



Quarterly Report / Winter 2018

You Make a Difference



cmmb

Healthier Lives Worldwide

Happy New Year

Dear friends,

Happy New Year. At CMMB we love what we do! Improving the lives of vulnerable women and children rocks our world. And you do too.

This year, thanks to your love, we reached nearly **1.1 million people** with critical care.

Your generosity helped us send more than **half a billion dollars** worth of donated medicines and medical supplies across **31 countries!**

While numbers are impressive, the story of each and every person we serve pushes us to do even more. Every life matters. That is why I am sharing Mary's story. Please share it with others and keep Mary and her baby in your prayers. Women and children are at the heart of what we do.

We couldn't achieve any of this without the hard work done by some of our most faithful partners – women religious. Their service is an inspiration to everyone in our CMMB global family. Their faithful response to provide healthcare for the most vulnerable has been a hallmark of their calling for centuries. Arriving as the new CMMB CEO over five years ago, one of my most enlightening 'discoveries' was to be accompanied by this most amazing group of faithful partners in our mission.

Cover photo: Sister Rosemary met with Pope Francis in Rome



Women religious have played and continue to play an amazing leadership role in the global health arena.

Their legacy is all around us. Thirty-five percent of health services in the US are delivered by Catholic health systems, almost all being founded by the sisters. Globally, and in many of the hardest to reach places, mission hospitals abound and continue to this day; almost all founded by the sisters.

Recently we welcomed the new chair of our board of directors, Sister Rosemary Moynihan, general superior of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth. Sister Rosemary brings a wealth of experience in leading complex organizations in the fields of healthcare and education. She is also a great 'boss' providing insightful guidance and support as our ministry grows. Guided by her leadership, we will enter the new year faithful and ready to do even more to deliver healthier lives worldwide.

Bruce Wilkinson

Bruce Wilkinson
CMMB President and CEO

Let me tell you about Mary, a young mother from South Sudan

Mary and her baby wouldn't have had a chance, if it wasn't for St. Teresa's Hospital and the dedication of the Comboni Missionary Sisters who oversee it.

St. Teresa Hospital is located in the Tobura-Yambio Dioceses. The sisters and staff see more than 300 patients every day. Mary was one of them.

Mary was a young, first-time mother. She had a normal pregnancy and was looking forward to welcoming her first baby. But after three excruciating days of contractions and pain without progress, Mary collapsed.

Unable to revive her, Mary's family feared for the lives of mother and baby. A community health worker contacted CMMB who immediately sent an ambulance.

With little time to spare, Mary was treated with IV fluids and her first child, a healthy six-pound baby girl, was safely delivered by CMMB's highly skilled Dr. Mustapha at St. Teresa Hospital.

With a network of active community health workers, a system of referrals, and the dedicated support of the Comboni Missionary Sisters, CMMB in South Sudan is keeping women and children alive.

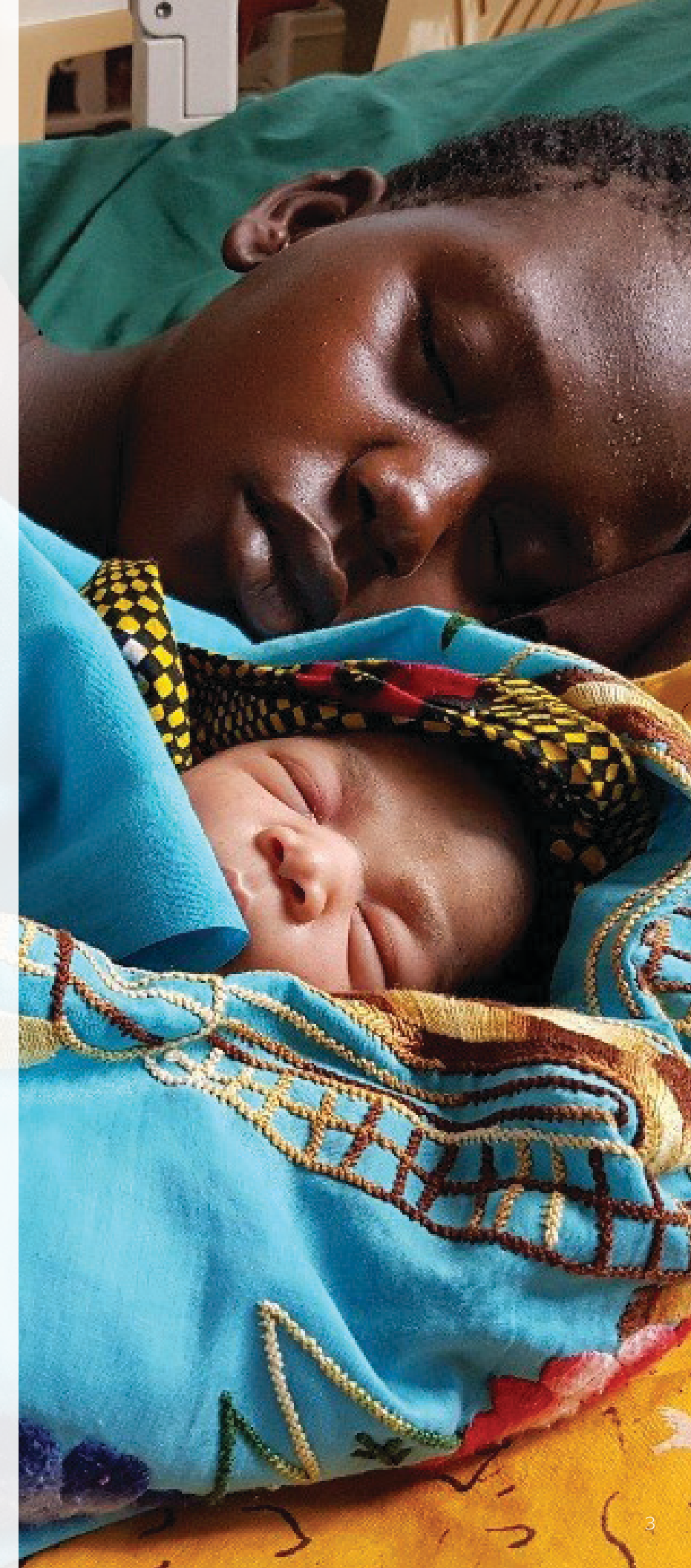
Together, we are saving lives in South Sudan and delivering on the promise of a better future.

South Sudan has one of the highest maternal and child mortality rates in the world. In the communities where CMMB has intervened, we have almost eliminated maternal mortality.

Maternal mortality has been reduced from **20.5 deaths per 1,000** deliveries to **2 for every 1,000**.

We have **completely eliminated transmission of HIV from HIV+ mothers** receiving treatment to their children.

100% of women receiving prenatal services knew their HIV status.



98% of donations invested in programs



CMMB rated four stars, seven years in a row



One of CNBC's top 10 charities changing the world in 2015 & 2016



Meets Better Business Bureau's 20 standards for charity accountability

Sister Rosemary: Leading Through Faith and Love

In September, Sister Rosemary Moynihan was chosen to lead our board of directors. She is the first woman to ever hold this leadership position in CMMB's 100-year-history. We sat down to talk with Sister Rosemary about dignity, respect, and why we should all respond to the call to love our neighbors, wherever they may be..



How do you feel about this new responsibility as the chair of the board of CMMB?

Sister Rosemary: I'm really honored to do this. I pray that I can bring my little piece to this work. I stand on the shoulders of some very good women and men, who for over 100 years, have really kept working at evolving the work of CMMB.

I'm a Sister of Charity, a Daughter of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, who was American, who brought the rule of St. Vincent De Paul to the United States. The founder of CMMB, Dr. Flagg, was a physician from St. Vincent's Hospital in New York City. So I thought, isn't it wonderful that I'm able to make that connection. Dr. Flagg was at the beginning and I'm here now, bringing another Vincentian, 100 years later, to restate the mission, which is asking those with resources to share with those without, so that we can make society a better place for everybody.

There are many who say we should focus on the poor here in the United States first. How do you respond?

I've had the opportunity to be in Haiti, in Peru, and that was life changing for me. I don't think, unless you actually see it, the pictures don't do it; you can't even imagine it. In Peru I met a little girl living in a shocking slum. Her mother had a huge tumor

and this little girl knew her mother was going to die and she would be on her own. I looked at that little girl and I thought, all you need is a little education, and a couple of opportunities, and you could get out of here.

I've also seen very serious poverty here in the states. I spent nine years in downtown Paterson, New Jersey, working with very poor people and you realize that poverty here is very different from poverty in other places. Poverty here has to do with a whole, complex configuration of problems, over generations. Whereas poverty in the developing world, people are stuck in a situation where society hasn't evolved. So you're dealing with two different things, but you have to deal with both.

Why is investing—for the long-term—in the health of remote, marginalized communities important?

CMMB's long-term commitment gives people opportunities to better their whole situation. It's not just feeding them for a week, or for a month. It's helping them to develop ways to feed themselves, ways to get educated, ways to care for their families that are more healthy and more productive. For me, the long-term commitment means that if you can get a generation through, you change that whole section of the country.

“Everyone has the right to dignity. Everyone has the right to an education. Everyone has the right to a home, to meaningful work, to participation, to a just environment where they're of value. It's who we are. It's what it is.”

Why are women religious such an important part of CMMB's legacy? What is their role today?

So much good has been done by so many people. I think women religious usually arise in society where there is a need for service. The vows of poverty, chastity, obedience,

in a sense, take sisters out of the family unit and give us a little more freedom and focus. However, we could never accomplish our work without our lay colleagues. Women religious can spearhead something because we have the time and effort to do it, but I think probably the most unique piece is our availability.

The role of the religious now, is to get focused and partner with as many people as we can to continue the work. So I think we have to listen today, to listen and encourage people—especially young people. Today, I think faith is differently articulated and differently lived. It's something that needs cultivation in a whole new way, because ultimately, when you come down to life in its most complex and difficult form, you need something to ground you.

“You will find that charity is a heavy burden to carry, heavier than the kettle of soup and the basket of bread. You are the little servant of the poor, the maid of charity. They are your masters, but the uglier and dirtier they are, the more unjust and bitter, the more you must give them of your love. It is only because of your love, that the poor will forgive you the bread you given them.”

Advice of St. Vincent De Paul to Sister Jean, Daughter of Charity, making her first visit to the poor.

How would you describe the value of a donation to support CMMB's programs?

People donate to CMMB because they believe in helping others. They may only have \$10, or they may have \$500. Those donors should know that every time the board meets, we ask how is the money being used. Every effort is made to make sure that the largest percentage possible is getting to direct care, to direct services, to people. I feel confident in that.

In most of the Catholic charities I know, including CMMB, the mission is clear and there is attention to detail, there is an honesty. We are all called to serve those most in need, and they do that.

Read Sister Rosemary's full interview: cmmb.org/meet-sister-rosemary

Rosemary Moynihan, SC, PhD, is general superior of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, located in Convent Station, New Jersey.





Sisters Act: Leading by Example

Women religious are at the heart of what we do. They inspire our global community through their commitment to marginalized communities where few are willing to work. That is why we are sharing these moving testimonies from people who work side-by-side with these skilled, compassionate, and caring women.

Sister Mary Sisters of Mercy Our Lady of Lourdes Mutomo Mission Hospital, Kenya



The Mutomo Mission Hospital was founded by nursing sisters belonging to the Irish Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy in 1962.

Sister Mary is the hospital administrator. She has worked in remote Mutomo for over a decade. She told us, "Mission hospitals are associated with the Church so patients know that we will be merciful; we will have a heart. We will give them medicine when they don't have money. So the hospital has won the hearts of many with the mission to serve." At Mutomo Mission Hospital, patients are treated—body and soul—with love and respect. - Tara Matthews, CMMB consultant

Sisters from Haiti, Kenya, Peru, South Sudan, and Zambia all suffer from a lack of adequate infrastructure, medical equipment, medicine, and trained staff. This has a devastating impact on the communities that they serve. No matter how dedicated they are, without your support, they cannot provide care to those in need.

Your gift of:



\$375

can support an international volunteer's placement at a mission hospital.



\$6,000

can keep a clinic running and stocked for a year with enough medicine and personnel to keep women and children alive.



\$38,000

can build a borehole and provide clean, safe water.

Support our mission by supporting the work of women religious and mission hospitals at cmmb.org/sisters

Sister Elena Congregation of the Sisters of Bon Secours Aquimarca - Huancayo, Peru



The Congregation of the Sisters of Bon Secours established a new mission of Catholic charity in Latin America in 1966 to expand their work to alleviate human suffering and bring hope to the poor.

The work Sister Elena does with our community health agents is very valuable. She encourages these women to move forward in their personal lives, and in the work they do to improve the welfare of their community. Sister is very supportive and sincere in her advice. She is a source of peace and tranquility to everyone. I learn so much from Sister Elena. I am grateful to work with her. - Gladys Isabel Meza Reyes, RN, CMMB Peru

Sister Matilda Congregation of Diocesan Right, Daughters of the Redeemer Zambia Episcopal Conference



The Daughters of the Redeemer were founded in 1969, and have been serving Lusaka ever since. They will be celebrating their Golden Jubilee (50 years) this year. Sister Matilda is a registered nurse who has been working for the Zambia Episcopal Conference as national health coordinator since 2008. She helps to coordinate activities in 19 hospitals, 38 rural health centers, six hospices, and 150 community based programs! Sister Matilda's responsibilities range from working with patients at the community level to developing programs for health facilities. She is an advisor to the Bishops Conference on all health issues and supports fundraising for mission hospitals and community based programs. Sister Matilda has dedicated her life to healing the sick and serving the poor. She is a testament to our community. - Sister Prisca Matenga, congregation leader

Sister Maria Daughters of Charity Rosalie Rendu Health and Nutrition Centre, Cité Soleil, Haiti



Daughters of Charity was founded by St. Vincent DePaul in 1663. They have been serving the poor in Cité Soleil for more than 40 years.

I met Sister Maria during a field visit to CMMB Haiti. She told me that one night when she was 13, she saw something on television that would change her life forever: a news update covering Ethiopia showing the devastation of drought and malnutrition. That day she decided she would give her life to serving others. Sister Maria, born in Brazil, first came to Haiti in 1998. Those lucky enough to meet her will be greeted with a firm embrace and sweet smile. But to catch her, you'll have to linger somewhere between the vaccination rooms and the main waiting area as she races from patient to patient. She reminds us that her purpose is not contingent upon the outcome of her work - to heal the sick - but on the reality that there is always someone in the world to care for. - Diane Hoey, CMMB volunteer

Sister Laura and Sister Jane Comboni Missionary Sisters St. Teresa Hospital in Nzara, South Sudan



The Comboni Missionary Sisters are a Catholic Religious Order founded in Italy. They have worked in Africa since 1877 and are longtime CMMB partners.

I had the privilege to volunteer with CMMB in Nzara. I worked closely with Sister Laura, the Hospital Administrator, and Sister Jane, the Nursing Director. These two women were very dedicated to the patients and people of Nzara. I was so thankful to have their leadership and experience. Sister Laura, from Italy, and Sister Jane, from Uganda, are both highly experienced nurses. They have worked in many countries



in Africa before arriving in Nzara. They are a tremendous example of love, compassion, and caring to me, the hospital staff, and the people in the community. What a blessing it is to have dedicated nuns in missionary health work. - Harry Owens Jr., MD, CMMB volunteer

Moving Forward by Giving Back

Our First Aurora Fellow to Serve at St. Teresa Hospital in Nzara, South Sudan

CMMB established the Aurora Fellowship program to honor longtime volunteer, Dr. Tom Catena. “Dr. Tom” is the only permanent physician serving at the Mother of Mercy Mission Hospital in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan. In 2017, he received the Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity. His years of dedicated service and bravery inspired many, including Dr. Matthew Jones, our first Aurora Prize Fellow. The Fellowship is designed to provide specialized opportunities for highly skilled professionals to bring care to the most marginalized and hard to reach communities in the world.

Matthew Jones is a UK trained surgeon with international field experience. Inspired by the work of Dr. Tom, Matthew will spend his fellowship serving at St. Teresa Hospital in Nzara, South Sudan.

“I have been lucky enough to have so many amazing opportunities in life. First to go to Cambridge, to become a lawyer, and then to become a doctor. And then to have so many people who have believed in me, and invested in me, I really feel, in a nice way, it’s payback time. I have a powerful sense everything has been building towards this experience, this great adventure, that I can find myself in possibly one of the most impoverished countries in the world and offering something.”



**Read more about Dr. Matthew Jones at cmmb.org/meet-matthew-jones
Learn how you can become an Aurora Fellow at cmmb.org/aurora-fellow**

Connect with us!

