



AFRICAN HEALTH & HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

We Move Miracles. Lend A Hand.

Message from the Founders

There has been much good work done since our last Newsletter, and we have seen the wonderful conclusion of our Project in Longido, Tanzania (see article), have embarked upon a midwife kit support effort for Dr. Edna in Somaliland (also see article), and continue our efforts in supporting East African health at Arusha Lutheran Medical Center. We have also begun to focus energy on providing support for Biomedical Engineering and potential training to allow for self-sufficiency in the countries we are serving (Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda and now Somaliland), working with our partners at TriMedx Foundation.

While we did not have a major fundraising event, our simple annual giving appeals have allowed us to remain a very viable non-profit, and to be very efficient with our projects and efforts.

We have had several members of our Board of Directors recently complete their terms of service and roll-off, remaining steadfast friends of AHHF. We offer our deepest and most sincere thanks to these dedicated individuals for their leadership: Barry and Mary Colacurci (who have moved now to Boerne, Texas), Jan Devine and Barry Horn, Jim Morrison, Jack Davis and Kathleen Davis.

We have elected two new members to the board, Victoria McMonagle (of Ascension Health) and Sean Mechenich (of MedExcel/TriMedx Foundation) who join Barbara Bryant, Larry McWhirter, Craig Rose, John Butler, Bazi Kanani and yours truly Jeff and Jill Rose. Special thanks to Craig Rose who has revamped our website which will be unveiled just after the first of the year.

We congratulate Bazi on her appointment as the ABC Correspondent for Africa, and on her marriage and the birth of her wonderful baby girl Anania Cynthia Kanani Erickson (born September 28th, 2013).

As we continue to supply materials from incubators to midwife kits to our friends in East Africa, we thank you, dear readers, followers and contributors. We extend deepest thanks to our alliance partners, particularly Global Health Ministries and BJC Healthcare, and we welcome Russell Trudeau of DeRoyal Medical and Phil Jacobus, President of Dot.med who are being hugely supportive; special thanks to Gerry Berviller and her friends who hand knitted infant clothing for several of our projects.

Helping



New Year AHHF Update

2014

THE LONGIDO PROJECT: FAST FORWARD

The Longido Project was an ambitious project of AHHF and former board members Mary and Barry Colacurci, beginning in 2010. You may recall an article about this in our Fall 2011 Newsletter and can re-read it at our AHHF.org website if you wish to refresh your memory. And now, fast forward to April 2012:

The 40" container full of AHHF-donated medical supplies and equipment reached its final destination, the Longido Tanzania District Hospital, in mid-February 2012 after a nearly 4 month journey from the US. The container was not as neatly packed upon arrival as it had been when leaving our partner, Global Health Ministries, in Fridley, MN, but upon close inspection of the manifest, it all appeared to be there. The Customs Officials in Tanzania obviously inspected everything thoroughly!



In April 2012, the Colacurcis arrived in Longido to witness the unloading of the container, to help set up one of the patient rooms with new equipment, and most importantly, to help establish a Board of Trustees to govern and regulate the ongoing access to and removal of goods for distribution. As you might imagine, theft for personal gain is a great temptation to these people living in abject poverty. The Board consists of 10 community members, including representatives from the hospital, the government and the community at large and all are English-speaking because the manifest of goods is in English as well as instructions about using the equipment.





An elderly woman who can't walk without crutches walked from the village center to the hospital on the outskirts. What awaited her there has surely improved her life! It took approximately \$25k to ship this container, chockfull of clean, usable, and in many cases NEW, medical equipment and supplies from the US to East Africa. That's all. \$25k. Doesn't seem like much, does it?

The value of the goods inside the container was valued at nearly \$100,000, but the REAL value, the value to the people it helps, is not quantifiable. Mary Colacurci was back in Longido in August of this year and was able to snap a couple more pictures of the AHHF "Mission-in-Action", so to speak. It's a mission that works. And it's a mission that's personal...personal to AHHF donors, volunteers and partners and most importantly, personal to every person who utilizes the hospital in Longido Tanzania now and in the future.



MIDWIFE KITS FOR DR EDNA MEDICAL UNIVERSITY IN SOMALILAND

AHHF is reaching out to a new hospital in a new region of East Africa this year. We are currently in the process of shipping 1000 midwife kits to the Edna Adan University Hospital in Somaliland. Dr. Edna Adan has been named among the 100 most influential Africans of 2013 by New African magazine which describes Edna as "at the forefront of the fight for women's maternal health in Somaliland."



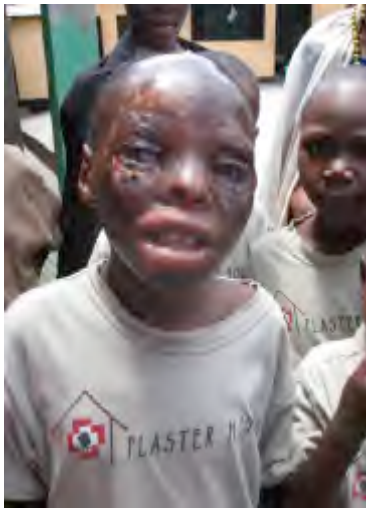
Our dear friend and former AHHF Board Member, Kathleen Davis, became aware of Edna's hospital through Nicolas Kristof's book and documentary, "[Half the Sky; Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide.](#)" After sharing Edna's story and her efforts with AHHF and our friend Scott Lien at Global Health Ministries, his organization generously agreed with AHHF to make and donate the kits. AHHF will pay for shipping and support in the making and packing of the kits.

Edna lost most of her family photos in the coup that overthrew her husband (the then democratic Prime Minister); but just this week she recovered a photo of her father (above), "I am happy to have found a picture of my late father who remains to be my role-model to this day and was also the person who inspired me to build this hospital which I hope is the kind of hospital he would have liked to work in. "I love the way his picture has been superimposed on the hospital and hope that I will accomplish a fraction of what he did during his service to our people when he was known as 'The father of healthcare in British Somaliland Protectorate'.

The goal of the Edna Adan University Hospital is to train fully qualified reproductive healthcare professionals as well as train and dispatch 1000 midwives throughout the country of Somaliland. The hospital is focused on maternal and infant care, has diagnostic laboratory facilities and an emergency blood bank, and provides diagnosis and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases including testing for HIV/AIDS. An additional mission of the hospital and midwife program is to raise awareness of the dangers of female genital mutilation and ideally bring the prevalent custom to an end. Somaliland's health care system was utterly destroyed by a civil war leaving the country with, among other problems, the highest rate of maternal and infant mortality in the world. Edna and her staff are daily changing this dire statistic. The midwife kits are an ideal way to help equip Edna and her midwives to continue their transformative work of saving lives and safely delivering babies throughout the rural areas of Somaliland. Now expanded, the university opened our doors to more than 250 aspiring students who hope to become nurses, midwives, pharmacologists and public health specialists. The first year has been tough and challenging, but President Roda Ali Ahmed, the first and only woman who heads a university in our part of the world, and her dedicated team has created a university where young students receive quality education in a disciplined yet nurturing environment.

In December of 2013 a new class of 41 remarkable young Community Midwives graduated in December and will be assigned by the Ministry of Health to be deployed to all corners of Somaliland where, in some cases, they will be the only skilled health workers for miles around. 2013 also saw the graduation of 46 young women and 11 young men from our three-year general nursing training course.





Patients from the Arusha Plaster House associated with ALMC for treatment of burns, orthopedic conditions and abuse, and from north Rwanda are seen above along with Jeff, Jill and an attending physician; and an incubator like the one Donated by BJC we just sent to Africa with a shipment from Global Health Ministries along with a very happy Rwandan child (below).



OTHER IMAGES FROM OUR PRODUCTIVE HISTORY

In 2012/2013 we had cash and In-Kind contributions of nearly \$69,000 (mostly equipment)!

Over 97% of cash donations went to accomplishing the mission--we incurred less than 3% of expenditures for overhead and have no staff salaries.

We are profoundly grateful to all of our donors, volunteers, partners and Board Members for pitching in to make this wonderful work a reality.

Our IRS 990 tax forms have been submitted, and demonstrate the same distribution of funds to projects, so rest assured that for every dollar you provide for these life-giving projects, 97 cents go directly to the mission of providing medical equipment and services to those in need in East Africa.



Dr. Mark Jacobson, Director of Arusha Lutheran Medical Center, Tanzania



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NOW!
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Jeff and Jill Rose, Larry McWhirter and Richard Brown accept award on behalf AHHF from Washington University Dean for Global Health Services Distinction, 2012

