



RESTORE THE
JOY
OF MY
SALVATION



**MEDICAL
MISSIONARY
NEWS**

2024
Issue 3

Making Jesus Christ known through healthcare



...look after orphans and widows in their distress...

Christians are a diverse group, made up of many different backgrounds, nationalities and languages, who gather together to praise God. The church is possibly unique in comprising and celebrating the huge diversity of the human race. However, the one characteristic that is true of all Christians is that we are redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

If we are redeemed, how should we behave? What should be our priorities and our desires? This was a challenge that faced the people of God who were redeemed from slavery in Egypt.

In short we should strive to be like God, our Saviour and our Father, as we worship Him. In Deuteronomy 10 we read what God is like:

“For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt. Fear the LORD your God and serve Him. Hold fast to Him and take your oaths in His name. He is your praise; He is your

God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.” (vv 17-21)

We see here that a core part of God’s character is that He defends the cause of the orphan and the widow, and He loves the foreigner who lives among us. Throughout Old Testament times, He required His people to care for the orphan and widow in particular (eg Isaiah 1:17 & 23). As Christians, we worship the same God, who still loves the orphan, the widow and the foreigner, and still expects His people to do so too. In James 1:27 we learn that “Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.”

Why does God love these in particular? Possibly because they are often marginalised and unable to defend themselves, even today. They often get a raw deal. And they can’t pay back your kindness.

It’s good for us that God loves those who cannot pay back, because we are such people. As Christians we are recipients of God’s grace. We

should therefore go out of our way to show grace to others.

In the UK we are blessed with some social welfare support, so that some of our taxes may help the orphan, the widow and the foreigner among us. But as Christians we should do more: we have received so much in Christ. In this edition of Medical Missionary News, we read of a number of projects around the world that are alleviating hardship for orphans and widows, and which MMN has been able to support through your generous giving.

Please pray for them, for the orphans and widows who are being helped, and for the Christians running these projects, that they glorify our God in all they do.

*Contributed by Jason Freeman
MMN Trustee*



Prayer Events

What a privilege it is to be able to pray together and bring our needs before the Lord! Every three months, MMN run prayer events online to highlight the needs of our partners and pray for a specific area of ministry. So far this year we have been able to pray for projects offering support in Nepal, Eastern Europe, to vulnerable groups and our focus for the next prayer event



on 25th November will look at projects offering palliative care support. To join us at the next event, log in to Zoom via:

Meeting ID: 897 252 5712
Passcode: 881078



Stamps

One way that MMN is able to raise further financial support for our



partners is through the selling of used stamps. These can be cut from envelopes with a 5mm border, and we are able to accept the new barcode stamps as well (no damaged or printed stamps please). We are also able to accept postcards and coins. For further details of what we are able to sell on, please visit mmn.uk.com/stamps

RESTORING HOPE AND JOY

Contributed by
Ruth Hodge, Christian Faith Ministries (Nigeria)



Men brutally murdered in attacks, leave many thousands of widows and orphans in the grinding poverty that terrorism perpetuates in Nigeria's north and middle-belt.

In terror-ravaged communities, the displaced widows and orphans seek refuge with relatives, but families (survivors of the same attacks) frequently lack means to help, and Government/NGO aid is sparse. Widows and orphans often struggle to eat, and their children no longer attend school.

CFM began helping in 2010, after brutal retaliatory violence shattered our local community along religious fractures. We provided food for these widows in mourning, paid hospital bills, rent and covered their children's school fees, helping to rebuild lives. Help is given to both Muslims and Christians: both have lost husbands and fathers. Barrier-bridging kindness helps restore fragile peace, and opens ears to the message of saving love and grace.

Widow-and-orphan help ramped up significantly in 2011 when Islamist Boko Haram insurgents hit our city, Jos. For over three

years busy markets, schools and churches were bombed, attacked with rocket-launched grenades or machine guns. Tens of thousands died, many men in retaliatory conflict, leaving widows and orphans. Inciting religious vengeance was Boko Haram's strategy to initiate civil war, but Christians and Muslims finally united to help each other. Resistance to religious/ethnic retaliation eventually enabled the military to expel the insurgents from Jos. Terrorists abandoned our city, concentrating terror on north-eastern states.

Among countless communities repeatedly attacked was Shaffa, Borno State, the home-town of CFM team-member Grace, who took aid from CFM to Shaffa



Grace with blind widow

widows. The widows, thanking us, begged us to take and educate their children. Husbands, homes, farms, businesses, churches, clinics and schools having been destroyed, the widows' worst fears were for their children. Teens kidnapped by Boko Haram were drugged, brain-washed, forced into Islam; the boys weaponised as fighters, the girls taken as brides. Their mothers desperately needed hope for their future.

Already 42 orphaned terrorism survivors were in residential education at CFM when, in March 2016, 80 more arrived from the Shaffa area.

KANADI

Their stories include Kanadi, who was 12, when terrorists murdered his Christian father. His Muslim uncle sent him to a Boko Haram madrassah in Maiduguri. Three years later, just before his initiation into Boko Haram, a Muslim friend of his mother pushed Kanadi into a taxi and paid for his 4-hour journey, to "say goodbye to his mother before he died". Kanadi's mother took him to her pastor who immediately brought Kanadi on a two-day journey to CFM.



Kanadi

Kanadi arrived an angry, confused jihadist Muslim boy, but over the next two months, his aggression gradually abated as God touched his heart. He committed his life to Christ, and a complete transformation began. Kanadi finished high school with great results and is now studying at university, serving Jesus with passion, powerfully proclaiming the gospel.

MIRACLE

Near Shaffa, a nine-year-old girl, Miracle Usman was found wandering in the bush by the military, severely dehydrated, feverish, disorientated and incoherent. The

soldiers took her to an Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp, and eventually Miracle was brought with the others to CFM. Deeply traumatised, often confused, incontinent at night; these children did not play. They would avoid open spaces, staying near hiding places for many months.

Miracle had never been to school and spoke only Bura; her mother-tongue. She would recite her parents' and six siblings' names, asking when they were coming to collect her. Healing for Miracle was slow until, after seven months, a woman arrived at our gate, asking of a girl called Miracle Usman. Hearing the woman's story, staff cautiously fetched Miracle, who came hesitantly towards the gate and stood stock still. Then, as recognition dawned, Miracle screamed and ran into her mother's open arms.

Miracle's mother and her seven children had been walking with neighbours to church, Sunday morning, the children running ahead, when an explosion detonated. Machine gunfire hit those nearest the church: the Usman children were in front. Panic and terror ensued. Neighbours dragged



Miracle’s mother to safety. Much later, survivors buried six Usman children among the dozens of dead. It was months afterwards that Miracle’s mother, mourning at an IDP camp in Yola, heard rumours and borrowed money to find Miracle.

CFM currently has 428 “miracle” children in two Children’s Crisis Care Homes, gaining quality residential care, Christian mentoring, and a good education. This gives hope to their widowed mothers and extended families; aunts, uncles, kind neighbours or pastors responsible for these children, while trying to rebuild lives and livelihoods.

Genuine faith (James 1:27) requires us to care for widows and the fatherless. This loving care creates foundations for effective gospel living and sharing in extraordinarily difficult circumstances.

We help thousands of widows and their children currently, most from our Fulani-terror-ravaged local communities. Like Boko Haram horrors, the ongoing Fulani terrorism crisis is fuelled and funded by foreign interests.

In crises we give emergency food,

aid, often pay rent, regularly pay school fees, and every day provide free medical care for widows and their children at CFM’s Hospital. At Christmas we give additional food and financial help to almost 1,000 widows.

For the longer-term, CFM’s Healing Justice team helps local widows initiate sustainable small businesses, training in vocational skills, with basic business skills using Asset Based Community Development strategies to develop businesses that will work with their community, environment and skill set. Sometimes we provide initial capital, sometimes guaranteeing microfinance loans, always coming alongside our widows to support them through the early days. We have paid about £5

total in failed loan repayments for small-business set-ups for hundreds of widows.

One widow, after ten years of struggle, now successfully sells cooking kerosene to her neighbourhood, sustaining herself and four children independently. CFM’s vocational training welders made and installed a safe kerosene storage-tank, which CFM initially filled. There are many success stories like this, coming alongside to help rebuild hope-filled lives.

Jesus’ good news of hope, made practical in serving widows and orphans, is the only hope for our troubled world, and we, His ambassadors, have the privilege of sharing this hope, practically and vocally.



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YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Contributed by
Matthew Hillier (Director of CMIAid)



C MIAID has been working in southern Moldova since 2009. Our purpose is to share the Gospel and to practically demonstrate the love of Christ within the community. Moldova is a very poor country (considered to be one of the poorest in Europe), with many vulnerable people living in isolation. Such a situation has given ample opportunity to demonstrate the love of Christ to many in desperate need.

When we first came to Moldova in 2009, one of the first ministries we established was the Bethesda

Soup Kitchen. We began cooking hot meals each day for some of the needy in the village where we were living and delivering them to their homes each day. Then, as the ministry expanded, we started travelling further afield to people living in similar conditions in neighbouring villages. Currently, about 50 hot meals are provided each day to elderly or sick people in six villages surrounding the CMIAID Base in Zirnesti.

A GREAT NEED

The situation for many elderly in Moldova is very difficult. Pensions are very low, and costs have

increased exponentially, especially in recent years with COVID, drought and the war in Ukraine. The price of gas is an example of this. Over the last few years, the price has increased by 500%. Although many elderly people do not use gas and heat their home with firewood, those who sell firewood have taken advantage of this situation and increased the cost of firewood accordingly. In addition to this, many elderly people we help do not have proper documents, such as an identity card or even their birth certificate, making it hard for them to access basic services such as medical care and social welfare. Although we try to help them get the necessary paperwork sorted, it is often difficult as documents have been lost over the years. Some do not even know their birth date! But, perhaps sadder than all this, is the fact that many have not seen their families for many years. Due to the difficulty of finding work in Moldova, many Moldovans travel abroad to find employment, often leaving behind children and parents. Some of the elderly who have been receiving help through the Bethesda Soup Kitchen have not seen or heard from their children for many years and live in complete isolation.



PURPOSES

Although the Bethesda Soup Kitchen is primarily to provide meals to vulnerable people in the community, it also serves several other purposes. Often a medic will accompany the Soup Kitchen workers and administer medical care. Many whom we visit have chronic medical conditions such as diabetes. They need medication administered, sugar and blood pressures levels checked, and wounds dressed. Many cannot afford to buy medication, so help is given through the CMIAID Moldova Medical Fund, to get the medication that they need. The medical help given is a very important aspect of the ministry. However, what we notice is that, even more important than the food and the medical help, for many of the

people, is the company! They love to have someone visit each day whom they can talk to. This provides many great opportunities to share the Gospel with these needy people and many now request the workers to read a chapter from the Bible each day when they visit. We pray that God will use this to touch their hearts with the Good News of the Gospel and that many will not only get practical help in this life through the ministry, but find eternal salvation in Christ.

Over the years since the work commenced there have been some sad stories that illustrate the true vulnerability of many in the community. One elderly gentleman

from Zirnesti was added to the meal delivery programme. When we went to assess his situation, we were horrified by what we saw. He was living in a single-room, dilapidated, mud-brick house with plastic covering the windows. He had no electricity or running water in the home. When we went inside it was almost totally dark and the walls were covered in black soot. In a desperate attempt to keep warm he had lit a fire in a bucket in the room and the room filled with smoke, staining the walls before it went out the door. Over time the constant inhalation of smoke had affected his mind. He has now passed away, but vividly illustrates the extreme poverty and

This provides many great opportunities to share the Gospel with these needy people

and many now request the workers to read a chapter from the Bible each day when they visit.



circumstances of some. Sadly, this man used to be a highly regarded electrician in the village. His family had left to go abroad, his wife had died and, as a result, he fell into depression and such terrible circumstances.

V I O R I C A

Not all stories are so sad! Viorica is an orphan who also received help through the Bethesda Soup Kitchen. She came from a nearby village called Andrusul. Viorica was born handicapped and has very deformed and small legs. When we first met Viorica she was being 'cared' for by her mother. Her mother was an alcoholic and by her own admission only 'cared' for her so she could get money for alcohol. We were shocked by what we saw. The conditions she lived in were terrible and she received very little food from her mother. One day the team came to change the sheets on her bed. They were shocked when they lifted her off the bed and saw the bed was rotten through and full of worms. Her mother had never taken her to the bathroom. We suggested to her mother that we would take Viorica into full-time care, but she refused as she would lose her support. Her mother passed away about six



Viorica

months later and we were able to move Viorica, now an orphan, to the CMAID Base where she still lives today. It is so wonderful to see the change in her life and to hear her every Sunday (and throughout the week) singing praises to God! She loves to sing and knows many hymns off by heart.

Please continue to pray for the work in Moldova! Pray especially for the Bethesda Soup Kitchen work as it daily ministers to needs of the vulnerable, elderly and sick people in isolated villages. Pray that God will use this practical demonstration of His love to reach hearts with the good news of the Gospel and that many will find salvation in Christ.



Crisis Care Child (Christian Faith Ministries)

PAUSE *to pray*

It can be quite hard to imagine the trauma and strain these vulnerable groups face - not only to live in such poverty stricken areas, but to face such trauma and loss. The burden that the disabled, orphans and widows have to carry is hard for us to fathom, but praise God for these incredible projects across the world working to show them how loved they are by Jesus and that He can still bring hope to their circumstances. Trying to meet the ever-growing demands of these vulnerable groups while facing inflation and pressures of war is a great challenge, so please be praying for God's provision as our partners try to support these groups in such desperate need.

Father, you have reminded us in the Scriptures to care for orphans and widows (Jam. 1:27), so may we bring these people in need before you now - those that we hear of in these articles, you love them all and know them by name. May they feel your comforting arms of love around them, and know that one day You will wipe every tear from their eyes. Please provide for them through Your workers, and may they learn to lean on You, their Heavenly Father.



LOVE FOR THE NEEDY IN MALAWI

*Contributed by
Janet Stafford & Lapson Mbewe
(Redemption Village Bible
Teaching Ministries, Malawi)*



There is no welfare system or pension scheme in Malawi to help them, so their final years are the most challenging of all.

Malawi is a country of great need, where poverty strikes all groups. Most people are aware of Africa's struggles with the HIV epidemic and with malaria. However, one group that is easily overlooked, and often receives little attention or help is Malawi's widows. Having survived many hardships and struggles in life, one would hope that as they approach their

final years they would receive suitable respect and care. However, as in many other African countries, there is no welfare system or pension scheme in Malawi to help them, so their final years are the most challenging of all.

In addition to having to struggle to survive themselves, many widows are forced to take care of grandchildren, since their own children have died from HIV. You can therefore imagine that when an old person has hardly any surviving relatives, the outlook for their final years is bleak.

One focus of Redemption Village Bible Teaching Ministries is to support widows. We minister to 68 widows from the villages around Konzere, where Lapson Mbewe lives. They come to the village for prayer every Wednesday afternoon to hear the gospel and be encouraged in their Christian walk. We also provide them with food every month, which they take and cook in their own homes. We also try to help them with clothing, and occasionally build them a small house if money is available.

Mwaphaine was one of the widows who was living alone after all her

eight children died 15 years ago; this was before she came to know the Lord Jesus as her Saviour. She was believed to be a witch and people in the village were saying that she killed her children herself through witchcraft. After joining the other widows, she turned to the Lord and repented. In her 97th year she passed away in January 2024 with the assurance that she was going to be with the Lord.

Julieta, an 83-year-old grandmother shared the Word of God with another old lady who, as a result, repented and was saved. From the little food she was receiving from our ministry, Julieta was sharing with her neighbour who is in her 90s. This is an example of love in action. This lady cannot walk to the meetings and so was not on our list of widows.

Julieta shared with another woman what she was getting. Her love shown to this woman made her friend call us to her house where we started sharing the Word of God and this lady accepted Jesus as her personal Lord and Saviour. A group of her fellow widows visits her each week as she cannot walk to the meetings. Love in action preaches better than words.



Charles

After spending time with him and reading the Bible with him Charles has come to love God's Word...

ORPHANS

We are looking after more than 120 orphans who are in primary schools, secondary schools and universities in Malawi. As a ministry we are responsible for school fees, clothes, food and everything

else needed. Apart from school fees they also need pocket money, and laptops are needed for those in university. Please do join us in prayer for these needs.

Two current orphans in our care are Charles Etieta and Matanda Musa. Charles, a young lad aged 13 years, is in Standard 8 at Hope Christian School after being rescued from death five years ago. He was brought to us by one of the chiefs of the villages after he had poisoned himself, due to lack of parental care. He lost both parents and was left with an elderly grandmother who was struggling to make ends meet.

This boy is trying so hard in class. After a year of staying with us, his academic performance has improved so that he now scores good marks each school term.

Charles has sat for primary school Leaving Certificate examinations this year, and we believe he will be selected for secondary school.

After spending time with him and reading the Bible with him Charles has come to love God's Word and has learnt several memory verses. Please pray for him.

A NEW HOME

Contributed by Annie Sheba,
Director and Founder of REHOCH

Matanda is aged 18 and she suffers from poor mental health due to lack of parental care. She is a single orphaned girl who suffered a lot from her stepmother. Due to the ill-treatment she was receiving, she left her home and started going into bars to look for men.

One of our Pastors saw this beautiful young girl struggling and brought her to us. Thanks to God that this girl is gifted in singing and has learnt many gospel songs. She does well in class and is in Form 3. Despite her erratic behaviour, after praying with her we believe she will fully recover from the traumas she has suffered. Matanda is one of the students who are doing well in her class and likes reading the

Despite her erratic behaviour, after praying with her we believe she will fully recover from the traumas she has suffered.

Bible. Please pray for this girl; that she may forgive her father and stepmother.

We thank you for reading this glimpse of what is happening in Malawi. Regular and fuller updates can be obtained from Janet Stafford. Your prayers are appreciated.



Matanda



Annie with orphanage children

It has been 19 years of REHOCH caring and supporting orphans in the communities, providing shelter, and all the basic needs of a child. God has supplied the orphans according to His riches in glory. As the Father of the fatherless, He has proved Himself faithful countless times, as He has sent help through His people, who have obeyed to give to this work.

'A Father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His Holy habitation...' Ps. 68:5

The orphanage has been a

shelter to over 56 OVCs (orphaned and vulnerable children) from the stormy blast of life since inception. Some orphaned, some unwanted, neglected, and some traumatised and abused. Many children stood at risk of death by their own parents who did not want them. Others are brought by Social Welfare for a short period of time as they locate their relatives. Our home is a peaceful haven and refuge for the wounded child.

Currently REHOCH is home to 14 children, 8 girls and 6 boys, giving them renewed hope, building their lives with love and dignity because



Distributing school supplies to vulnerable children

their lives are precious to God.

“For we are His workmanship, created in Jesus Christ for good works, which God prepared before hand that we should walk in them” Eph. 2:10

S P O N S O R S H I P

The orphanage is surrounded by a shanty compound with so many less privileged people. The coming of the orphanage in the area was a dream come true for many households as it brought development. One of the main activities REHOCH does is education sponsorship for OVCs in the outreach programme. From 2010, REHOCH has, with the help of co-operating partners, sponsored over 3,650 children. Being able to change a child’s life, giving them hope for a bright future is a phenomenon. We take importance in education as it is a key to breaking the poverty cycle and is an equaliser no matter the background. We are so grateful to the Lord God who has used the orphanage to change the course of many children’s lives. Over 1,000 sponsored children have finished secondary school, empowered and contributing to society.

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Other than education sponsorship, we also have a great opportunity to evangelise to them, hold sensitisation workshops that is helping them to refrain from harmful vices. Through these means, many youths under our programme have come to the saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus. Three students from the outreach programme have gone into full-time ministry. Two young ladies sent on a gap year, took up sign language and now are signing in their local churches reaching out to the deaf. Praise the Lord!

W E L F A R E

The orphanage has also been concerned with a girl’s welfare. Being in a low-income area, many girls tend to miss classes during menstruation as they cannot afford sanitary pads and fear soiling themselves in public. For this reason, in 2024 REHOCH has reached out to over 600 girls with reusable sanitary pads with the help of partners who we have been co-operating with for the past three years. Not only has it brought great joy and relief to these amazing children, it has also enabled them to go to school freely and confidently.



110 girls at Misenga School receiving reusable sanitary kits

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107 girls at Happy Kawama School receiving reusable sanitary kits



Seeing the struggles women go through in the community, REHOCH created a skills centre for Tailoring and Design to empower women so that they are able to contribute to their household earning. Partly, this was to lessen the burden on their husbands who, in most cases, are just garden boys or security guards earning as little as £50 per month, and yet may have six children with other dependants. Since July 2022, 35 women have been trained and are grateful for the skill they have acquired. REHOCH is making a great impact in the lives of many people in the community.



DAVID

Our smallest child is David, who is nine months old and joined the family on 21st February. David was linked to us by Wukwashi Wa Nzambi who discovered him severely malnourished during their support groups visits. His mother, 15 years of age, has epilepsy and receives little help as she is an orphan. Due to severe epilepsy attacks, she is mentally unstable and cannot remember the man who fathered the child. Our comfort is that some good Samaritans have sent her for a skills training, while REHOCH cares for the baby.

'Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us. But to Your Name give glory, because of your mercy. Because of your Truth.' Ps. 115:1



David at the orphanage at 9 months

We are ever so grateful to all that have joined in obeying God by supporting the work of the Lord, materially, financially and through many prayers. We would not have managed to touch so many lives without your sacrificial giving. Come alongside us as we pray for the work to be sustained. Pray for the provision of food and staff support, so as the second house under construction can start operating. Pray for much grace for caregivers, and that they would have the strength they need for their ministry. Pray alongside us for child sponsorship to school, college or university, as well as sponsorship for women to undertake skills training in Tailoring and design. God richly bless you all.



David with his mother at 4 months



CRESS

UK

Purpose

CRESS UK helps refugees and Ugandans living in poverty develop skills for self-sufficiency and sustainability in rural Northern Uganda.

One of the main ways CRESS supports the community is through healthcare services. Healthcare is poor in the area and existing government services are unable to cope with the need caused by the influx of refugees to the area. While United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and large INGOs are supporting local camps with water access, food staples, and basic needs, the largest unmet need is basic healthcare access. Local Ugandan run health clinics

are often too expensive for the refugees to attend so the CRESS clinic is welcome as the charges are minimal or the service is free to those who have no access to any money. Our services include CATT (Children’s Accelerated Trauma Therapy) that treats children with PTSD from the impacts of conflict in South Sudan, RUMPS (Reusable Menstrual Pads) Training for young women, Family Planning, and Primary Healthcare Clinic with maternity services. These healthcare services are run from our clinic in Koboko, northern Uganda. Koboko has a refugee population of 15,000 mainly South Sudanese refugees, and also local Ugandans living in poverty. The clinic provides treatment for malaria, pneumonia, diarrhoea, diabetes, mellitus, hypertension, typhoid, brucellosis and other skin conditions.

Strategy

The services are provided by funded professional staff working at the clinic, who we fund through grants and regular donors. These include a part-time doctor, full-time clinical officer, two nurses, two midwives, a lab technician, cook, cleaner and accounts manager.

We also travel into the refugee camps, mainly Imvepi Refugee Settlement in Terego District, a two hour journey from our base in Koboko, to deliver training and advice, particularly on maternal healthcare, and RUMPS.

The CATT Programme gives children the opportunity to work through their trauma with trained counsellors in a boundaries setting and teaches them emotional health coping strategies. The CATT team are also resident within the camps and counsel children with PTSD in their home areas in the camps. This is effective as the Ugandan Psychiatric Team at Arua Hospital highlighted that having counsellors embedded in the refugee communities was the best way to help address the psycho-social issues that often accompanied their trauma.

Impact

The primary healthcare clinic saw 6,946 refugees and Ugandans in 2023. The midwives at the clinic safely delivered 542 babies in 2023. 2,080 expectant mothers were seen at the clinic for antenatal classes and check-ups. The clinic conducted 474 ultrasound scans for local diagnosis of 474 patients, with each patient saving a 50-mile round trip to the next nearest available scans.

The local community have been offered material and spiritual hope through the work of CRESS. The work of the clinic and its outreach programmes has been lifesaving, treating patients in emergency situations where they may not have been able to reach further clinics in time, helping to reduce malaria cases and improve hygiene in the refugee camps. Through our new



field midwife, we have been able to increase local understanding of the need for antenatal and postnatal care, leading to more health seeking behaviours.

The CATT Counselling work offers hope for the future of children and their families. By helping children and teenagers to heal from the complex trauma they have experienced at a young age, CATT unlocks their God-given potential and gives them a brighter future, benefitting both them personally and their communities.

The RUMPS training on menstrual hygiene and making reusable menstrual pads is not only having an impact on girls' dignity and self-esteem, but also an impact on their school attendance, as girls can miss 11% of school days across the year due to menstruation. Increased school attendance will have a transformative impact on girls' life trajectories by increasing their motivation, ambition and grades.

The beneficiaries of our projects are fully aware that we are a Christian charity motivated by Christ's love to run the projects. Many of the South Sudanese refugees

have experienced great loss due to the ongoing conflict in South Sudan. When they see the transformation that the projects are bringing in the community and that it stems from God's love, many refugees and local people are finding renewed faith or experiencing the hope and healing that Jesus brings for the first time. Our training sessions always involve teaching and prayer, and prayer is offered at the clinic if patients wish it. Similarly, all of our staff and volunteers are Christians who are passionate about sharing their faith and happy to talk to local people about their faith and help them find a loving church family that can disciple them further.

The refugee children who receive CATT Counselling are also invited to join our discipleship programmes, which share the gospel with children and disciple them to grow in their faith. We have recently launched Good News Clubs, ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship, to reach more children.

We have recently arranged that an ordained deacon under Bishop Data Amosa will have regular visits to the clinic and spend time there with prayer and counselling.

Challenges

Uganda is welcoming to refugees, with an open-door policy to refugees coming from South Sudan, meaning they host the highest number of refugees in Africa. UNHCR estimates that over 33,000 people have arrived from South Sudan since the start of 2024. Funding shortfalls are putting significant pressure on services provided to refugees and their host communities, including health services. While there is current peaceful coexistence with the host communities, there could be weakening of this as a result of competition for jobs and resources.

One of our challenges is that we work across a large area of rural Northern Uganda, requiring our staff to travel between the refugee camps. The rural roads are not constructed well and sometimes become impassable in rainy season. These distances can also make it difficult for further away patients to attend the clinic, which is why we now have a field midwife

to attend to expectant mothers.

Another of our biggest ongoing challenges is financing regular costs such as salaries and transport. Rental costs have risen sharply with inflation. We also have a current need for some equipment, like a stretcher, printer/scanner and laptop.

Prayer

We would appreciate prayer for:

- Lulu our clinic nurse who is in his final semester training as a clinical officer – for him to pass his examinations – he will then return to work in the clinic.
- Bishop Amosa Data as he starts to provide pastoral support and prayer in the clinic in Koboko. Please pray for his ministry and that patients in the clinic would be receptive to praying together and we would see God's healing and restoration as a result.
- More regular donors to support salaries and grant providers to come forward.



Over the next few months our focus will be on another vulnerable group - those at the end of their lives who are needing palliative care.

In most of the countries that we have partners, it is often the families who will care for their dying relatives but when the family is poor or have moved away then life can be very difficult for those suffering at the end of their life.

A number of our partners are involved in providing end-of-life care to those living in poverty. One such project is The Home Care Project run by Emanuel Clinic in Moldova. There are so many people in the country who have no support at all, who cannot afford medication, and who face their final days alone. The Home Care Project wants to give them the best care at the end of their life through the provision of medicines, daily visits, food and praying with patients.



We will be sharing more about this project and some of the stories from other partners in the next magazine.

Upcoming Events

September

13-15th - The next CMF Global Track starts with 20 young medics exploring what serving God in medical mission looks like

October

7th - MMN trustee meeting

25th-27th - Living the Passion. Come and say hello to us as we have a stand there

November

25th - Prayer evening for those working in palliative care

December

3rd-10th - Big Give week: an opportunity to financially support The Home Care Project in Moldova



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info@mmn.uk.com
www.mmn.uk.com



01793 538200



Unit 16, Star West,
Westmead Drive,
Swindon, SN5 7SW