

Keeping Score So We Can Get Better

Dear Friend,

"I just treated a woman who, over the years, buried her husband and eight of her children."

Dr. Paul Emmans served as one of three physicians from the U.S. and U.K. during our latest mission trip to Uganda (which unfortunately was last summer, thanks to the lockdown and travel ban). Dr. Paul is a veteran of numerous mission trips to Africa. He has seen it all. But that day, he was in Sarakihombya and he had just treated a precious woman whose heart had been broken way too many times.

Unnecessary death is way too common. Statistics don't exist for specific diseases and life expectancy in the village of Sarakihombya or any of our other villages. The Ourganda teams are beginning to compile statistics, but for now we have to rely on

estimates that project life expectancy to be in the high 30s. Yes, the high 30s. Spend a couple days with our care team, and you will understand. You will simultaneously feel two emotions: a deep sadness at the struggles of the people, and cheerful hope that things are changing.

We are picking a fight with unnecessary death. We have stories and photos, happy parents and smiling kids from every one of the villages we serve. People attend the health lectures by our clinical officers, nurses, and midwives. They receive hygiene kits, birthing kits, soap, and shoes.

Pregnant moms receive daily vitamins, and babies are tested for sickle cell disease. We are buying as many water filters as we can. Almost 3,000 people have joined our wellness clubs and are doing their best to live healthfully. Over a dozen kids and parents have traveled across the country for life-saving surgeries sponsored by donors like you.

But how does Ourganda keep score? How do we track our progress? How do we know - and show - that our efforts are saving and extending lives? Since you asked, here is the answer.

How We Already Keep Score

The hospitals and clinics in the Bundibugyo area attempt to track patient data using writing pads and blackboards because computers are few and far between. They are frustrated that their only data is incomplete, inaccurate, and almost useless. In contrast, every Ourganda clinical officer, nurse, midwife, and driver is equipped with a Dell laptop or Samsung tablet loaded with medical software designed for developing countries (EMR4DW). Every one of them has attended training specific to the software and they are getting better and better at faithfully recording the names, personal health information, and specific condition and treatment of every patient. We are proud of the fact that Ourganda's medical tracking system is the most comprehensive and accurate in the entire country of Uganda.



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What's New in Scorekeeping?

Village Health Scores. We are just now rolling out a new scoring system for our villages. We created a template that allows us to assign each village an overall health score. The system gives appropriate weight to these six factors:

- **Access to Water** - How far do they have to go for water? How pure is the water?
- **Medical Access** - Can they see a clinical officer or a doctor when they need to? Are medications available? Are they able to attend health education classes?
- **Hygiene** - Do women have hygiene kits? Does everyone have access to hand washing, soap, and latrines?
- **Reproduction** - Do pregnant moms receive pre-natal care? How about birthing kits? Do they understand and know how to implement family planning?
- **Prevention** - Are they wearing shoes and sleeping under mosquito nets? Are children vaccinated?
- **Nutrition** - Do they understand the importance of a balanced diet? Do they have access to a variety of healthy foods?

A few days ago, our team sent us the first scores for each of our villages. A perfect health score is 100. Our six villages scored between 39 and 55.

We have a long ways to go, but the template we are using shows us exactly what needs to happen next. The next time we take the temperature of each village (six months from now), we know the scores will be higher. If you would like a copy of the Village Health Scores document, let us know and we will send it to you.

Here is the bottom line: One person at a time, **we are winning the fight** against extreme poverty, unsafe water, and unnecessary death.

Are you willing to join the fight? Your generous donation makes an enormous difference. Your money goes so far in Uganda.

Thank you for joining us on the journey!

Ron Gladden



P.S. One hundred percent of your donation goes directly to saving and extending lives. Thank you!

| One Time Projects | Total Cost | Raised | Needed |
|--------------------------|------------|---------|----------|
| Water Project | \$20,741 | \$6,840 | \$13,901 |
| Ourganda Campus (land) | 45,000 | 40,000 | 5,000 |
| Project CURE | 35,000 | 2,500 | 32,500 |

| Ongoing Projects | Cost Per Kit | Needed |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| Birthing Kits | \$12 each | hundreds |
| Kids Kits and Hygiene Kits | \$12 each | hundreds |
| Water Filters | \$42 each | hundreds |
| Urgent Medical Surgeries | \$1,000 / average per person | |