

# Ourganda NEWSLETTER

March, 2022 | PO Box 874205, Vancouver, WA 98687 | [www.ourganda.org](http://www.ourganda.org) | [getintouch@ourganda.org](mailto:getintouch@ourganda.org) | (360) 624-7271

## Would you help a beautiful girl like Juliet ?

One day she was a healthy, vivacious 14 year old. The next day, something was wrong. Her hands would not cooperate. Her legs refused to take her from one room in her home to another. Juliet was terrified.

Every Monday morning, an Ourganda mobile clinic struggles up a steep, narrow road and eventually parks in front of a small church in the mountain village of Kitsolima II. The medical team greets the villagers, one of them shares a devotional message, another teaches a short health class, then the medical officers, midwives, and nurses see the patients.

**With her mom by her side, Juliet was waiting**, her dark brown eyes searching for someone who cared and could give her hope.



"We wondered at first if she might have Chorea," Oscar reported. "Sometimes it develops after an untreated strep throat infection. It can go away on its own after a few weeks or months, but Juliet was getting worse. She needed to see a specialist."

### What does Ourganda's medical team do when a patient needs more attention?

They take the patient to a hospital that can help them. It is almost always complicated and prohibitively expensive. (A local hospital with caring professionals is nearby, but it lacks almost everything and barely qualifies as a BandAid station.) In **Juliet's case**, they arranged for her to see a neurologist at St. Francis Hospital in Nsambya, a seven hour drive from Kitsolima II.

### These are some of the logistics:

- Oscar, one of our medical officers, buys bus tickets for Juliet, her mother, and himself.
- He arranges for lodging near the hospital because the hospital might admit Juliet as a patient but probably will not.
- Oscar advocates for Juliet at the hospital. The hospital is usually overwhelmed, so patients who arrive without a medical advocate are usually pushed to the back of the line for days or even longer.
- No one cooks for patients in the hospital, so Oscar organizes a cook or buys food for Juliet and her mom.
- He also provides payment for the neurologist, medical care at the hospital, and the EEG imaging.

"In Juliet's case," Oscar explained, "the doctor ordered an EEG, a test that detects electrical activity in the brain using small, metal discs attached to the scalp. She wasn't happy when they explained they had to shave off all her hair, but she made the best of it and braced herself for the test."

### Then everyone held their breath - except to pray.

What happened next? The **EEG came back normal!** She did not have a brain tumor or brain damage from a head injury. Juliet did not have encephalitis or encephalopathy. She had not suffered a stroke. The kind neurologist prescribed some medication that he predicts will help her bounce back. Juliet, her mom, and Oscar boarded the bus for the seven-hour ride back home, thankful and relieved that God had answered everyone's prayer.



Along with the photo taken on the bus, Oscar sent us this note: "God was on our side. We extend special thanks to our donors for the facilitation of Juliet to the neurologist. We will keep praying, we will stay close by her side, and we will help her through whatever comes next."

Every time a precious person like Juliet shows up in one of our villages, we do our best to help them. The financial expense usually averages \$1,000 or so, but the joy we feel renders any and all expenses irrelevant. We named this ministry Our-ganda because these are our people. They are our sisters and brothers. We love every one of them, and we will always do everything we can to help them.

## Everyone has the right to flourish.

Check out this beautiful smile on Juliet's face. If you have donated to Ourganda, you deserve thanks for helping Juliet. If you haven't, you can start right now. You can become the next person's hero.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



**Ron Gladden**  
Ourganda Founder &  
Director

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