

# COME Uganda

HOPE Medical Centre Newsletter  
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Welcome to a **SPECIAL EDITION** Newsletter for the HOPE Medical Centre.

## What started as a dream is now a reality!

It started in 2005 as a dream to fill a need, and as sometimes happens the dream takes on a life of it's own. Other people began to believe in the dream. To see it and support it. To give of their time and their money. Now through the efforts of the many, the dream has become a reality.

A reality which is already setting a new standard in health care not only our district, but for the whole of Uganda.



James methodically working his way down the 3 acre block



In the background the crew from Lighthouse Church from Wollongong in Australia mix the concrete on the ground prior to the pour. Frank setting up the invaluable Pentax level which was kindly donated by C.R.Kennedy & Co Pty Ltd, the Australian Pentax Distributor.



Rick Smith in the foreground led the crew from Lighthouse Church in Wollongong. In the West this job would be easy with a trowelling machine – but not Uganda! The team gave 110% effort whilst here.



## Together we can!



The team from Wollongong, pictured above, arrived in January this year with a plan to build to lock up stage in less than 3 weeks. They achieved their objective and the shell of the clinic was completed. The COME Uganda builders completed the ceilings, plastering, paving, painting, wiring and plumbing.



With the building work finished the Clinic was ready to open for business. Ironically, here in Uganda when a new enterprise commences, it has to be operating for registration. From the planning stage to completion of the building the District & Local Councils were involved. They gave invaluable advice on many different aspects, and when the day came close to the opening of the Clinic the Director of Health commented that the Council had never seen anything like our building and our commitment.



To register, patients filled up the veranda, around the side, then made another line at the front! On the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> of November COME Uganda hosted the "HOPE for Healing" team from America comprising a Dr, Dentist, Pharmacist, an Administrator, and 2 committed ladies of prayer. In 3 days they treated and prayed for over **700 patients!** Even considering that the Dr's were not permitted to treat patients on the 3<sup>rd</sup> because their paperwork had not been approved. They were assisted by several Ugandan staff, several of whom are still working at the Centre treating an average of 20 patients per day.





Judith (our nurse) counts the day's takings. Patients pay for the medicine at cost, but not the consultation. With so many patients we couldn't keep up with the supply.



Kevin (also a girl's name here) has a drip inserted by Peter, our Clinical Officer, to replace depleted fluids caused by malaria. Malaria is the biggest killer of children in sub Saharan Africa.



Peter prepares to inject a baby, also with malaria. Because of our treatment of malaria several lives of children have been saved.

The Clinic is currently staffed by Judith (Nurse/Midwife), Peter (Clinical Officer), Maureen (Community Counsellor & Receptionist), Saina (Lab Technician), and Mary the cleaner. The staff currently see between 20 and 30 patients daily. Reports from Saina show that of the people tested for HIV, the rate is 27% positive, which is extremely high. As yet we cannot treat HIV but refer the patients to Kampala. In January, Maureen and Judith will receive training from the Infectious Diseases Institute which is a precursor to the clinic being given recognition to administer Antiretrovirals for HIV.

Many ladies have asked about Prenatal care and delivery services, for which Judith is qualified. At present Judith stays in a rented room nearby but we would like to build a two roomed house on site so she can attend to the pregnant ladies at all hours. The cost of the house would be about \$5000.

Another cost which is urgent, is for COME Uganda to employ our own Doctor full time. The Doctor would head the clinic and treat the children in our care (next year there will be 580+ in the schools). The Doctor's wages for a year would be about \$7000 which is not expensive when compared to a Western Doctor's wage for a year, also a house at \$5000.

**All donations to the HOPE Medical Centre are tax deductible through our partner "Australia Hope International"**. For more info contact Frank at [admin@comeuganda.org](mailto:admin@comeuganda.org)

"When God gives the vision, He gives the provision". To date the provision for HOPE Medical Centre has come in from many sources, too numerous to mention them all, but the major funders were the Cross family in Brisbane for land purchase, Brisbane City Church and Lighthouse Church in Wollongong for land and building. City Care Brisbane and World Mission in Adelaide also assisted greatly with donations of medical goods, storage, and each sending a 40' container. A big thank you to ALL who contributed in any way.

## Our Mission "To foster abundant life centred on Christ"

We bring hope through the generosity of Australian businesses, individuals, and churches.

### COME Uganda Development Projects - empowered through...

Child education sponsorship, Adult education, Medical relief, Hospital Care and counselling, Infectious disease sensitisation

**Internet donations: COMEaid BSB 065-522 Account No 10101454**

### COME Uganda Missions...

Supporting open air evangelism, building churches, supplying bibles, pastor sponsorship and ministry training