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Spring 2019

DODOMA TANZANIA HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

DCMC Evaluates Expansion More space needed for patient care



Every spare space at the medical center has been modified for patient care, and the need for efficiencies like electronic medical records has become more pressing.

Dodoma Christian Medical Center (DCMC) has seen explosive growth in the number of patients needing medical services over the past few years. The hospital's financials have been stretched in the process, but it's the lack of space to care for so many patients – nearly 100,000 in 2018 – that has been placing a chokehold on DCMC's ability to grow its services and maintain quality care.

In February, the Trustees entered an agreement with Sweden-based Pansante, an award-winning innovator in hospital

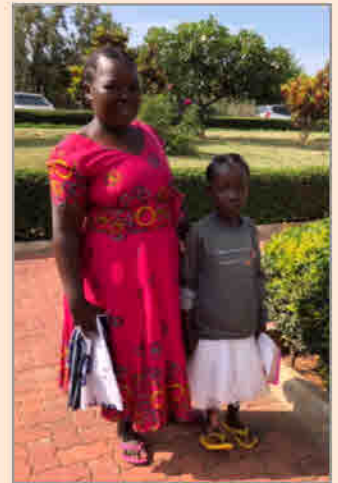
design, to conduct a feasibility study to determine the best architectural plan to help DCMC achieve its vision to become a model for sustainable healthcare in East Africa. Pansante is expected to complete its study in May.

"Our goal is to work with DCMC to develop a hospital that has as much as possible for as little as possible, without compromising quality," said Jens Sjodahl, CEO of Pansante. "Everything we do will incorporate the local culture and health care context."

"Hundreds of people come here every day because they trust in the treatment," said Nurse Matron Elizabeth Kyangenyeka. "If our beds are full, they say 'put me on the floor, I don't care as long as I'm here at DCMC'."

Care for All

DCMC's mission is to provide care for anyone regardless of ability to pay. "All are welcome here, no matter the care needed," said Prof. Charles Majinge, MD, DCMC's Director. Currently, about 20% of the medical center's patients are uninsured; many pay only what they're able, and for some that means nothing.



Thanks to Calvary Lutheran Church for helping support Jerida, age 9, who was hospitalized for over a year at no cost so she could recover safely from severe burns.

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 DCMC Trustee



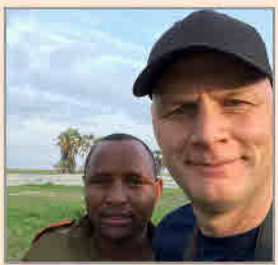
Dr. Magdalena Lyimo

The medical center welcomes Dr. Magdalena Lyimo, MD, PhD, as a new trustee. She is the Program Manager for the National Blood Transfusion Service in Tanzania.

DTHD welcomes new board members: Dr. Michelle Biros, professor and interim chair of Emergency Medicine at University of Minnesota Medical School; and Wade Jones, Director of Operations for Children’s Heartlink.



Dr. Michelle Biros (left)



Wade Jones (right)

DCMC Expands Its Reach in the Dodoma Community



DCMC dentist Dr. Francis Mdoe examines a student at Nkuhungu Primary School. With grant support from Westwood Lutheran Church, the dental outreach program has expanded to three more primary schools in the area.

Lacking the physical space to care for more patients, DCMC is expanding its reach to provide quality health care to the broader region. From grant-funded outreach to rural communities, to daily responses to patients referred from other facilities, DCMC is doing everything it can to help meet the region’s medical and dental needs.



The hospital is seeing more complex patient cases, and its surgery center is busier than ever. As a referral site for high-risk pregnancies, in particular, DCMC nurses are obtaining specialized skills in neonatology and critical emergency care.



The pharmacy filled 62,000 prescriptions in 2018, 23% more than in 2017. According to Bora Makuta, Chief of Pharmacy, many patients from other hospitals are referred to DCMC for prescriptions because of its well-stocked supply of medications.



Village health workers from the Dodoma region learn proper handwashing from DCMC's Community Health outreach team, which has been holding seminars on hygiene and sanitation, women's health, emergency obstetrics skills, and more to help improve health in rural areas.



Medical Volunteers Provide Needed Help at DCMC



Dr. David Luehr with a young patient at DCMC.

DCMC frequently welcomes skilled volunteers to work alongside its staff to support the influx of people coming for care. Dr. David and Dana Luehr from Minnesota spent nearly a month at the medical center at the end of 2018. Dr. Luehr, a family practice physician, examined patients, performed basic surgeries, and trained staff. Dana, a nutritionist, engaged with several departments and joined in rural outreach with the Community Health and Dental teams.

I can't tell you the number of people I met who traveled 10 hours on a bus to be seen by DCMC's doctors. They're really delivering quality care and that matters to people.

-Dr. David Luehr

To volunteer at DCMC, email dthd@dthd.org

In January, DTHD Board Member and ophthalmologist Dr. Charles Yancey led a group of six volunteers to launch the services of DCMC's new eye clinic. The group screened 300 students at a local primary school, examined dozens of patients at the clinic, and performed several cataract and laser surgeries. The Minnesota-based team included: Steven Grosser, MD; LuAnn Prybil, OR Technician; Sue Misner, RN; Whitney Loukusa, Certified Ophthalmic Technician; and Wendy Grosser.



Dr. Charles Yancey giving an eye exam to a student at Nzasa B Primary School.



Eye clinic volunteers setting up and checking the equipment at the new DCMC eye clinic.



Anna Drechsel, UMN PT resident, working with a patient.

UMN Residents Providing Care

As part of a collaborative partnership with the University of Minnesota, three residents just did rotations at DCMC: Leah Anderson, MD, Ob/Gyn, and Nathan Brubaker and Anna Drechsel, Physical Therapy. "The patients we've worked with are clearly grateful for the care the hospital provides, and many of them make long journeys to return for physical therapy," Nathan reflected.



At right, Nathan Brubaker and DCMC physiotherapist Dr. Nuru Mohammed consult a patient.

DODOMA TANZANIA HEALTH DEVELOPMENT
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DODOMA TANZANIA HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

Bringing Health and Hope to Central Tanzania

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Thank you for supporting
Dodoma Tanzania Health Development



Connect with DTHD



JOIN US! RSVP NOW!

We sincerely hope you can join us on May 8 annual fundraising breakfast to hear more a DCMC is responding to the needs of its patients poised for a strong future. Our speakers – one all the way from Dodoma – will share personal insights into the medical center’s patient-focused care, sustainability planning and global partnerships. All are welcome, and we’ll be delighted to see you there! If you have questions, we’re glad to help.



763-432-6589

Happy Spring!
– Anne Hussian, Executive Director, DTHD

HEALTH IS LIFE

WHEN: May 8, 2019 - 8-9 am
WHERE: Golden Valley Country Club
RSVP: Required by May 1
dthd@dthd.org
COST: Free, includes breakfast

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

Prof. Emmanuel Mbennah, PhD
DCMC Trustee Chair

Andy Wentzy
Senior Director of Business Development
Sanford World Clinics

