





CHRISTIAN SURGICAL NETWORK

April 2023 - Volume 2, Issue 1

Background:

Over 3 million people in Northeastern DRC have little to no access to medical care.

Bunia, the largest city in this region, has experienced substantial population growth to around 2 million, of whom many are internally displaced people due to guerrilla violence in the adjacent region.

Christian Surgical Network (CSN) is addressing this need:

- Partnering with existing mission hospitals throughout Northeastern DRC who need additional short-term surgical support to handle their workload



- Opening up Mercy Surgical Polyclinic (MSP) in Bunia, to offer general medical and surgical services, including specialty care in orthopedics, urology, obstetrics/gynecology, and pediatrics.



For more information: https://piei.org/congocsn-home

To donate, click on the box labeled "Give to Christian Surgical Network"

Updates:

- Construction is over 90% completed, thanks to your generous support. Remaining items include a gurney ramp and a door to the radiology room.
- We are thrilled to announce that The Dalton Foundation has graciously provided a large container full of medical supplies and equipment for MSP. Additional items were donated by InterVol and other organizations to completely fill the space.
- We are raising \$19,000 needed for shipping the container from Ohio, USA to Bunia, Congo.
- CSN's official paperwork is on the governor's desk awaiting his final authorization. Please pray for quick approval.
- Once MSP is open, CSN's annual operating budget will be nearly \$200,000 and we pray that the Lord will bring along donors to partner with our ministry. Please consider joining with us!!

CSN's New Partner, Grace Ministries:

Isiro is the capital city of the province of Haut-Uele, located in Northeastern DR Congo. Grace Ministries was birthed through the initiative of Dr. Jean Claude Bataneni and is operating Grace Hospital-iMG. We praise God for this third addition to our network of mission hospitals, which also includes Centre Medical Evangelique Nyankunde and Centre Hospitalier Elikya.

Dr. Bataneni is a fellow Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) colleague who graduated from Bongolo, Gabon. (We met in 2011 during PAACS residency.) In March 2023, we spent one week together evaluating patients, performing operations, and sharing the gospel and the love of Christ with these patients and their families.

One mother desperately needed treatment for her baby who was suffering from hydrocephalus (big head). She sought healing throughout the region from other hospitals and traditional healers, but no one could help her. We were able to insert a Ventriculo-Peritoneal shunt. The baby experienced physical relief, which facilitated a spiritual healing for the mother as she accepted Jesus. This is just one of many examples of how physical and spiritual healing can work together.

God was highly exalted during the surgical campaign. We were honored also to participate in the inauguration ceremony of Grace Ministries, to celebrate the work God has begun. Grace Ministries will also be affiliated with PIEI.







We hope to grow CSN's impact across the region by multiplying surgical campaigns in the areas where we are most needed. Join us in praying the words of the Apostle Paul, "God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus," and for His glory to be manifest throughout our ministry.

What beautiful synergy and kingdom impact is stitched together when two PAACS alumni and PIEI missionaries, sharing a similar vision, are able to work hand-in-hand and sustain each other for a God-sized work. Placing an intramedullary nail for an old femur fracture was one of many complex cases when we benefitted from each other's abilities and experience. We praise God, to whom that family is forever grateful.



We welcome your participation in the ministry as the Lord leads. You can contribute a tax-deductible donation online at https://piei.org/congocsn-home - you will see a drop-down menu for ministries with "CSN Congo" listed last on the list (NOT to be confused with "Congo Ministries").

If you want more detailed information about CSN, including our 2023 budget, please use <u>csnchair@piei.org</u> to contact me. If you would like to receive regular newsletter updates from our ministry, you can write to <u>csnnewsletters@piei.org</u> or you can subscribe online at https://piei.org/csn-newsletters also.

Thank you for partnering with our work for the people of Congo and the glory of Jesus.



On behalf of our entire CSN team,

Jacques Ebhele Angundru, MD, FCS(ECSA)



Partners in Evangelism International 5518 W. Diversey Ave. Chicago, IL 60639