to me, like the servants in Jesus’ parable of the talents. We have been faithful stewards of the gifts entrusted to us, and now God has an even bigger job for us to do to enhance the health care programs of Lutheran Churches in the developing world.

We are mindful that those in the same parable who failed as stewards of their gifts had them taken away and given to others more faithful. But let it be known that we are not about to let that happen; not after eighteen years in this ministry, with more than 250 volunteers working faithfully at our warehouse, nearly 18,000 supporters across the nation who share a passion for global health mission and who show it through financial and in-kind donations totaling almost \$2 million last year, with an extensive network of working relationships with Lutheran Church leaders and medical professionals in 27 countries and throughout the United States!

We are humbled by the challenge and honored by the call, and we enthusiastically say “YES!” Lord, here we are! As we enter this campaign, I want to express a celebratory word of gratitude to Bea Haagenson, who will chair the drive for all of us. No one better than Bea personifies the Godly spirit of passion for mission and the dedicated stewardship of gifts for the sake of God’s people that is the hallmark of the community of Christians known as Global Health Ministries. Here we come! May God bless our efforts to be faithful to the calling to which we have been called!

Rev. Tim Iverson

Phebe Hospital urgently requests pharmacist

According to Dr. Emmanuel M. Sandoe, Medical Director, the most urgent human resource need at Phebe is a pharmacist who will help them to order their drugs judiciously and put a proper control system in their drug warehouse and pharmacy. Short or long term service welcomed.

Phebe Nursing School looks to future

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The School of Nursing was wrecked in 2003 during the same occupation as the hospital. Perseverance and resiliency have resulted in the rebuilding of the school. The school anticipates that 80 students will be admitted during this first full year of operation.

According to Jones, “The next step in the process of rehabilitation is the acquisition of teaching and educational materials and supplies.” The school will be looking to obtain models of human anatomy, wall charts, textbooks as well as stationary supplies.

GHM has supported the Phebe Hospital recovery in many ways this past year. Recently, a request was received to replace the washer, dryer, hot water heater and floor scrubber that had been destroyed; items GHM had originally provided in 2000. With only a 3-4 week window of time to include these items in a shipment organized by First Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa along with other supporters from the Southeastern Iowa Synod, GHM was able to purchase these items because there was just the right amount of money remaining in the Phebe Recovery Account. It is very exciting when opportunities and resources are paired in such a powerful way.

Haagenson to chair capital campaign

Bea Haagenson, GHM Board secretary and a passionate supporter of Global Health Ministries since 1999, will assume leadership of the organization's Capital Funds Campaign. Bea was a missionary nurse anesthetist of the Sudan United Mission, Danish Branch, and served in Nigeria from 1963-75. She later received her master's degree in Adult Education and PhD before a 17 year career serving the State of Minnesota as Clinical Nurse Specialist and Training Coordinator.

"The warehouse is bursting at the seams and buzzing with excitement," she said. "The expansion will give us much-needed space for receiving and processing more donated supplies and staging for more shipments; a God-given opportunity to improve our service to our overseas partners." Haagenson said that the volunteers she works with as Tuesday and Wednesday team leader have been praying for this, and can't

wait to start remodeling so they can actually stage more than one shipment at a time.

"What we need now are volunteers to help in the remodeling" (crews from churches are encouraged to contact GHM) Haagenson said, "and to continue the on-going work of sorting and packing supplies. Especially," she said, "we'll need funds over the next three years to pay for the expansion."

A regular speaker for GHM at mission assemblies and congregations around the region, Bea looks forward to the many informational and inspirational meetings of the campaign ahead, and invites churches that would like to host a meeting to call GHM soon. "We thank God for eighteen years of growing in mission," she said, "and we look forward to continued growth with thanks to all who share in our calling to "Help the Hands that Heal.""

Former medical director of Haydom Lutheran Hospital dies

Dr. Ole Halgrim Evjen Olsen passed away on May 29, 2005 at the age of 77. According to the death announcement from the Mbulu Diocese of the ELCT, Dr. Olsen had been suffering from cancer for about a year.

Born in China in 1928 to missionary parents, Dr. Olsen served several hospitals in Norway before coming to Tanzania in 1961. During his time in Tanzania, besides his medical service, he served the community around Haydom in many

ways including tending to social services such as water supply, transportation, construction of schools, educational sponsorship, and communication and food relief during famine.

Dr. Olsen, among other honors, was awarded the medal of "The Commander of St. Olav's Order" by the Royal King of Norway in 1997. Dr. Olsen is survived by his wife Kari, six children and ten grandchildren. He will be buried in his hometown in Norway.

Norquist video gathering trip a success

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Southwest, Ambohibao Hospital in Central Madagascar, and Andranomadio Hospital in Antsirabe, and SALFA, the headquarters of all Lutheran medical work, as well as two Tobys where the mentally ill receive treatment and care.

We were frequently introduced at the various hospitals' morning devotions so staff would know why we were roaming around with cameras requesting help to get the pictures we needed. People were extremely cooperative, arranging classes that weren't scheduled, showing how they teach people about HIV-AIDS, TB or malaria control. On one trip in Madagascar, arrangements were made for the Malagasy director of Lutheran Village Development to accompany us, taking us to a water hole, an example of dirty water, then to a good, clean well now provided for the people in another village.

In Tanzania we visited some Maasai homes with Sister Paulina, an African

Hospice Nurse from Selian Hospital, and watched her giving medical care to dying patients, and singing and praying with the patient and giving instructions to the family caregivers. Filming her, gently and tenderly ministering, brought tears to our eyes; she is a true angel of God.

A real highlight for us was time spent with Dr. Steve Friberg and the Maasai people with whom he works. We drove out about 3 hours from Arusha, TZ, into the bush, where they live. One of our most-treasured video illustrating the reality of unsafe water was taken there as we watched a young boy drink from a pool where animals drank and bathed.

We also visited Ilula Medical Center near Iringa, in Southern TZ, making a valiant effort to upgrade to "hospital" status for that area.

Our memories go on and on and we hope we can share more and some of our pictures and video with you. *Bwana asifiwe!* (The Lord be praised!)

The B-line

The B-line asked Scott, the GHM Operations Manager: "What are some urgently needed medical supplies?"

Many clinics have a short supply and an urgent need for surgical and other instruments. Here are some requests from Madagascar and Tanzania:

Dental Instruments for Madagascar:

Operative: Explorer, excavator, burnisher, amalgam carrier, cotton plier, mouth mirror.

Surgical: Elevator, upper and lower, forceps.

Eye Instruments for Tanzania:

Eye specula, Forceps, Scissors, Needle holders, Knife handles, Cannulas, Muscle hooks, Retractors, Spatulas and Iris hooks, Calipers, Orbital instruments, Electromagnet, Refraction set.

The GHM warehouse also has a shortage of especially the following

HOT LIST supplies:

Exam gloves, surgical gloves, sutures, dressings (sterile and unsterile), new bath towels.

Donations of instruments and supplies are always appreciated - and you will be

Helping the Hands that Heal in some very important ways.

And here are some questions from the mail box:

1. *What size bed sheets are wanted?*

Any size sheet can be used. Sheets in good condition are shipped "as is".

Others may be made into bandages and clean cloth dressings.

2. *Is it necessary to wash the knitted and crocheted bandages?*

Washing is recommended especially because tropical ulcers tend to ooze and cotton yarn is more absorbent when it has been washed.

3. *Should the items for the Midwife Kits be washed before packaged?*

Everything should be clean, and it is recommended that the new items be washed - just like we would before using them for our own baby or grandchild.

Hint: Some department stores are currently selling nice bath towels for \$1.50 each.

Submit questions for the **B-line** to GHM, attention Bea Haagenson.



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What is Global Health Ministries? GHM provides a gift of life -- physical and spiritual -- through Lutheran health care work across the world by providing project financial support, locating and shipping urgently needed medical supplies, recruiting health care personnel, and funding the training of national health care givers.

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GLOBAL HEALTH MINISTRIES

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Three country tour yields video images for educating, sharing mission of GHM



Dr. Joe Norquist captured this image of young boys drinking water from an unsafe supply in Tanzania. GHM safe water projects help prevent this leading cause of illness and mortality.

Recently, Dr. Joe Norquist and his wife Marilyn, former medical missionaries in Tanzania, traveled to Cameroon, Tanzania, and Madagascar to gather video footage of Global Health Ministries in action. This footage will be used to update current ministry videos and create new videos to better communicate the needs and the impact of GHM around the world. Here are their reflections:

What an exciting opportunity it has been for us to travel for 5 1/2 weeks in Cameroon, Tanzania, and Madagascar to shoot video footage for GHM.

We were looking to shoot video and pictures mostly showing the equipment, supplies, and projects that GHM has provided: Malaria and Tuberculosis prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention, safe, clean water programs, and other projects supported by GHM, and to learn of specific needs. We think we succeeded.

In Cameroon we spent time in Ngaoundere, Garoua Boulai, and Ngaoubela hospitals and several rural dispensaries. In Tanzania, we visited Selian Hospital in Arusha and its satellite clinics and projects, KCMC, Moshi, and Ilula Health Clinic. In Madagascar, Manambaro and Tolagnaro, in the

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