

In this newsletter:

- US Partnership Committee Congo Visit
- Lives Transformed
- Prayer Requests

US Partnership Committee Congo Visit



Pictured here, in front of the Mercy Surgical Polyclinic in Bunia, are some of CSN's Congo and US PIEI committee members, during an October 2-8, 2022 visit. From left to right, Dr. Samuel Nigo (General Surgeon), Dr. Rebekah Kim (US secretary), Miss Nicole Okusaru (Congo treasurer), Pastor Roger Amani (Congo Secretary), Dr. Jacques Ebhele (CSN National Director) and Dr. Thomas Robey (US Chairperson).

Meeting together was inspirational and motivational for our Congo team members. Dr. Kim, Mr. Kwon and Dr. Robey had many important inputs including planning patient services in the facility, creating a better system to maintain financial records, emphasizing some legal aspects of the ministry, and helping develop next year's budget.

We are so grateful to our US Partnership Committee's dedication to help build us up with powerful guidance and advice.

Lives Transformed

Winning souls for Christ is why the Christian Surgical Network (CSN) exists. To fulfill our mission, we have been working to introduce a variety of simple spiritual assessments in our medical intakes, allowing us to discover our patients' spiritual needs. We incorporate spiritual care into our daily practice of surgery by sharing our faith with patients in ways that safeguard the important ethical principles of respect, sensitivity, and permission.

For example, we received a young lady, 28 years old, in consultation for difficulties getting pregnant. She is married, living with her husband under the same roof for 6 years now, and never has had a child. We prayed with her, used testimonies of what God has done before in a similar situation to encourage her, and operated on her. Guess what? God has done it again! The lady is now expecting a baby. We praise God not only for the baby, but more importantly for the couple who desire to surrender their lives to Jesus. They have heard about Jesus before, but they have never surrendered their lives to Christ. God has used their situation as a turning point for them and they have decided to follow Jesus! Halleluiah!



In 2022, CSN has operated on 162 patients in two partner hospitals in Bunia of which we identified 32 patients with clear spiritual needs. Our chaplains have followed them, and 12 out of 32 have surrendered their lives to Jesus. Praise the Lord for these transformed lives.

We are expecting the numbers to grow exponentially next year as we are prayerfully planning on opening **Mercy Surgical Polyclinic (MSP)** in Bunia in January 2023. MSP will be the home base of CSN and will consist of an outpatient clinic, surgical suite with recovery room and potential space for surgical patients who may need to stay overnight. We will continue to use our partner hospitals in Bunia for our more complicated surgical patients who require more long term care. We plan to begin the MSP with Dr. Ebhele serving as the chief of surgery, 2 general practitioners, 1 administrator, 1 accountant, 1 nurse anesthetist, 6 nurses, and 2 custodians. We will be increasing the number of staff as we build our funding base. In addition, we are planning 3 trips to mission hospitals outside of Bunia in 2023 for surgical campaign in areas where there is a complete lack of surgical expertise. Our ministry has the opportunity to impact more than 3 million people in Eastern DRC who do not have access to good surgical care. Our operating budget for 2023 is nearly \$200,000 and we pray that the Lord will bring along donors who would like to partner with our ministry. Please consider partnering with us!!

Prayer requests:

- Pray for winning more souls for Christ for the advancement of His Kingdom in DR Congo
- Pray for medical equipment and surgical supplies needed for MSP
- Pray that the construction will be completed and the necessary funds for the opening of MSP early next year will be provided.

We welcome your financial donations to the ministry as the Lord leads. You can contribute a tax-deductible donation online at www.piei.org. Click on the red donate button at the upper right corner and you will see a drop-down menu for funds with **CSN Congo** listed last on the list (NOT to be confused with **Congo Ministries**). You can then pick from four subaccounts if you want to direct your donation further.

If you want more detailed information about CSN including 2023 budget, please contact me at csnchair@piei.org. If you would like to receive regular updates from our ministry, we need your permission to include your email in our Mailchimp mailing list. Please take a moment and reply yes to csnnewsletters@piei.org or you can subscribe online at <https://www.piei.org/csn-newsletters>.

Thank you for partnering with CSN.

On behalf of our entire CSN team,
Ebhele Angundru Jacques, MD, FCS(ECSA)

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