

Quarterly Report / Summer 2018

You Make a Difference



## The Value of Every Life

## Dear friends,

### Life is precious, but it is also very fragile.

For people living in poverty, life is exceedingly fragile. Lack of nutritious food, clean water, sanitation, and quality healthcare lead to the deaths of millions every year, especially women and children.

We, at CMMB, believe in a world where every <u>human life</u> is valued, and health and human dignity are shared by all.

Unfortunately, we know that poverty excludes many women, children, and communities from getting essential health services, and our values call us to stand with them as we work towards healthier lives for all.

You are the reason why we can deliver on our mission, preventing the loss of innocent lives, expanding access to care, and strengthening health. It can be as simple as providing much-needed medicines and medical supplies, or building safe places for mothers to deliver safely and babies to have a healthy start in life. In this report, you will see the impact of your generosity and how you are helping to save the lives of vulnerable people living in Kenya, South Sudan, and Zambia.

I want to end by sharing the story of <u>baby Rebecca</u>. It illustrates, in a very powerful way, how little it takes to offer the difference between life and death.

Thank you for making stories like this one possible.

Bruce Wilkinson

Bruce Wilkinson CMMB President and CEO Cover photo: Gareth Bentley



CMMB rated four stars, seven years in a row



**563,916** people received critical health and social services.

**210,774** women received health and social services, including testing, counseling and treatment for HIV, and support for gender based violence.

**110,955** children received essential health care services, like curative consultations, vaccinations, and growth monitoring.

**\$512 million** worth of medical donations delivered.



Meets Better Business Bureau's 20 standards for charity accountability



## Baby Rebecca would not be alive today if it weren't for YOU

According to Patrick, a nurse who serves at a remote health post in Zambia, he couldn't have saved the life of baby Rebecca if it weren't for the training and resources he'd received from CMMB. And we know that none of this would've have been possible without generous friends like you.

When Patrick woke up to pounding on his door, he knew someone was in trouble. A young woman was in labor. While Patrick is not a trained midwife, he knew there was no time to get her to the hospital, which is more than four hours away. He would have to deliver this baby alone.

I wouldn't have been able to save Rebecca's life if it weren't for the training and resources I received from CMMB and the volunteers. It helped me to save a life.

— Patrick, nurse, Zambia

An hour later, baby Rebecca was born. But something wasn't right. The baby wasn't breathing. Patrick had never experienced anything like it before, but he remained calm. Less than a week earlier, he had attended a <u>neonatal training</u> <u>session led by CMMB volunteers</u>.

"The training taught me practical skills and the steps to take to stimulate that first important breath. I knew what to do."

Without wasting any time, Patrick began to implement everything he'd learned. First, he removed the secretions that he thought might be blocking the baby's airways. No change. Patrick then used the Ambu bag - a self-inflating resuscitator and began to pump. The room was quiet. Then suddenly, a loud cry. The baby was breathing!

Our highly skilled volunteers are placed in the most remote and challenging places in the world to serve the most vulnerable patients. The greatest gifts they leave behind are the skills and knowledge shared with local health professionals. Our volunteer program exists because of people like you. You helped Patrick save Rebecca's life.



Patrick checks up on baby Rebecca



451 volunteers have been placed in 14 countries, providing more than 50,000 hours of service over the past six months.



Mary West Piowaty was part of the Mwandi mission trip team who trained Patrick and other local health professionals on neonatal resuscitation.

## You're Making Dreams Come True for the Comboni Sisters in South Sudan

### Building for a Healthier Future in South Sudan

For decades, the people of South Sudan have suffered war, famine, and a lack of basic healthcare. A history of conflict has left a very deep and dark legacy, with women and children suffering the most from poverty and abuse. While instability has led others to scale down and cut back their involvement, with your support, CMMB has stepped up to help fill in the gaps, bringing essential care and medicine to the most vulnerable.

You can be a part of this dream Join us.m

We partner with St. Theresa Hospital in Nzara. This hospital, 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 Children and Mothers Partnerships (CHAMPS) program, where we deliver essential health services to communities and create more reliable access to care.

However, St. Theresa hospital lacks basic facilities needed to save lives, including an operating theater and a blood bank; things the Comboni sisters have been dreaming of for a long time.

### Currently, the hospital does not have the capacity to do even simple surgeries in a clean and an efficient way.

Thanks to the generosity of several partners, on April 7, 2018, we celebrated the launch of a new construction project to upgrade the infrastructure at St. Theresa Hospital, which includes:

- two-theater surgical unit
- post-operative ward
- 16-bed maternity ward
- the region's first blood bank

However, to complete the project, we need you. With your help, the new construction will benefit more than 17,000 patients annually in Nzara County and the surrounding areas. It will be especially important for pregnant women, newborns, and children. With your support, we can improve access to quality surgical services, and advanced obstetric services for pregnant women, provide additional recovery wards to support increased demand, and build a consistent and trustworthy supply of blood to support surgeries and other health issues requiring blood transfusions.

## How you can support St. Theresa Hospital



can provide postnatal care for mother and baby.



I didn't experience one single day of peace since I arrived. But I am happy because I shared with the people the uncertainty, the insecurity, the suffering, and the little joy that everyday life gives us. - Sister Laura (left), Comboni Sister and Hospital Administrator

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**87,720** people received critical health services in South Sudan over the past six months.



\$500

can purchase a delivery bed for the new maternity ward.



can purchase an ultrasound machine.

Check our website for regular updates at cmmb.org!

## Emergency Transportation is Critical to Save Lives



It's common sense. Ambulances and emergency vehicles save lives. But sadly, most mission hospitals and health facilities serving the poorest communities just can't afford them. That means pregnant women and sick children die needlessly.

Robert Munyan drives the single ambulance that serves more than 180,000 people in the <u>CHAMPS Program</u> in Mutomo, Kenya. We asked him why emergency transport is so critical in this remote community.

I have worked at the <u>Mutomo Mission Hospital</u> for over 15 years. I was here when the ambulance first came to our hospital. Before the ambulance, women used to go into labor far from the hospital. They either walked or were carried to the main road, trying to find a means of transportation. The tragic part of the story is that some women and newborns didn't make it. I saw this happen, and it was very painful. One day, I received an emergency call from a community, about 60 km from the hospital. There was a woman at a dispensary, whose delivery had become complicated. I went as soon as I was called. The nurse that was with her said the woman had been in labor for almost two days. We were all afraid of what might happen.

Within an hour after arriving at Mutomo Mission Hospital, she had delivered a baby boy, and she named him Robert. The mother told me that he was named after me. Real happiness came from the good health of the baby boy and his mother.

Thanks to the generosity of many members of our CMMB family on Father's Day, we mobilized enough resources to deliver an emergency vehicle for this community in Kenya. Your generosity saves lives every day.

## Ambulances save lives. Your support can mean the difference between life and death:



Gas for a week: \$50

Fuel is critical. The distance between a patient and the nearest healthcare facility can range between 20 and 35 miles.

### First responder kit: \$150



Basic emergency response bag includes first aid supplies, resuscitation mask, stethoscope, and other essential equipment.



Routine maintenance: \$200/year Ambulances are life-saving investments. Emergency vehicles must be maintained for dependability.



Driver: \$500/month Dedicated ambulance drivers are heroes in poor, remote communities. Lives depend on them.



## An Update About Our Baby, Titus

Three years ago, when we met Titus, he was a motherless newborn in a desperate situation. Just days before, his mother died in childbirth. Without any way to reach a hospital, she hemorrhaged during Titus' home delivery and died.

The family was devastated and so was our team. Living in extreme poverty, they didn't have the money to pay for formula and clean water, and the baby was going to die. The Sisters of Mercy at Mutomo Mission Hospital heard about Titus and faithfully supported him with formula and care during the first few days, but a long-term solution was critical.

That is when several loving members of our CMMB family stepped in to sponsor his infant formula, food, clean water, and access to healthcare. Today, Titus is three years old. He is a healthy, happy child who is a blessing to his family—and ours. The father is now a motorbike taxi driver and earns enough to pay for food, school fees, and healthcare.

Baby Titus inspired our Angel Investor Program. More than 200 children living in extreme poverty now have a clear pathway to a better future. Want to be part of this story?

### To become an Angel Investor visit: cmmb.org/angel



Titus, Age 1

# We recently asked you why you made your most recent gift. Here is what you said.



I don't have much, but when I had my daughter it was in the safety of a hospital with wonderful midwives, nurses, and doctors. All women should have the same opportunity. CMMB, you make the world a better place. I've been to Africa and have seen the lack of basic needs being met. I've been fortunate to have had healthcare for all of my five children, and I want to be able to help provide that for others. The human spirit of kindness and joy I witnessed was beautiful. May God bless the new mothers!

My mother adopted me and I want to give her something special so I made a gift in her honor. I can't think of a better way to give than to all the mothers and babies. God bless you all.

We love to hear from you. You inspire us. I hope to be a little help to those of you that are working every day where it is most needed. Thanks for your service.

As a mom living in a country with freedom and medical help any time day or night, I feel for mothers who do not have this privilege. I cannot imagine being without water, sanitation, income, and education. I can't even imagine this reality. May our donations bless them beyond any dreams they could have. One never knows the future, but I am blessed with safety, comfort, financial security, and the freedom to live without fear. I would love a world where all women have the same assurances I have known in my life. That is why I was inspired to give.



in CMMB — Healthier Lives Worlwide

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