

The Masooli Project

2016 Annual Report of Faith Mulira Health Care Center, Inc.

"Modernize and They Will Come"

The year 2016 marked the sixth full year of operations for Faith Mulira Health Care Center in Masooli, Uganda. Modern medical equipment and training provided by staff from the Makerere University/Johns Hopkins Affiliate added to the Clinic's ability to better handle maternal health care needs, and recent acquisition of a motorcycle ambulance will enable the staff to better serve the people of Masooli at the Clinic and at regional healthcare facilities nearby. The Clinic also acquired an online records management system that will improve the accuracy and efficiency of collecting patient data.

The Clinic's new diagnostic equipment and ambulance will be especially comforting to pregnant women in the community who traditionally choose to deliver their children at home despite the lack of medical assistance. Maternal health services increased during 2016, with a total of 309 women served. The number of women using the Clinic for prenatal care also increased three-fold, from 10 in the first quarter to 33 women during the last quarter of 2016. The numbers are still low, but given the importance of early intervention and well-baby care—and the Clinic's greater ability to deliver these services—we hope to see the positive trend continue.

Significant leadership changes occurred within the Uganda board in late 2016 into 2017, with Dr. Linda Barlow Moshe stepping down from her role as Chair. Dr. Barlow played a pivotal role in advancing the quality of care at the Clinic and building its capacity during its critical early years. We extend our thanks to her, Mattias Moshe, and other former directors for their commitment to Faith's vision. Peter Mugagga, a very active member of the Uganda board assumed the role of Chair. As a member of the local Kasangati Rotary, Peter has played a key role in organizing the Clinic's community health days and contributed to the successful Rotary International global grant application, through which the Clinic's new medical equipment was acquired.

Thanks to the consistent generosity of you, our donors, we raised \$57,866 during 2016, of which \$52,000 was granted to the Uganda board to provide operational support for the Clinic.

The health care needs of Masooli continue to be substantial due to extreme poverty and the burden of conditions such as HIV, malaria, and diarrheal disease that are often deadly without proper treatment. Life expectancy in Uganda is 55 years, and the infant mortality rate is among the highest in the world. Faith Mulira Health Care Center is bringing hope and health to Masooli, to make a difference in the lives of those it serves.

Although I have stepped down as Chair after a five-year term, I remain a committed member of the FMHCC board. Kay Werk, who previously served as our Treasurer, became Chair in January 2017. With a strong corporate and financial services background, and a passion for the Masooli Project, Kay is the right person to lead the U.S. board at this time. In 2017, we look forward to partnering with you to strengthen support for our mission to promote the dignity and welfare of our brothers and sisters in Masooli, Uganda.

With gratitude,

Jim Malley, former Chair, Faith Mulira Health Care Center, Inc.

Faith Mulira Health Care Center ~ Masooli, Uganda

2016 Performance At-A-Glance

Outpatient Services: A total of 2,634 outpatient cases were served during 2016, with malaria, upper respiratory diseases, and hypertension showing the highest incidence rates among patients presenting for care. Clinic management believes that in light of current staffing and facilities, capacity continues to be underutilized. The new Uganda board recognizes the importance of increasing marketing and outreach efforts in order to attract more patients.



Inpatient Services: The number of inpatient services provided in 2016 was 113. Delivery of inpatient services is greatly constrained by limited bed capacity, with only 4 inpatient beds presently available. Patients requiring inpatient services often need to be brought to regional hospitals that are better equipped to provide overnight care. The newly acquired motorcycle ambulance will be a great help in transporting these patients.

Maternal Health Services: The Clinic provided 32 safe deliveries during 2016. Given the high population growth in Uganda, with the average birthrate per woman at 5.4, the vision for the future is for a fully functioning maternity ward and surgical theater to accommodate cesarean births. A total of 83 women sought antenatal services during the year, while 193 women took advantage of postnatal services. Efforts will be concentrated on increasing antenatal services to maximize the benefits of early intervention, which enhances the health status of both mothers and babies.

Immunizations: A total of 3,704 vaccinations were administered during 2016 at the Clinic and at four outreach centers that have been established by the Clinic in surrounding communities.

HIV Counseling and Testing: In 2016, the Clinic tested 627 people for HIV, of whom 35 (6%) tested positive.

- Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV services were provided to three lactating mothers, while HIV care services were provided to three HIV exposed infants as part of the Clinic's HIV prevention, care and treatment program.
- Clinic staff recognizes the need to develop a comprehensive community-based strategy to meet the HIV challenges within the local community. The stigma associated with HIV deters many patients from returning to the Clinic for follow-up care after the first visit. Community-based services can help address this and get patients the care they need.

Community Outreach: With the support of the Kampala North Rotary Club, the Clinic was able to deliver community-based services to 745 clients in four different outreach sites. Services provided in 2016 include immunizations, deworming, vitamin A supplementation, family planning services and health education.



Specialized Clinic Brings Preventive Eye Care Services to Masooli

An August 6, 2016 article in Uganda’s *New Vision* online news service notes that it is estimated “over 1.5 million people in Uganda suffer from avoidable visual impairment, a problem attributed to lack of accessible eye care services.” A critical shortage of eye care professionals contributes to this situation. The article states that the ratio of optometrists to patients in Uganda stands at 1 to 250,000. That is over *ten times* the ratio of medical doctors to patients in Uganda.



During 2016, the Chandramouli family, funded a one-day eye clinic through Dr. Agrawal’s Eye Hospital, a facility in nearby Kampala, as a way of giving back to the community. Dr. Amal Agrawal, who runs eye care facilities in 11 countries worldwide, and his team conduct such camps in remote locations to help eradicate vision loss due to non-treatment of easily curable eye diseases. In Masooli, 221 people received care during one of these specialized eye camps held onsite at the Clinic. Thank you to the two optometrists, two opticians, and two counselors who delivered much needed services to local residents.

Uganda Board Changes

After the departures of several long-term board members in late 2016, our Uganda partners refreshed their board by electing a new Chair, Peter Mugagga, and bringing on several new board members who are committed to the vitality of the Masooli Project. The board also updated its constitution and bylaws and recommitted itself to sustaining Faith Mulira’s vision for the Clinic. They quickly embraced the work needed to fill the Clinic Administrator position following the resignation of Mary Mboowa and to keep the Clinic financially sound, and have hired a new Administrator and Director of Business Development. We look forward to partnering with the Uganda board and management as they work to bring health and hope to Masooli.



Peter Mugagga
Chair



Mrs. Irene Lwamafa
Secretary



Mr. James Orima, Esq.



Mr. Dennis Lwamafa



Dr. Kyomugisha Aman



Mrs. Miriam Lutakome



Mr. Enoth Mbeine

Mr. David Kaweesa Kisitu
Treasurer

Ms. Roselyn Nandawula
Clinic Administrator



Mr. Accrum Makumbi
Director of Business Development

2016 Fundraising Activity

Horizon Blue Benefit Concert

In September, we held a fundraising concert featuring the lovely blue grass music of Horizon Blue, a local Connecticut band. The open-air event was held on the grounds of First Church of Christ, Simsbury, and all proceeds were dedicated to the Masooli Project. Thanks to board member Connie Keedle for coordinating this fun night under the late summer stars ~ and to all those who helped us raise nearly \$900 for the Clinic.



Thank you, First Church

We value all our supporters and are grateful for those who have come to believe in the mission of the Masooli Project. We are especially thankful for the generosity of the Board of Mission and Outreach of First Church of Christ, Simsbury, for its long-standing and substantial commitment to the vision of Faith Mulira and her friends. The commitment is visible to all who enter the Clinic, as one of the first sights they see, next to the front door, is the foundation stone unveiled in October 2008 at the Clinic's dedication. This consistent support has helped sustain the Clinic's start-up operations and nurture its growing impact on the community.

In recent years, First Church youth and young adults as well as First Church Sunday School children have also embraced the Masooli mission, raising money through dance-a-thons and other fun activities. These funds have contributed to the Clinic's emphasis on meeting maternal and child health needs. Recently, funds raised by the school children helped our Uganda partners to purchase a much needed motorcycle ambulance. We think your reaction will be the same as ours... "WOW"!!



~U.S Board News~

A Brief Note from Kay Werk, our new Chair ~

Change is in the wind! I am truly honored and humbled to serve our donors and the people of Masooli. As the board of Faith Mulira Health Care Center in Uganda refreshes its membership and revisits the mission of the Clinic, your U.S. board stands ready to ensure that your contributions are used in the best way possible to support the people of Masooli.

We will keep you informed of major changes through our website and our Constant Contact emails.

Sincerely,

Kay S. Werk



Meet Jim Trimble, our new Treasurer ~

With Kay Werk's election as Chair in January, Jim Trimble has joined the FMHCC board as a Director and as Treasurer for the U.S. organization.

Jim, an actuary, brings extensive non-profit financial expertise to this role, having served First Church of Christ, Simsbury as Treasurer for many years and been on the board of the Society of Actuaries. He has led the Actuarial Science Program at the University of Connecticut for several years, since retiring after a long actuarial career at The Hartford, where he served in executive-level actuarial roles. We are so grateful to have Jim's expertise!



Board Members and First Church Plan Visit to Masooli

Nancy Crouch and Karen Damon Callahan have begun the planning process for a visit to Masooli, Uganda. Although the Board stays closely connected to our Uganda partners by email and phone, the last onsite visit to the Clinic was in 2008, when First Church of Christ, Simsbury's Associate Minister, Rev. Kevin Weikel helped lay the foundation stone at the Clinic's dedication. The upcoming visit is designed to further our partnership with the Uganda board members, several of whom are newly elected, get acquainted with the Clinic staff and meet with Masooli community members to hear about their healthcare needs and how we can support the Clinic's efforts to address them.

We're delighted that First Church's Senior Minister, Rev. George Harris, has expressed a desire to participate in this visit, which is tentatively planned for Fall 2018. Supporting the Masooli Project has been part of First Church's global mission agenda for over a decade. Watch our website and other media for more details about the trip later this year!

Our Directors and Officers

Kay Werk, Chair

Melinda Westbrook, Esq., Vice Chair

James Trimble, Treasurer

Heather Duncan, Secretary

Karen Damon Callahan, R.N., Director

Gordon Crouch, D.D.S., Director

Nancy Crouch, Director

Richard Dupree, Director

Constance Keedle, MPH, Director

Char Kelly, Director

James Malley, Ph.D., Director

Uganda Health Facts At-A-Glance

- **Current population:** 37,673,800; birth rate is 5.4 children per Ugandan woman
- **Percent of population age 60+:** Less than 4%
- **Teenage childbearing:** 25% of adolescent women ages 15-19 are mothers or pregnant with their first child
- **Usage rate for modern family planning methods:** 35% overall; percentage increases with woman's age
- **Infant mortality rate:** 43 per 1,000 live births; **under 5 mortality rate:** 64 per 1,000 live births
- **Births occurring at a health care facility:** Nearly 75%, with the percentage increasing with the mother's educational status
- **Vaccination of children:** 55% of those ages 12-23 months receive all required vaccinations
- **Frequency at which treatment is sought to address childhood illnesses:** acute respiratory infection (80%); fever (81%); diarrhea (69%)/ rates are lower among those in poor and rural areas
- **Ownership/use of at least one insecticide treated mosquito net:** 78%
- **Prevalence of malaria in children:** 30%
- **HIV testing:** 97% of women and 96% of men ages 15-49 know where to receive HIV testing but awareness and knowledge of preventive methods among younger adults (ages 15-24) is only 45%

Source: Uganda Demographic and Health Survey 2016, published March 2017 by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics

Keep Faith's Vision Alive

Faith Mulira was keenly aware of the health care needs faced by the poor in Uganda. Before coming to the U.S., she worked for many years as a nurse caring for those most vulnerable to sickness and disease, the orphaned children she encountered at Sanyu Babies Home in Kampala. She also knew that in her home village of Masooli, a lack of basic health care and disease prevention services led to risky pregnancies, high infant mortality and shorter lifespans.

While care is available at government-provided health care facilities in Uganda, those facilities are often over-crowded and understaffed. A shortage of trained health care workers makes it even more challenging for those who can least afford it to get the array of life saving services they need.

In her biography, *To Be Neither Seen Nor Heard*, Faith stated, "I realized that I had to find a way to improve the lot of the residents of Masooli Village. So, I began to pray and to ask God to provide me with a clear vision and the means to find others who would support my vision. When God gives you an assignment, it does not mean that it will be easily completed; it simply means that He has his hands on it."

Faith's willingness to accept the assignment given to her and her remarkable ability to mobilize others to help build and operate the Clinic in Masooli is evidenced by the beautiful facility that now affords local residents a place where they can have their basic health care needs met. The health statistics above make it all the more compelling that we keep Faith's vision alive.



"I realized that I had to find a way to improve the lot of the residents of Masooli Village."



Faith Mulira Health Care Center, Inc. is a U.S.-based, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that is recognized as a public charity by the IRS. Although many of our friends and supporters are affiliated with various churches, we are an independent, non-affiliated organization with a mission to support the healthcare needs of the residents of Masooli regardless of gender, race, age, ethnicity, religion, health status and other personal characteristics.

2016 Supporters of the Masooli Project

"The miracle of the Masooli Project is handmade."

We are abundantly grateful to all who have shared Faith Mulira's vision to provide quality health care to the people of Masooli. Whether you are a new donor or a long-time partner in this Project, we extend our gratitude to you for your kind generosity. With your help, the Clinic is making a difference.

We have made every effort to accurately list all who contributed in 2016 and apologize for any omissions or errors.

CELESTIAL ~ More than \$10,000

Board of Mission and Outreach,
First Church of Christ Simsbury

PLATINUM ~ \$5,000 to \$10,000

Gordon and Nancy Crouch
Don and Lynn Kolowsky
The Werk Family Charitable Fund

GOLD ~ \$2,500 to \$4,999

Brittany Bradshaw Fiduciary Trust Co.
John and Sara Burrows via Ayco Charitable Foundation
Coleman and Carol Ross
Wayne and Melinda Westbrook
(includes Aetna Foundation matching gifts)

SILVER ~ \$1,000 to \$2,499

Aetna Foundation, Inc.
Richard Dupree
Char and Fletch Kelly
Jim and Beth Malley

FRIENDS ~ \$400 to \$999

Sara Batchelder
Craig and Nancy Dennen
John and Liz Hart
Contributions in honor of
Rev. Erica Nierendorf, upon her ordination
David and Nancy Wadhams
Elaine Wilson

STRENGTHENERS - \$100 - \$399

Jeff Blocker
John and Carole Clark
Frank and Louise Gould
Gordon and Jan Gyngell
Mabel Herbert
Horizon Blue Band Members
Joyce Hynes
Connie Keedle
Bill and Pat Ketchabaw
Kathryn and John King
Carolyn and Bob Lauben
Annette Lilly
Richard and Ruth Meyer
Erica Ann Nierendorf
Ron and Barb Patterson
Patricia and William Pye
Ken and Christine Roskin
Rev. Kevin and Kelley Weikel,
in honor of Gordon and Nancy Crouch
Dane Woodberry
Karen and Tom Yanik
Carol Zeiner
Dr. and Mrs. Brian Zeiner

SUPPORTERS - \$25 - \$99

Rev. Dianne Arakawa
First Church of Christ, Simsbury Supper Club
Jerome and Mabel Herbert
Monique and Peter Hill
Elsa Jones
Betty Keirstead
Margaret Kennedy
Jerry Takif

Please continue your faithful support of the Masooli Project by mailing this form to Faith Mulira Health Care Center, Inc., P.O. Box 1001, Simsbury, CT 06070. You can also donate online at www.FMHCCFriends.org. Thank you for your support!

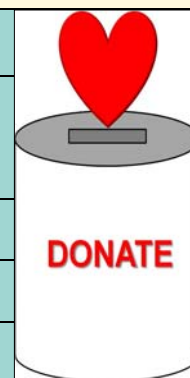
YES! I want to support efforts to improve healthcare services in Masooli, Uganda. Enclosed is my contribution of:
 \$50 \$100 \$200 \$500 Other \$ Please ask your employer if they will match your gift!

Name:

Home Address:

Telephone:

Email address:



2017 U.S. Board Priorities

- **Establish strong, trusting relationships** with the reconstituted Uganda board; help ensure operational and fiscal accountability.
- Continue to **provide financing for the Clinic's current operations** while guiding and supporting the Uganda board's longer-term strategy for appropriate expansion.
- **Nurture and develop U.S. fundraising opportunities**, including the support of both new and existing donors.
- **Officially re-brand the U.S. organization as "The Masooli Project"**; use online and print media to better and more broadly communicate our non-profit mission .

Coming soon . . . a new website, a whole new look!

By yearend, we hope to launch a new website design, with more content about the Masooli Project and easier navigation. We will communicate more details to you, our supporters, when this occurs, so you can continue to stay informed about the important work being done at the Clinic in Uganda...stay tuned!

Faith Mulira Health Care Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 1001
Simsbury, CT 06070

Visit us online at www.fmhccfriends.org