

Moyo Medical Care

History:

Moyo District Population: 412,500 (2012 est.), growing at a rate of 7.9 % every year. Due to the terror campaign of Joseph Kony and the LRA as well as instability in South Sudan, this northwestern corner of Uganda has “stagnated” (as per Wikipedia). It has been under served and underdeveloped, particularly in the area of medical care. Most of the medical care in Uganda comes through small Health Centers of varying levels of expertise and care (Health Centers I,II,III,IV are the levels with IV being the highest care). Beyond that there are district hospitals, Regional hospitals, and national referral hospitals.

Moyo Hospital is considered a referral hospital. However, the level of care there is minimal and lacking in the most basic of provisions including running water and all the consumables that are necessary for surgical and other procedures (IV fluids, medicines, instruments, Oxygen, gloves, syringes and things like that). Most often, the family member who accompanies a patient must provide, water, food and all the daily necessities for hygiene. If any treatment or procedure is required, the family must go to a local pharmacy and buy whatever is needed for it. Though Uganda reports free medical care, because of the lack of items mentioned above, the families must pay for care. Staffing is always minimal.

The Metu Mountains has a sparse population as it is remote, and villages and families are spread out. Their medical care is even more basic, requiring them to somehow find transportation to Moyo Hospital for a severe illness that cannot be managed in the small, poorly supplied clinics.

The staff are qualified and do well with what they have available to them, but they don't have much to work with, especially diagnostic tools and medicines.

About: Pearl Haven Ministries:

John Brattlof and I (Paul Ortega) started Pearl Haven Ministries in 2011. Our calling and mission is to take the gospel into all the nations, (starting in Uganda) as instructed by our Savior in Matthew 28:18-20. So, this has been our vision, mission, and ambition to take the gospel wherever He leads us. Throughout the 11 years of ministry, we developed and establish different avenues of spreading the gospel, such as door to door evangelism, large outdoor crusades, sports camps, pastor's conferences, education sponsorships, and medical camps. Due to these programs, we have been able to witness thousands of Ugandans to come to Christ, which is very exciting, because it allows us to see what God is doing in the land of Africa.

Mission and Purpose for 2023 Medical Camp

In the years past we have done 3 medical camps in Uganda. Two camps in Mbale Uganda , June 2018, and June 2019, which we treated over 1400 people. Later in 2019 November we did another medical camp in Moyo Uganda in the Metu Mountains. It was then that I saw such a great need for medical assistance. Those living in the mountain had very little to no medical help. We saw over 760 patients in the two days of camp.

Many of the patients were children and elderly people whom we would have to go and pick up due to them not being able to walk or stand. People kept coming and the lines formed began to wrap around the outside walls of the church where we held the camp. Many even walked miles up the mountains from Moyo to get medical help, for they knew that this may be their only chance to get any kind of medical assistance.

It was at this medical camp that we realized the great need for medical assistance and help. We were excited and looking forward to returning the next year to hold another medical camp in the Metu Mountains as well as the Moyo District. Unfortunately, the following year 2020, every nation was crippled with the coronavirus, which kept the door locked from us entering Uganda to do another medical camp. Since 2020 and 2021 Uganda was faced with many hardships, especially in Moyo. Their medical and health facilities are declining, and some are closing their doors. Abandon clinics are on the rise due to no medicines or supplies. We were determined and looking forward in going this year in December to do a two-day camp in Moyo and a two-day camp in the Metu Mountains. Unfortunately, again restraints have been placed on Uganda for another breakout of the deadly Ebola virus. At this time there is no known cure or vaccine for the Ebola Sudan Strand, therefore, to not put the medical and mission team at risk we have postpone the trip until the first week of May.

As we prepare for the trip, we are fundraising to get medical supplies and medicines for the medical mission abroad. We hope to reach the goal of \$10,000 or more in order to help the Moyo community and the people that live in the Metu mountains with medical supplies and medicines. Would you consider donating for this cause and make a difference in the many lives that will be changed because of your giving, your prayers, your love, and encouragement.

God Bless you and may His peace and grace be upon you

Paul Ortega

President of Pearl Haven Ministries

www.pearlhaven.org