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Spring 2016

DODOMA TANZANIA HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

DCMC Posts Record Growth in 2015



Scenes from a typical busy day at the medical center, where 55,638 patients were treated in 2015.

From sunrise to sunset, the hustle and bustle at Dodoma Christian Medical Center (DCMC) is palpable. Its reputation for providing quality medical and dental care has spread throughout the region, and DCMC staff is working long hours to respond to the needs of the hundreds of patients showing up every week.



“The best way to describe 2015 is the year of real implementation of the philosophy of running,” stated DCMC Director Prof. Charles Majinge in his annual report. “Running in providing high quality and expanded specialized services, greater stability to the staff and increased local-generated income.”

In fact, the 2015 patient count of 55,638 well exceeded the record-breaking figure of 40,000 in 2014. It is also telling that 50% of all prescriptions filled are for people referred to DCMC from other facilities in Dodoma that lack available medicines. In addition to staff, DCMC is poised for continued growth with an expansion of its west wing, which will add 6,300 ft² of much-needed space. The running is now a sprint!

2015 Increases



↑
42%

PATIENTS



↑
109%

LAB SERVICES



↑
204%

SURGERIES



↑
227%

DIAGNOSTICS



↑
16%

DENTAL SERVICES



↑
27%

Our mission is to ensure high-quality, compassionate, Tanzanian-led health care for the people of Central Tanzania by developing the capacity and sustainability of Dodoma Christian Medical Center.

New Faces



Phil Lindau



Deanna Mills

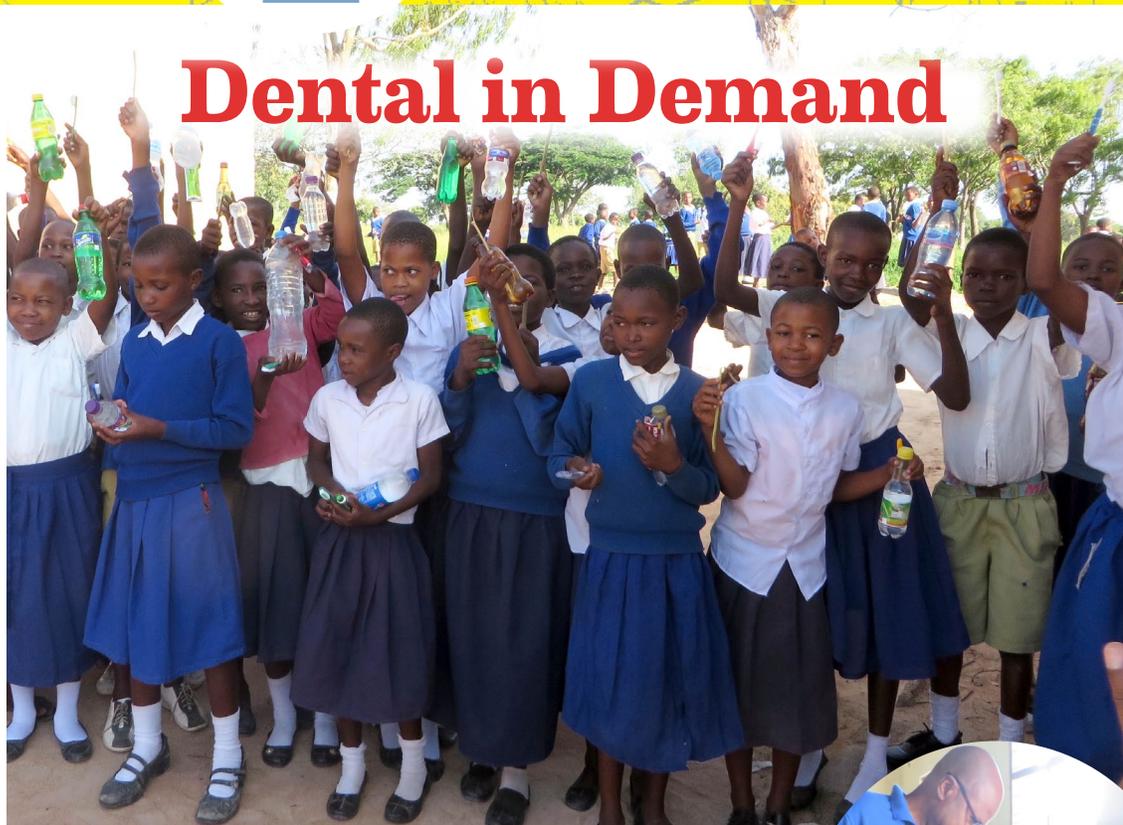
DTHD welcomed two new board members: Deanna Mills and Phil Lindau. Deanna is the recently retired executive director of the University of Minnesota Community University Health Care Center. Phil is the President of Commodity Specialists Company and is DTHD's new treasurer.

DCMC staff now totals 84 and this includes several key new additions: three physicians, five nurses, and an assistant director hired to improve internal processes and help implement DCMC's strategic plan.



Mecklina Isasi
Assistant
Director

Dental in Demand



Enthusiastic Ntyuka School students learn about dental hygiene from Dr. Charles Rabemahefa, Chief of DCMC's Dental Clinic.

DCMC's dental outreach program, led by Dental Clinic Chief Dr. Charles Rabemahefa and funded with a grant from Westwood Lutheran Church is St. Louis Park, Minn., has launched into its first village to bring oral hygiene education to hundreds of school children.

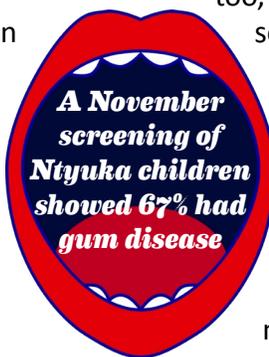
With support from Ntyuka schools and village leaders, Dr. Rabemahefa first trained teachers on oral health. With their partnership, students were led through lessons on the

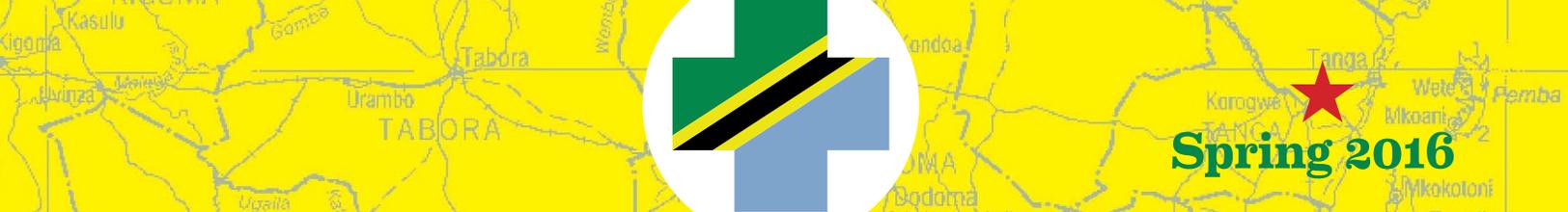
importance of healthy teeth, how to brush, and when to see a dentist.

"Kids influence parents, too, so we also hope to see positive changes in adults," he said optimistically.

Impact data is anticipated in 2017. Word of the program's success has spread and now other Dodoma-area schools are asking Dr. Rabemahefa to come to their schools.

Adelina Mgongolwa, the lead dental outreach teacher in Ntyuka village.





UofM Ob/Gyn Residency Exchange in the Works

University of Minnesota Department of Ob/Gyn professor and residency director Dr. Phillip Rauk, along with assistant professor Dr. Samantha Hoffman, visited DCMC in February as a first step in implementing an ob/gyn residency exchange.

The two physicians spent a week at DCMC working alongside DCMC Director Prof. Charles Majinge, an ob/gyn, to perform surgeries and assist in clinics. They also participated in com-

DCMC is now the preferred labor and delivery ward in Dodoma

munity health outings, met with rural hospitals, and visited urban health facilities in Dar Es Salaam.

“DCMC’s strength really comes from its unique combination of quality hospital-based care and effective rural health outreach programs,” Dr. Rauk said. “Both are essential to improving health in the entire Dodoma area, but in particular for pregnant women.”



Above: Dr. Samantha Hoffman of the University of Minnesota joins DCMC Director Prof. Charles Majinge in surgery. Below: Dr. Phillip Rauk touring Mpwapwa District Hospital.



A DCMC cholera patient awaits transport to a designated treatment site in Dodoma.

DCMC Responds to Cholera

Although rainfall in Dodoma means lush greenery and successful crops, there is an ugly side: cholera.

According to a Primary Health Care Report from the Region of Dodoma, there have been 274 cholera cases and 11 deaths in three districts since last August. In response, DCMC’s Community Health

Department (CHD) is leading intensive hygiene and sanitation campaigns to improve health and reduce the spread of the disease.

“The main source of the disease is from dug wells,” stated Chief of CHD Mwimbe Boehl in an email. “The water from these wells is contaminated and the people are drinking it.”



Save the Date

DTHD’s 4th annual **MAMA SALAMA**

Women’s Event

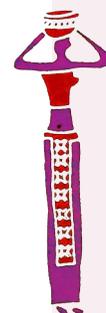
Tuesday, May 17
8-9am

Registration and details:

dthd.org/events

Featuring

Dr. Secelela Malecela, native of Dodoma and child health specialist at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital.



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DODOMA TANZANIA HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

Bringing Health and Hope to Central Tanzania

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★ Message from the Executive Director

For those of us working on the inside of this great vision we call DCMC, some of our most gratifying moments come when we see the powerful impact it has on first-time visitors. Typically, a quiet curiosity on arrival leads to an eager, consuming desire to support DCMC.

Last month when DTHD Board member Cheryl Grasmoe and I traveled with two UofM ob/gyn physicians (see page 3), they left filled with deep admiration and respect for DCMC's leadership, quality care and facilities. "DCMC blew us away," Dr. Phil Rauk told us, and they're now fast-tracking their efforts to get a residency exchange in place by August.

With similar enthusiasm, Medtronic's November 2015 site visit resulted in serious exploration of a surgical training partnership with DCMC, and they'll be back on site in May. Also, a well-traveled

donor from Washington DC visited in January and came home elated: "DCMC and its sustainability model are an example of what should be happening in the developing world. Everything is so impressive."



Workers construct the walls of the west wing expansion of DCMC.

At DTHD we know we're supporting something really groundbreaking in the developing world, but it's validating when others recognize it and feel compelled to share, too. DCMC has big plans in 2016: the completion of the west wing expansion, planning for the larger 100-bed hospital, expansion of the community health and dental outreach programs, and more. There are costs for all of this, but with your help our foot will remain on the accelerator. Thank you for your ongoing care and support.

With gratitude,
Anne Hussian, Executive Director

