

Lifeline Malawi

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Spring, 2005

Progress – Patients – Praise – Prayer



Lighting for the Clinic Reception



LM crew stretching wire for the fence



Patients waiting to be seen



Nurse Gloria examining a patient



Esther supervising the Baby Weigh-in

WE HAVE POWER!

10 Solar Panels were rescued and refurbished and are now installed in steel frames on the roof of the LNHC Mission house. This is a significant event in the history of Lifeline Malawi as this form of energy is providing temporary relief to operating the clinic, i.e) on an emergency basis at night; having lights in the clinic Reception to create a more welcoming atmosphere, and to provide better illumination in the Examination Room for our medical staff. There is no doubt that this solar power has also been greatly appreciated by our nursing staff in their homes in the evenings. Now, where is the electricity that we keep promising? This has been a true test of our staff's patience. After overcoming many hurdles, the power poles have been installed and the 100kVA transformer plus conductor are now on sight. Andy has estimated that we may have power before the end of May! Stay tuned!

PERIMETER WALL

This wall is not intended to replicate the Wailing Wall. Nor is it fashioned after the Berlin Wall or the Great Wall of China. When completed, this perimeter wall with a total length of approximately 600 meters shall surround the Lifeline Ngodzi Health Centre site. Improvement in the security and general appearance of the complex will be major benefits, not to mention keeping the hippos, goats and stray dogs from interfering with activities that are occurring at the clinic.

JAMMED WAITING ROOM

Another busy week and another new record. February patient volumes reached 2,770! And it was a short month! The staff continue to work very hard at treating the growing volume of patients coming to the clinic. During the month, malaria cases alone totaled 1,102. Additional staff cannot arrive fast enough - as well as more medicines. Not to mention more clinical clinic space. Please see prayer requests!

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST NURSE

Our third nurse "Sister" Gloria Gabriel started at the clinic on January 13th. Her presence, not to mention her excellent qualifications, have allowed us to take on a significant increase in patient volumes. This single and engaged to be married young woman is living in the new duplex that was completed last fall, thanks to the financial assistance and genuine labour of love provided by Samaritan's Purse.

UNDER 5 CLINIC

The role of the community nurse can never be under valued. In this caption, we can find Esther, one of our assigned Health Surveillance Assistants diligently working in one of our Under 5 clinics. Don't tell the children! They are about to receive their measles immunization shot. As part of our expansion into the treatment of HIV/AIDS, Lifeline Malawi hopes to hire two (2) additional H.S.A.s.



Dr. Brooks treating cartilage damage



Long waits to receive prescribed medicines



VCT launch meeting at the Mission House



Children of Chilambua saying thanks!



Village lady showing appreciation for prescribed medicines

MORE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Whether you want to be a short-term medical volunteer or you are looking for internship opportunities, Dr. Brooks and his clinical staff would welcome your assistance. Please visit our web site to find out how you can become part of a short term mission trip. We can provide superb living quarters on sight, good food, hot and cold running water, electricity (by faith) plus an excellent and memorable life experience.

MORE MEDICINES ARRIVING

Once again, Samaritan's Purse has approved our request to fund another order of medicines from IDA. This shipment, totally approximately \$43,000 CDN comes from Amsterdam and will arrive early May. In addition, another smaller shipment of medicines (2 pallets) from HPIC (Canada) arrived earlier in the month. Stay tuned for more on this topic in our next newsletter.

VCT EXPANSION

Finally, after months of preparation, negotiation and several re-submissions, the National Aids Commission approved Lifeline Malawi to become a Voluntary Testing Counseling and Treatment (VCT) facility in Malawi. Their funding will allow us to augment our primary health care model with an HIV/AIDS program that will deliver anti-retroviral medication to those who are living with AIDS. In this photo, we catch a glimpse of the meeting which launched our HIV/AIDS expansion work within the community. In attendance was Mr. Kambalame (Traditional Authority/Village Chief), ten (10) group village headmen as well as the Ward Councilor. Agreement was received to work together to come against the spread of HIV and to care for the People Living with Aids (PLWA) in their communities. As part of the process, they will be appointing forty (40) volunteers from the twenty-eight (28) villages within the Ngodzi region.

THANK-YOU CALGARY SUN

... and blessings to all who are contributed to our efforts of bringing life transforming hope and healing the nation of Malawi. To quote our Letter to the Editor, which was published on December 16th, 2004, "Licia Corbella's compelling story of Dr. Brooks's journey over the past six years leading to the formation of Lifeline Malawi resulted in an overwhelming response from your readers". We rejoice as these continued contributions shall go a long way in helping to offset some of clinical operating costs.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER

1. for successful implementation of our VCT program
2. for health and safety of current staff at LNHC
3. for wisdom in hiring the 14 new positions that will be dedicated to the VCT expansion
4. for guidance for the Board of Directors as they guide LM into its vision for the future
5. for our partners: PAOM, Samaritan's Purse, HPIC, IDA, PIH
6. for favour with the Ministry of Health in Malawi
7. for ESCOM and the arrival of electricity, as promised
8. for the Brooks family & Chris's speedy recovery from recent additional hip surgery
8. for the Boettcher family and their continued adaptation to their new surroundings
10. for additional funding i.e.) a new 5 ton truck, another residence, the VCT clinic.

Lifeline Malawi

Thank you Lord!