

AFRICAN PROGRAMS PARTNERSHIP



THE CHILD RESCUE CENTRE



MERCY HOSPITAL



HELPING CHILDREN WORLDWIDE

JUNE 2011
WWW.HELPINGCHILDRENWORLDWIDE.ORG

Providing HOPE to impoverished children, their families, and their communities.

MERCY HOSPITAL RECEIVES VITAL EQUIPMENT DONATION

Thanks to two generous donors, Mercy Hospital now has its very own i-STAT unit! Why is this important? The i-STAT, a diagnostic blood analysis system, is a handheld device similar in concept to home testing units used by diabetics for blood sugar monitoring. It is now being used in Emergency Rooms and Intensive Care Units across the United States and is standard equipment for many MASH



The i-STAT blood analysis system improves Mercy Hospital's ability to diagnose patients.

units deployed overseas due to the high degree of accuracy, rapid results and ease of use. The capabilities of the i-STAT are not available within 250 miles of Mercy Hospital. At Mercy Hospital, the i-STAT will first be used to assess a broad panel of electrolyte levels within 2-3 minutes,

but the testing options can be expanded to include diagnosis of a heart attack in progress, severe blood oxygen imbalances and more.

Dr. Tejan, Mercy Hospital's Medical Director, shared the following story about Mercy's new i-STAT in March:

"A 48 year old man was brought to Mercy Hospital after complaining of worsening weakness and all over muscle pains for 3-4 days. His

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CRC Welcomes New Children to Child Support & Foster Care Programs

It is with great excitement that we share the news that we have received full funding to support the addition of 50 new Child Support Program children and 6 new Foster Care Program children at the Child Rescue Centre. Thank you to the numerous donors, both churches and individuals, that came forward to support these additional children. As we all know, the need in Sierra Leone is great, and the support these children receive from the program is life-changing for them. By providing children with an opportunity to go to school and receive quality medical care, we



The CRC is expanding programs to assist children at risk in the community of Bo.

can reduce the risk that they will be forced into child labor to support their families. The addition of these children is a step forward in realizing the new visions of the CRC. We appreciate your support, and look forward to sharing more about the transition of the CRC.

REFRIGERATOR NEEDED: HCW needs a 4.5 cubic foot refrigerator (compact size) to store the i-STAT cartridges on their way to Mercy Hospital. Please call us at 703-793-9521 if you have one to donate. We appreciate your help!



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symptoms began after days of working to clear his 1 acre of farm land in preparation for the spring planting. This is hard manual labor and involves long days in the hot sun, using a hand scythe to cut down the thick brush and undergrowth. His family noted that he had recovered from an episode of a "stomach flu" the week before. When the patient arrived at Mercy he was flaccid and unresponsive, and appeared to have suffered a stroke or coma. He could not speak or move and did not open his eyes when his family tried to arouse him. Last year, had this man arrived at any of the hospitals in the region, he would have been treated for stroke or coma, and he would have likely died. Until the i-STAT, there was no way in the region to accurately check a patient's salt and potassium levels, so diagnoses needed to be made without this critical data. When the family brought this patient in, we used the i-STAT to check his electrolytes and determined that he had a dangerously low potassium level. We were able to immediately administer IV potassium and within hours the patient was awake, talking with his family and sitting up. He was discharged the next day, completely recovered."

God provides miracles in many ways. For a doctor, a patient and his family at Mercy Hospital, the i-STAT was one of those miracles.

**CRC BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT~
"A Day of Fun for a Lifetime of Hope"**



A fun day of golf for a great cause.

It's hard to believe we will soon be holding the **10th Annual Child Rescue Centre Benefit Golf Tournament**, one of our favorite events, not only because it provides a significant portion of the CRC's operating expenses each year, but also because it is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and inspiration. This year, the tournament will be held on Monday, September 26th at a new location, the beautiful 1757 Golf Club located in Dulles, Virginia. This is a great opportunity for companies to sponsor a worthwhile and tax-deductible cause (all but the golf fee is deductible.)

You can register as a sponsor of the tournament online at: www.helpingchildrenworldwide.org. If you would like to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Sarah Newman at sarahnewman@helpingchildrenworldwide.org.

CRC Joins in Sierra Leone 50th Festivities

On April 27th, the Sierra Leone celebrated fifty years of independence, with jubilant demonstrations of love for "Mama Salone," as Sierra Leoneans call their nation. Everyone at the Child Rescue Centre joined in, parading around with tiny flags and decorating the CRC with long green, white and blue flag streamers created by Baiduu Joe, who is in tailoring vocational school. Bo Town was the site of a special ceremony to honor the Paramount Chiefs, who are non-partisan members of Parliament. History was made when President Koroma presented all hundred and forty-nine Paramount Chiefs with a new medallion of Office and Emblem of Authority bearing the coat of arms of the Republic of Sierra Leone, to replace the old colonial emblem. Mr. Lamboi, Auntie Martha, Auntie Massa, Mother Emma, Uncle Phillip, Patty and Allen Morrell and the CRC children were honored to attend this dignified and historical event. The CRC children were the only children at the event.



CRC Director Mr. Lamboi celebrates with the kids.

In more news from the CRC:

- Significant progress has been made on the building renovations to accommodate 6 live-in family groups at the CRC.
- Thanks to a generous donor, the football (soccer) field is being expanded and improved. A volleyball court is also planned.
- Yusuf Tejan, medical student, was notified that he passed all of his courses for the past year and has been promoted to third year. Yusuf is currently volunteering at Mercy Hospital.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **AP Quarterly Partnership Meetings** will be held on September 25th from 2-4 PM at St. Matthews UMC in Richmond and December 4th from 2-4 PM, location tbd.
- **Awakening Music Festival**, Middleburg, VA, Sept 23rd & 24th features TobyMac, Switchfoot, Thousand Foot Crutch, Hawk Nelson. HCW is an event sponsor. www.AwakeningFest.com.
- **10th Annual Child Rescue Centre Benefit Golf Tournament**, Mon Sept 26th at 1757 Golf Club, Dulles VA. Sponsor registration: www.helpingchildrenworldwide.org
- **Go for Bo Fun Run** to benefit the Child Rescue Centre & Mercy Hospital, Saturday, Oct 15th at Ebenezer UMC in Stafford. Register at active.com, search "Go for Bo."