



#4 | 2018



cmmb

Healthier Lives Worldwide

The Power of Partnerships

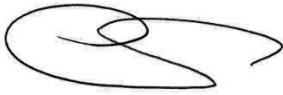
Welcome

Dear friends,

The task of human life is twofold, it consists of *being and doing*. Throughout history, responsible being and doing has always called for action to engage with issues that cause pain and suffering, wherever it is found.

Our world is at a critical juncture. More than 130 million people around the world live in a state of crisis and are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance and protection; the highest numbers since WWII. Millions more are affected by all sorts of fragility, armed conflicts and vulnerability. Therefore, the human imperative of being and doing demands that we all individually, as well as corporately, stand up for our common humanity and act to reduce humanitarian suffering, as much as possible and whenever it is possible.

In this issue, we invite you to take a journey through some of the harshest of these humanitarian crises, where ordinary people deliver amazing compassion and act in humane ways for the love of our common humanity, where aid is given, delivered, and shared with courage and love. And that's the task of human life, both individual and corporate.



Paul Mikov

Vice President, Institutional Partnerships



CMMB rated four stars,
seven years in a row



Meets Better Business Bureau's
20 standards for charity accountability



Performing Miracles in Sudan

The Heart of Nuba

On March 26, 2018, CMMB hosted the premiere of [The Heart of Nuba](#) in New York City. This award-winning film documents the atrocities of war in Sudan and highlights the remarkable life of [Dr. Tom Catena](#), one of CMMB's longest serving volunteers. For over a decade, he has served the forgotten people of the Nuba Mountains and continues to do so.

The premiere was attended by more than 300 guests, including partners, donors, friends, and several members of Dr. Tom's family.

Bruce Wilkinson, CMMB President and CEO commented on the buzz in the theater after the screening, "It is such a joy to see so many people energized about supporting Dr. Tom. That we are inspired and in awe of a real human being who dedicates his life to serving others is a sign of hope to me."

When the film's director and producer, [Ken Carlson](#), was asked why he made a movie like this, he replied: "Tom is living a life of service and we have found that his service speaks to all. The remote location in Sudan and the level of danger that Tom exposes himself to should resonate with audiences all over the world. This much I know—we have a true hero in Dr. Tom Catena. Someone who is working selflessly and courageously, willing to sacrifice everything to carry out what he feels is God's work. In the words of Dr. Tom, 'If I can go to my grave — despite all my limitations, my faults, everything else — if I can say, 'You know what? I think I did God's work.' I think I would die a happy man. That's my goal.'"



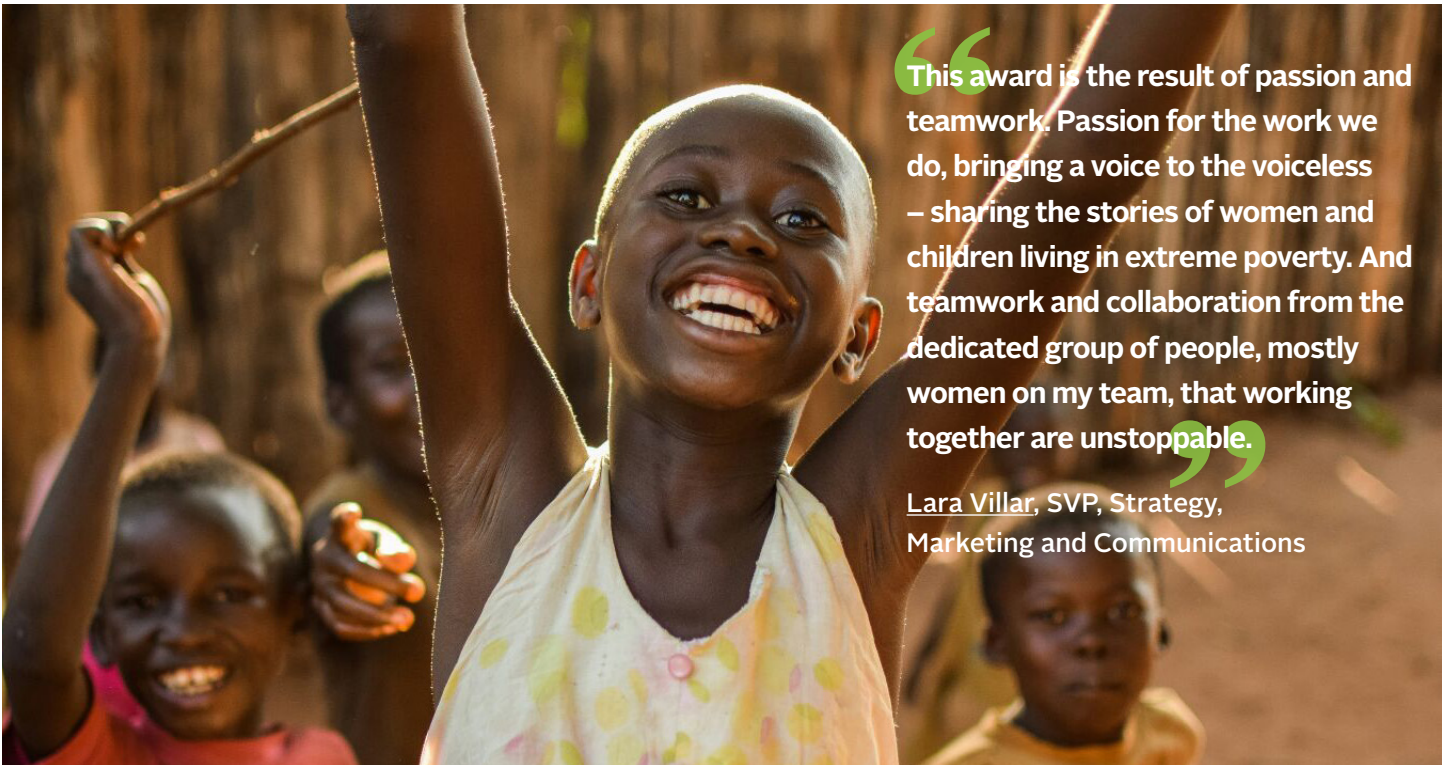
Ken Carlson (bottom left) with many members of Tom Catena's family, and CMMB President and CEO, Bruce Wilkinson (bottom right) at the premiere of *The Heart of Nuba* in NYC.



“What I most like about *The Heart of Nuba* is that it is not the story of Dr. Tom. It is a story about human resilience. It is the story about hope in the face of extreme challenges. It is about how compassion and love can make a real difference.”

Juncal Plazaola Castaño,
Policy Specialist, UN Women

Support Dr. Tom's work at Mother Of Mercy Hospital: www.cmmb.org/catena
Host a screening of the film to raise awareness. Contact: events@cmmb.org



“This award is the result of passion and teamwork. Passion for the work we do, bringing a voice to the voiceless – sharing the stories of women and children living in extreme poverty. And teamwork and collaboration from the dedicated group of people, mostly women on my team, that working together are unstoppable.”

Lara Villar, SVP, Strategy, Marketing and Communications

Creative Excellence in Bringing a Voice to the Voiceless

CMMB's Website Gets Recognized



On May 9th, 2018, the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts announced the winners of the 24th Annual Communicator Awards. We are proud to announce that [CMMB's website received a silver medal](#) among 6,000 entries from around the world, in the digital category for General Charitable Organizations.

Responding to the honor, [CMMB President and CEO, Bruce Wilkinson](#) said, “The launch of our new website in September 2016 was just the beginning of a new, digital journey for CMMB. We’ve seen site visitors increase by 102 percent which means more people than ever are learning about our mission to bring improved healthcare to women and children living in extreme poverty.”

Steve Rio, founder of Briteweb, the company that developed and built the website said, “Awards like this are only possible when two teams come together as one and create something truly special. Beyond being beautiful, the website has been highly effective in raising awareness and support for the incredible work that CMMB does around the world. We’re proud and grateful for our partnership.”

The Communicator Awards is recognized as the largest and most competitive awards program of its kind. The awards honor creative excellence for communication professionals. All entrants are judged and overseen by the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts, a 600+ member organization of leading professionals from a variety of visual arts disciplines, including Disney, MTV, Starbucks, Time Inc., and Yahoo.



Check out our amazing website: cmm.org

Building for a Healthier Future in South Sudan

By Robert Wuillamey, Director of Partnerships

For decades, the people of [South Sudan](#) have suffered from poor healthcare and health outcomes. After the country's independence in 2011, continued unrest, including outbreaks of civil war, led to further deterioration of the health system. These conflicts have left a very deep and dark legacy.

While instability has led others to scale down and cut back their involvement in the country, CMMB is stepping up its support. Though the national Ministry of Health (MOH) acknowledges its role as the key provider of health services to its people, the reality is that they are unable to meet their basic needs. CMMB has stepped in to help fill some of those gaps by taking a leading role in the provision of primary health services through MOH facilities in Western Equatoria.

We, as an organization, go into risky situations, knowing that is where the need is greatest, where stability is critical to the future of these communities. Our faith drives us to walk that path with the people of South Sudan. We look to build the capacity of the hospital to make sure it is well-equipped and well-staffed with well-trained employees to meet the needs of pregnant mothers and children coming in for services.

“Our faith drives us to walk that path with the people of South Sudan.”

[CMMB's partnership with St. Theresa Hospital in Nzara](#) is a primary example of NGOs collaborating to deliver essential health services to communities to create more reliable access to care.

The hospital, owned by the diocese and run by the [Comboni Sisters](#), has been a fixture in the community for over 30 years. Officially founded as a leprosy clinic, the hospital is now the hub of [CMMB's CHAMPS](#) program where we provide services for [pregnant women](#), children, and HIV-patients. These programs all aim to strengthen the overarching health system.

With the near collapsed state of Yambio Hospital, the region's only referral hospital serving nearly two million people, St. Theresa Hospital has seen a huge influx in both the number of patients seeking care, and a diversification of the types of care required. The hospital lacks a proper operating theater and ancillary services, like a blood bank.

CMMB, along with its partners, has agreed to improve the capacity of the hospital with the construction of a much-needed two-theatre surgical wing and post-operative ward, and 16-bed maternity ward. We are also building a facility for blood bank services, which will include collecting, screening, processing, and storing of blood. This will be the region's first blood bank and voluntary blood donation program.

On April 7, 2018, we celebrated the laying of the first brick and launched construction at the hospital. The anticipated completion date is November 2018 with the hope of being operational by the end of the year.



[Sister Laura](#) is the hospital administrator at St. Theresa Hospital. She marks the date of the ground breaking on the ceremonial first brick.

Our Partners

- [The Diocese of Tambura/Yambio](#)
- [The Comboni Sisters](#)
- [Edmund Rice Foundation Australia](#)
- [Sudan Relief Fund](#)
- [Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity \(100 Lives Foundation\)](#)
- [Loyola Foundation](#)
- [Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word](#)
- [Kenda Onlus](#)

Partnering to Fight Cholera in Lusaka

By *Batuke Walusiku-Mwewa, Country Director, CMMB Zambia*



In October 2017, a deadly [cholera outbreak](#) was declared in Lusaka, [Zambia](#). As of April 2018, the World Health Organization reported 5,747 cases nationally with 112 deaths. While the number of new cholera cases has stabilized, expanding access to clean, safe drinking water remains a major challenge.



Community training sessions.



Community members showing thanks for the P&G water purifying materials.

As a country, Zambia has faced a very difficult time. The burdens of extreme poverty, combined with the conditions of rapid urban and peri-urban population growth have left Lusaka extremely vulnerable to this deadly cholera outbreak. There are actions that we may have benefited from taking much earlier, before we were hit by cholera. Actions like keeping our environment clean, building infrastructure to meet the water and sanitation needs of a growing urban population, to develop policies that provide short and long-term solutions, and to implement them. But the fight against cholera needs to start with us—community members—at the household level.

We cannot afford to lose another life in Zambia due to dirty water.

A state of public health emergency forced us to recognize that there is a lot to do, but we cannot do it alone. We need everyone on board so that we can

have clean water, acceptable sanitation, and behaviors that support a cholera-free environment.

It is my humble plea that people, organizations, and governments will continue to join hands with us as we continue our work. This fight against cholera brought together many different partners, including the Zambian government, WHO, USAID, various UN agencies, private sector partners, and NGOs. CMMB's long-time institutional partner, Procter & Gamble, quickly responded to the crisis, donating 630,000 sachets of water purification materials, helping us to reach over 9,000 of the most vulnerable households with safe drinking water.

The underlying, chronic water, sanitation, and hygiene issues, continue to linger in many of the affected areas. People come to the city from rural areas looking

for a better life. We don't have the infrastructure necessary to meet the water and sanitation needs of a growing, urban population. Once we respond to these long-term issues through expanded access and education, we can move closer toward the long-term goal of community awareness and behavior change. It's about education. It's about all of us, living in a community and understanding that by working together to keep a community healthy, we keep ourselves healthy.



Cross Sector Collaboration: Partner Highlights

Johns Hopkins University: Bloomberg School of Public Health

Johns Hopkins, among other organizations, has played a critical role in the advancement of public health. The university's legacy continues to expand exponentially through the effective work of its Bloomberg School of Public Health. CMMB is part of a trilateral partnership with the university's Center for IT in Public Health and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation. Together, we are supporting the [implementation of digital health](#), which is rapidly becoming mainstream within global health initiatives.

The digital health partnership is in the implementation phase among women religious groups, operating health facilities in Kenya. The approach includes the deployment of technology and capacity development/training. When combined, the [initiative will increase effectiveness in service delivery](#) and new skill-sets and capabilities among health professionals, including facility administrators, nurses, public-health coordinators, and others. Over time, greater competence and confidence in the use of digital technologies for health, and connection with the national health systems infrastructure and network in Kenya will have a positive impact on health outcomes.

CMMB is proud to partner with Johns Hopkins University and the [Conrad N. Hilton Foundation](#), whose decades long work and investment in global health is an outstanding achievement.



A community health worker keeps data about all the expectant mothers she supports on her phone.

Loyola Foundation

The [Loyola Foundation](#) is dedicated to supporting Catholic mission activities in the developing world. The foundation has been a CMMB partner since 2005, when it supported the climatization of our medical distribution center. Since then, the Loyola Foundation has collaborated with CMMB on a number of infrastructure projects including water and sanitation initiatives in Peru, and medical equipment upgrades for our [CHAMPS](#) clinical sites in Zambia and Kenya.

Most recently, Loyola has joined as a partner with CMMB in South Sudan on the construction and equipping of the St. Theresa Hospital blood bank initiative with a special grant in recognition of their 60th anniversary.

CMMB is proud to have such a longstanding partnership with the Loyola Foundation.



THE LOYOLA FOUNDATION

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We Nurture Relationships.

We love what we do,
but we can't do it alone.

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