

DODOMA TANZANIA HEALTH DEVELOPMENT
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DODOMA TANZANIA HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

Bringing Health and Hope to Central Tanzania

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Tanzania's Minister of Health Dr. Seif Rashid takes the first excavator dig for the expansion of Dodoma Christian Medical Center. The 5,000 square-foot addition will add badly-needed patient beds, additional consultation rooms, and dedicated spaces for endoscopy and CT scans.

Dr. Majinge
"Ready to Run"



Since he hit the ground running as Director last July, Dr. Charles Majinge has wasted no time in establishing DCMC as a top provider in the region.

"The aim now is to have the main four specialties – internal medicine, general medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, and pediatrics," he said. "Those are the keystones for care."

Hiring specialists is one of many goals for Dr. Majinge, whose reputation as a top Ob/Gyn in the country has drawn patients from as far as India. He is also Chairperson of the Ministry of Health's Private Hospital Registration Board and a Board Member of the Medical Council of Tanganyika.

Message from the Executive Director

International development work is fraught with unknowns and unpredictable timetables, but here at DTHD we know one thing for certain: With the hundreds of people now coming to DCMC every day for care, the tide will be even larger when the 100-bed hospital is completed.

We're currently raising the \$4 million needed to complete DCMC's expansion and hospital projects (see page 1), but equally important, we're working to develop collaborative partnerships that will bring the human, technical and educational resources DCMC needs to meet the demand for care now and in the future.

A swirl of emails is being exchanged with universities, corporations, foundations – and especially with caring

donors like you. None of what you read here in this newsletter would be happening without your ongoing support and generosity. Mwimbe Boehl, DCMC's Community Health Director, said it best at a recent DTHD event in Minneapolis: "We know you care and it means everything to us."

We look forward to sharing continued good news from DCMC this year, and thank you — always — for lending your willing hands, enthusiastic minds, and spirit-filled hearts to our mission. You're part of something that is truly changing health care in Dodoma, Tanzania.

Anne Hussian
Executive Director



Expansion continues on Dodoma Innovation & Production Company's (DIPC) water bottling plant. This separate, for-profit business is committed to helping support DCMC.

Breaking Ground to Grow

The vast need for quality health care in the region is driving DCMC to grow its facilities, staff and services

With the demand for care at Dodoma Christian Medical Center Trust (DCMC) outpacing available space, a 5,000 square-foot expansion of the small hospital's west wing kicked off June 5 with Dr. Seif Rashid, Tanzania's Minister of Health, taking the first excavator dig.

Also present was Dr. Eckhard Alt, Professor of Medicine at Tulane University, who was sharing his research with Tanzanian doctors (see page 2).



Dr. Seif, Tanzania's Minister of Health, and Dr. Eckhard Alt, Professor of Medicine at Tulane University at the excavation.

The urgent need for care is driving the growth of the medical center; the number of patients seen this year has increased 49% over the same period in 2014. DTHD's ongoing Capital Campaign will also raise funds for DCMC's larger 100-bed hospital, which is slated for completion in 2016. Both facilities will mean DCMC can focus on better meeting the high demand for care.

Currently at 64 (44 medical and 20 support), the staff is also expected to grow.

Our mission is to ensure high-quality, compassionate, Tanzanian-led health care for the people of Central Tanzania by developing the capacity and sustainability of Dodoma Christian Medical Center.



Mwimbe Boehl, Chief of DCMC's Community Health Department, at DTHD's 3rd annual Mama Salama event May 1.

Community Health Impacting Lives

Mwimbe Boehl, Chief of DCMC's award-winning Community Health Department (CHD), captivated the audiences at two recent DTHD events: Afya Ni Uhai | Health is Life on April 30 and the 3rd annual Mama Salama Women's Event May 1. During her visit, she was also a featured speaker at the University of Minnesota's *Cancer Care in Tanzania* symposium.

Boehl set out to create a Community Health program in Dodoma 10 years ago, and today she oversees a number of programs that are making a real difference in the region:

- Safe Motherhood
- Hygiene & Sanitation
- Cervical Cancer Screening
- Adolescent Reproductive Health Education & Drug Prevention
- Fistula Outreach
- Emergency Obstetric Care

The CHD is sustained primarily from donor support and studies show that health care is improving in the 60+ rural villages in which they work.

EVENTS FEATURE DCMC'S SUSTAINABILITY MODEL



Erik Thurman, DTHD Board Chair, closed the Afya Ni Uhai event April 30. From far right, speakers include: Kjell Bergh, Honorary Consul to Tanzania; Bob Griffin, President of DTHD; and Mwimbe Boehl, Chief of DCMC's Community Health Dept.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR AFYA NI UHAI SPONSORS:

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Medtronic, UofM Among DCMC's Recent Visitors



University of Minnesota's Dr. Hope Pogemiller (left) conducted a site visit in April as part of a strategic plan to develop an institutional partnership with the University of Minnesota.

The quality care and outstanding facilities at DCMC have made it an attractive international partner to organizations with a focus on global health. Recently, visitors representing the **University of Minnesota, Medtronic, and the Touch Foundation** came to DCMC to discuss potential collaborative work.

Also, Dr. Eckhard Alt, Professor of Medicine at **Tulane University** spoke at DCMC to a consortium of doctors from throughout Tanzania on stem cell therapy for wound healing.

"There's a huge need in Tanzania for this kind of therapy," said Dr. Alt. "I visited a crowded wound ward in [Dodoma's] General Hospital where healing was a poor prognosis."

Dental Clinic Stats

- Of the more than 5,000 patients seen in 2014, 55% were new.
- The clinic is open 24/7 for patients needing emergency care.
- In 2014, 41% of all procedures were extractions, but this rate has been decreasing incrementally over the past few years as the number of fillings increase.
- On average, the Dental Clinic sees 20 patients each day.



Dr. Charles Rabemahefa, Chief of DCMC's Dental Clinic, shows a poster he created for the Preventative Oral Health Program.

Dental Clinic Launches New Oral Health Program

Plan to educate school children on oral hygiene

Under the leadership of Dr. Charles Rabemahefa, Chief of DCMC's Dental Clinic, the dental staff is implementing a new Preventative Oral Health Program. The goal is to teach children proper dental hygiene at various schools throughout the region and work with DCMC's Community Health Department to teach Village Health Workers about dental care.

Training has also begun for the nursing staff at DCMC so they can recognize oral health problems their patients may have and refer them to the Dental Clinic.

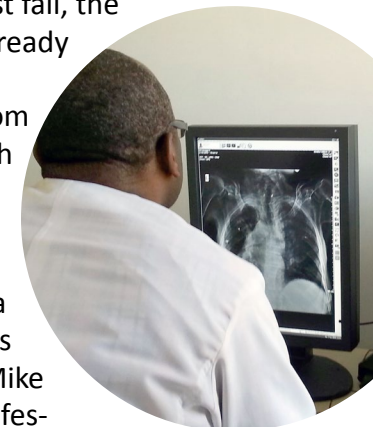


Each year, many patients come to the Dental Clinic seeking care for preventable disease and pain. **"It's high time that our dental services also benefit communities surrounding DCMC through oral health education in primary schools and the community in general,"** said Dr. Rabemahefa.

The program is also designed to dispel pervasive myths about dental care in the region, many of which pertain to pregnancy and baby teeth. One such myth is that if a woman has a tooth pulled during pregnancy, she risks endangering or even losing her baby.

Digital X-Ray a Huge Draw

The digital x-ray at DCMC, the only one of its kind in Dodoma, has proved it was well worth the wait. Installed last fall, the x-ray has already led to 100 referrals from other health care facilities. It was also the reason for a visit from its donor Dr. Mike Nelson, Professor of Radiology at the University of Minnesota. While on site, he also trained DCMC staff on the use of ultrasound equipment, which he also donated.



Dr. Mike Nelson, Professor of Radiology at the University of Minnesota, discusses an x-ray with Radiologist Peter Lubala at DCMC during a site visit in February.