

Christian Surgical Network (CSN) Update

As we come to the end of 2023, it is time to assess the goals we set at the beginning of this year. We have many reasons to praise God for what He has accomplished in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) so far through this ministry.



Drs. Jacques and Jean-Claude Bataneni (both PAACS grads) operating together at Grace Hospital in Isiro.

In 2023, we performed major surgeries on a total of 169 patients in three different hospitals partnering with the Christian Surgical Network. We mainly worked in our home city of Bunia in Eastern DRC, but we also had the opportunity to fly 200 miles to Isiro, DRC to serve at Grace Hospital. Most importantly we were able to share the Gospel of Christ with 195 patients and their families. Of these, sixty eight people gave their lives to Christ. We praise the Lord for this incredible harvest!

Please pray for:

- More opportunities to win souls for Christ and for the advancement of His Kingdom in DR Congo.

We believe that our clinical and surgical work for Christ will increase this coming year as we prepare for the opening of Mercy Surgical Polyclinic (MSP) in Bunia. We are still finishing up on the construction of the facility and, most importantly, waiting for our surgical supplies and equipment to arrive from the United States.

As we shared in our last newsletter, we praise the Lord for our container full of donated medical equipment and supplies that was secured from Jacques' trip to the US last Spring. The container was shipped from Ohio the end of August. Unfortunately, the container is still stuck in the Kenyan port of Mombasa. We have been working for over 2 months now to correct paperwork errors that have delayed the delivery of the container to Bunia. We are currently awaiting the final approval. This has become a costly and lengthy process.

Please pray for:

- God to provide CSN finances to be able to pay the demurrage fees for the delay at the port (\$6800).



We cannot wait to see our cargo reach Bunia, DR Congo

- Those individuals engaged in the clearing process so that our container will be released from the port as soon as possible.
- A safe and timely transportation of our cargo from Mombasa (Kenya) to Bunia (DR Congo).
- The tax exemption authorization granted from the governor's office to happen smoothly.
- Us to be a good steward of what God has entrusted to us to save lives for His glory.

We have graciously been offered the opportunity to have experts from the Dalton Foundation in Ohio travel to Bunia and come and install some of our equipment at MSP after the container arrives. Please pray for safe travel of the team hopefully sometime in February of 2024.

God Honored their Faith



I would like to introduce **Dr. Etienne Mastaki Alemi** (on the left) and **Dr. Michael Baraka Drakangba** (on the right) two young doctors from Bunia who are committed to following Jesus in their medical careers. Both of them have leaned into their faith believing that God would provide for their training needs. First, they moved with their families to Kampala, Uganda for English courses. Etienne then applied and has been admitted to the Kijabe PAACS (Pan African Academy of Christian Surgeons) Anesthesia Program in Kenya. After he graduates, Dr. Alemi plans to become the anesthesiologist for CSN Ministry. Dr. Drakangba applied and has been admitted to the HEAL Africa surgically training program with COSECSA (College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa). Micheael would like to return as an orthopedic surgeon to CME Bunia Hospital, one of CSN partner hospitals. We celebrate God for His faithfulness in the lives of these young doctors.



Family Update



Our children just completed their final exams in Kampala, Uganda for this academic year. They now have a two month holiday. God willing, we are praying for them to be able to visit their grandparents in DR Congo.

Dinah is very busy taking care of our children in Kampala. She is also currently completing a discipleship course at Watoto Church (our local church in Uganda). She has daily assignments that take most of her time when she is not providing for our children.

We are thankful that our family is doing well. We are healthy and God continues to lead, provide, and protect in His loving mercy and favour. We praise His name for all of these blessings.

Financial Needs

- We need to complete the building that will house MSP in 2023:
 - We need to build a gurney ramp with concrete and railings to the 2nd floor so that physically impaired and elderly patients can access the clinic and surgery suites: **\$7,500.00**
 - We need to build a entry door for our radiology room on the 1st floor: **\$2,550.00**

- Our 2024 annual budget for CSN was recently approved by our PIEI US partnership committee. The overall budget for next year is **\$ 99,960**. We are hoping to raise **\$68,520 (\$5710 per month)** through our PIEI donors and generate the other \$32,640 needed through surgical fees.
- As mentioned above, the longer our container is stuck in Mombasa, we are accruing daily charges. As of December 1, our fees will be approaching **\$7000.00**. We pray for God's grace and mercy regarding these charges, and will provide the funds to pay these charges.

We welcome your financial donations to the CSN ministry as the Lord leads. You can make 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. For more detailed information, please contact us at csnchair@piei.org. To receive regular updates from our ministry, please take a moment and reply yes to csnnewsletters@piei.org or you can subscribe online at <https://www.piei.org/csn-newsletters>.

If you would like to hear more about CSN in the DRC, please join us, Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 3 pm CST (4 pm EST, 11 pm EAT) for a one hour **ZOOM** update on CSN by Dr. Ebhele – **all are welcome!**

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://mcw-edu.zoom.us/j/93754632707?pwd=a1dOb0ZsSFNnWmloR3o1SDEzNnhodz09>
 Meeting ID: 937 5463 2707
 Passcode: zjX64tyt

Thank you for partnering with CSN.

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



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