



# The Masooli Project

2022



# A Message to Donors and Friends of The Masooli Project

**Dear Donors and Friends,**

It is my honor and privilege to write to you as the new Chair of The Masooli Project.

My connection to the Crouch family, co-founders of The Masooli Project, goes back 30+ years, so my investment and passion for this organization is long standing. As most of you know, Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Crouch, inspired by their dear friend Faith Mulira, encouraged the founding of Faith Mulira Health Care Centre after learning about and seeing firsthand the dire medical needs of the people of Masooli, Uganda. The vision of Faith Mulira and the Crouches, to address the needless suffering and countless deaths from preventable diseases, is upheld to this day by the work of this outstanding Level III clinic.

Since opening in 2011, Faith Mulira Health Care Centre has provided general outpatient services as well as reproductive healthcare, with a small maternity ward. The staff regularly conducts community outreach programs providing a range of preventive services. Although outreach efforts were restricted during the COVID-19 lockdown, the clinic has continued to provide a full array of services, including immunizations, health screenings, patient education, family planning, testing/treatment for malaria, hypertension, diabetes and HIV/AIDS, and maternity care.

I urge you to donate generously to support the important work the clinic performs for the greater Masooli community. You may donate through our website, [www.masooliproject.org](http://www.masooliproject.org), or by mailing a check made payable to **The Masooli Project, Inc.** to **P.O. Box 1001, Simsbury, CT 06070.**

Best wishes for you and your families as we enter our season of Thanksgiving.

Much gratitude,

**Heather Duncan**  
**Chair, The Masooli Project**



# About Faith Mulira

Each year in September, the staff and board of Faith Mulira Health Care Centre celebrate Founder's Day, honoring Faith Alexandra Kamyia Nasolo Mulira, the visionary founder of Faith Mulira Health Care Centre. Before her death in 2015 at age 91, Faith lived an extraordinary life of love and devotion to family, friends and always to the residents of her beloved Masooli.

Faith came from humble beginnings. The second of 18 children, she was raised in a culture where girls “were neither to be seen nor heard.” She initially was denied the opportunity to attend school. Jessie Ruth Gaston, her biographer, recounts that Faith was “so unhappy because [her siblings] were given an opportunity to learn to read and write, and to learn about new things,” while she was left home to do housework and babysit her younger siblings. Only after much pleading by Faith did her father relent and let her attend school.

Faith eventually became a nurse and worked as director of the Sanyu Babies Home, Uganda's oldest orphanage. In 1979, however, during the violent regime of Idi Amin, she and her family fled Uganda and came to the U.S., where her grown children were living. With her nursing background, she completed a certificate program in gerontology and used her skills to provide home care for the elderly in the Hartford, CT area for over 30 years.

As much as she loved living in the U.S. , Faith dreamed of returning to her village of Masooli to build a clinic where the poor could receive care and treatment for preventable conditions such as malaria, HIV, and malnutrition, which claim the lives of Ugandans young and old. **Before the clinic became a reality, Faith said, “I dread the fact that mothers and babies are still dying of poor diet, malaria and lack of efficient health services.”** Her unshakeable faith and determination led her to donate a plot of land, and with the help of friends in the U.S. and Uganda who shared her vision, funds were raised to construct a modern clinic in Masooli.

Today, **Faith Mulira Health Care Centre is licensed by the Uganda Ministry of Health as a Level III health care facility, serving a catchment area of 20,000 people.** It is a living memorial to Faith Mulira's life of sacrifice, courage, faith and service to others and a testament to those who have shared her vision.



*Faith “always wanted to give something back to the people of Masooli, because she was a nurse. And she thought she could give back like that to the people.”*

—Irene Lwamafa, Uganda Board Secretary  
Faith Mulira Health Care Centre

The building to the left served as the Masooli clinic before the current modern facility was built.

# Faith Mulira Health Care Centre Has Been Changing Lives Since 2011

Faith Mulira Health Care Centre is a private not-for-profit health care facility that opened its doors in 2011. The clinic, located outside the capital city of Kampala, provides health services to residents of the parish of Masooli and the nearby villages of Wampewo, Kitetikka, Luteete, Kyambogo and Kiteezi.

Faith Mulira Health Care Centre delivers health services primarily to vulnerable populations and **aspires to be a health facility of choice for the patients it serves, through the provision of quality, affordable health services.**

In addition to a wide array of diagnostic and treatment services, the clinic offers vital immunizations, screenings, HIV/AIDS care and treatment, as well as reproductive health services. During two significant waves of COVID-19 in 2021, the clinic continued to provide care for the community. In some cases (the provision of laboratory services, for instance), the number of services delivered in 2021 exceeded the number provided in prior years.

During the 10-year period between 2012 and 2021, Faith Mulira Health Care Centre has provided these essential services:

- 50,016 immunizations
- 27,600 HIV tests
- 14,477 family planning visits
- 31,099 other outpatient visits
- 1,479 admissions
- 355 deliveries
- 1,379 pre-natal visits
- 2,048 post-natal visits



*“[O]ur range of services is still limited. We do not have a [surgical] theater in case a mother has a difficult labor, where she could be helped. And we’ve also realized the distance to where we refer them is quite long, and because of that and [limited] space for inpatient services, they have sought services elsewhere.*”

**“The Uganda board hopes to mobilize funds for the expansion of this facility.”**

—Dr. Alphonse Taban, Managing Director  
Faith Mulira Health Care Centre

# Faith Mulira Health Care Centre Brings Health Care to the Community

Community health initiatives have been a vital part of the clinic’s work since its doors opened in 2011. These events, often conducted in partnership with other local organizations, such as the Rotary Club, bring essential services like immunizations and screenings to those who otherwise might not seek care at the facility. They also are an opportunity for the clinicians and staff to build trusting relationships within the community and communicate the broad array of services that the clinic offers.

Regular outreach events were curtailed during Uganda’s mandatory COVID-19 lockdown, but these important events have restarted in 2022. In April, the clinic commemorated World Health Day 2022, offering services at no cost to over 200 attendees. Keeping with the theme “our facility, our environment, our health,” three trees were planted, too!

Vaccinations	COVID Vaccine	81
	HPV Vaccine	17 girls
	Hepatitis B	25
Screenings	Cervical cancer	27
	Breast cancer	20
	Diabetes	69
	HIV/AIDS	52
	Hypertension	48
	Hepatitis B	60
Ultrasound Services		16
TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDEES		202



# Faith Mulira Health Care Centre Is More Than Just a Clinic

## Meet Havilah!

**Meet six year-old Havilah!** She wants to become a doctor like her role model, Dr. Peninah Nattimba. Havilah was born at Faith Mulira Health Care Centre and has been receiving care at the clinic since then—from getting all of her required vaccines to growth monitoring and nutritional support. **Her family is among a large group of families committed to Faith Mulira Health Care Centre. To them, it's like home!**

When Havilah became ill in June 2022, she had a fever, runny nose and terrible cough. The clinic staff ran some tests, including a complete blood count and malaria tests. While the malaria tests were negative, Havilah had signs of a bacterial infection. **After treatment with some simple antibiotics, Havilah's health improved enough so that, two days later, she was well enough to resume school.**

The fee for Havilah's treatment was 17,500 Uganda shillings—about 5 US dollars. While that is lower than what other nearby clinics charge, her family was still unable to pay. Her mother explained the hardships she was going through as a single mom, especially during the tough economic challenges of the pandemic. **The clinic treated Havilah on credit, hoping that one day, her family can repay the cost, enabling the clinic to provide care for other vulnerable patients.**



At her next visit to the clinic, Havilah ran to Dr. Peninah and hugged her. She told Dr. Peninah how hard she is working to be like her, and—as usual—she practiced how to auscultate the chest and take the doctor's temperature before running to her favorite corner of the clinic—the play area! **Havilah's enthusiasm and affection for the clinic remind us why Faith Mulira was so passionate about building a health facility to serve the poor and vulnerable.** It also reminds us of the care and dedication of the clinic staff, and the kindness and generosity of those who continue to support the clinic through their gifts to The Masooli Project.

*Havilah's mother wonders what she would have done without Faith Mulira Health Care Centre. "As I struggle to put food on the plate, at least I am rest assured that if Havilah fell sick, I have a friend in Faith Mulira Health Care that I can always run to.... Thank you doctors and nurses for being kind to us and attending to us quickly."*

# Moving Forward

To better serve the people of Masooli, the board of Faith Mulira Health Care Centre has been exploring a number of exciting proposals that would expand the range of services currently provided at the clinic. These proposals include a potential partnership with a well known Level IV hospital to provide vision and dental care, the purchase of a transport vehicle to bring patients to referral facilities for more specialized care, and the expansion of the clinic's footprint in order to increase space for admitted patients and to provide on-site surgical care.

## A New Partnership for Vision and Dental Care

**This proposal seeks to address the critical lack of resources in the Masooli community for comprehensive vision and dental care** by establishing a partnership between Faith Mulira Health Care Centre and a Level IV hospital in Kampala that already has the clinical staff and equipment needed to provide such care. An important aim of this project is to build capacity and infrastructure, over time, for some of these services to be performed “in house” at the clinic. A proposed budget for the partnership is being developed.



## Purchase of a Transport Vehicle

**A transport vehicle would enable Faith Mulira Health Care Centre to quickly and safely bring patients who need more complex care to a Level IV referral hospital.** This is especially important for pregnant women who may need to be transferred quickly because of serious complications and for those patients who require major surgery. **A transport vehicle also would be used in connection with the proposed vision and dental care partnership,** enabling clinic staff to bring patients to the facility in Kampala for specialist consultations and treatment. Patients would be asked to pay a modest user fee for this service. **The estimated cost of a transport vehicle is US \$35,000.**



## Proposed Remodeling of the Clinic

The clinic has maintained its current footprint since 2011. **In order to meet the increasing demand for more in-patient services, including for the delivery of newborns and for surgical services, the Uganda board has developed a proposal to remodel the clinic.** The budget for these capital improvements is estimated at US \$86,000.



# Our Finances



	FY 2021	YTD 2022 (thru 9/30/2022)
<b>Cash at Beginning of Period</b>	<b>\$ 32,069</b>	<b>\$ 39,449</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Individual Donations	\$ 44,425	\$ 22,750
Corporate Donations	14,772	8,326
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 59,198</b>	<b>\$ 31,076</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Program Expenses		
<b>Quarterly Grants to Faith Mulira Health Care Centre</b>	<b>\$ 48,000</b>	<b>\$ 36,000*</b>
Special Pandemic Grant to Masooli	2,000	—
Website/Donor Communications	992	420
Other Administrative Expenses	826	717
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 51,818</b>	<b>\$ 37,137</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>7,380</b>	<b>(6,061)</b>
<b>Cash Balance at End of Period</b>	<b>\$ 39,449</b>	<b>\$33,388*</b>

\*Since October 1, 2022, we have fulfilled our 2022 grant commitment by sending our last quarterly grant installment of \$12,000 to Faith Mulira Health Care Centre. These quarterly grants pay for the majority of the clinic's regular operating expenses.

As described on page 7, during 2022, The Masooli Project board has been in discussions with the Uganda board to identify one or more projects that will help support the clinic's goal of expanding its capacity to provide more services to the people it serves. These projects will require significant additional funding beyond our annual grants. To bring any of these worthwhile proposals to fruition, we need the vision and generosity of donors like you. Thank you for your faithful support!