



*Presentation during visit of Sister/Dr. Priscilla
to Ann Arbor, Michigan May 18, 2014*

Maternal and Child Health in Western Uganda

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Presentation Overview

- 1. Brief biographical overview – my journey**
- 2. The environment and place where I work**
- 3. My faith and work**

My Journey

- **Born and raised in a local village in Western Uganda**
- **Joined the convent at age 15**
- **Became a Sister in Daughters of St Theresa of the Child Jesus (BANYATEREZA) at age 18**
- **Graduated from Makerere University Medical School in Kampala, Uganda**
- **Residency specializing in Obstetrics/Gynecology**
- **Returned to my home region in Uganda, assumed role as Medical Director of a Holy Family Virika Hospital 2008**

Uganda Basic Statistics	Data
Total Uganda population	36,350,000
Percent of Uganda land that is developed or farmed	0.5 %
Gross domestic product in 2010 (in Ugandan Shillings UGX)	\$34,580,000,000,000
Gross domestic product equivalence in US dollars	\$14 Billion
Annual value of goods exported to the US	\$6.4 Million
Per capita GDP in US dollars	\$490
Uganda Health Statistics	
Life expectancy at birth	54
Percent of children born with low birthweight	14 %
Under 5 mortality rate	12.5 %
Percent of population ages 15-49 with HIV	6.5 %
Current number of children who were orphaned by AIDS	1,200,000
Uganda Education Statistics	
Adult literacy rate	73 %
Youth literacy rate	87 %
Drop-out rate of primary school students	68.2 %
Percent of population with a mobile phone	38 %
Percent of population who use the internet	13 %
Uganda Marriage Statistics	
Percent of marriages before the age of 15	12 %
Percent of marriages before the age of 18	46 %

Kabarole District Profile: A Shortage of Trained Health Care Professionals

- Doctor to patient ratio 1 : 19,178
- Nurse to patient ratio 1 : 2,609
- Midwife to patient ratio 1 : 5,047
- Supervised deliveries in 2011 43%
- Supervised deliveries in 2012 **91%**
- HIV/AIDS prevalence rate 11.3%





OUR LADY OF SNOWS, VIRIKA CATHEDRAL



Holy Family Virika Hospital

Diocesan

Founded 1911

155 beds



**Currently serves ~
17,000
outpatients/year
and more than 2000
deliveries/year**



We have many patients, including mothers and babies





What is the problem for mothers & babies?

- Pregnant women can't get to a health care facility in time, leading to prolonged labor.
- As I talk to you:
 - a woman is dying
 - a child has become an orphan
 - a new baby is dying
 - a woman's health is deteriorating
 - a woman is drying her sleeping mat because of urine flowing all time

Fistulas: One of many complications of prolonged labour

Affects 1-2 million women in Africa

Wet for life

Highly skilled, low tech surgery can repair this

Dramatic results!



A patient returning home after fistula surgery, she has her life back



A family reunion



VIRIKA HOSPITAL

Save Mothers Giving Life Program

A one pilot year project (Uganda and Zambia) designed to:

- To increase access to skilled birth
- To increase access to safe caesarean section
- To support and strengthen human resources for emergency obstetric care
- To support service delivery through provision of medical supplies

Voucher System!



What did this pilot study do?

- We used to deliver less than 100 babies each month; our new census is much higher.
- We experience fewer maternal and infant deaths.
- We deliver healthier babies.
- We have fewer women at risk for fistulas and other complications due to prolonged labour.
- *Our new rate for supervised deliveries was **91%!***

Many success stories



The lessons from voucher system

- Women feel safe knowing there is someone to pay for medical care and delivery.
- They understand the value of professional health care.
- They have transport to the health facility when in labour.
- They feel cared for by their nation.
- The voucher has effectively reduced obstetric delays.

Our healthcare system had been called to be more accountable!

- Every pregnancy counts ...so account for every pregnancy
- Every baby counts so account for every new born.
- Every new born has a weight so weigh them.
- There is always a cause of death so account for all the death.

Our challenge

- Like so many pilot studies, the funding has ended and we look for ways sustain our progress
- We need a Samaritan fund to continue with access



moving delivery care closer to mothers



Water harvest project estimated \$10,000 U.S.

- Thinking of Water Harvest project
- Tapping from the roofs
- Underground tank so that when there is drought the patients will still have water in the hospital.
- Soon we have a physician but no ECG
- Laboratory reagents
- Capital to off set patients who are abandoned

Maternal and Perinatal Audit meeting



Obstetrics at Virika Hospital Fort Portal, Uganda

	2009 N (% of deliveries)	2010 N (% of deliveries)	2011 N (% of deliveries)
Total deliveries	1850	2123	2043
- Cesarean section	568 (31%)	625 (29%)	589 (29%)
Number of referrals	406 (22%)	364 (17%)	457 (22%)
Number of stillbirths	175 (10%)	154 (7%)	147 (7%)
Early neonatal deaths	4 (2 per 1000)	3 (1.4 per 1000)	27 (13.2 per 1000)
Maternal deaths	15 (81 per 10000)	4 (18 per 10000)	8 (39 per 10000)
Babies born <2.5 kg	216 (12%)	119 (6%)	91(4%)
Number of HIV+ deliveries	169 (9.1)	206 (9.7)	199 (9.7)

In press, International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology 2014

Health Educating Women



What our Michigan friendship has done for us

- Funding for fistula repair
- Ultra sound scan
- Doppler fetal scan
- Face lift of Virika Hospital
- Quality improvement tools
- Start-up funds for maternity center
- Opportunity for me to be here to share with you and rest a little



Retained 2nd twin and found a 3rd one thanks to Ultrasound Scan



Doppler fetal scan



Staffs in new uniforms, serving with a smile



Quality improvement

Labour ward uniforms



Cashiers uniforms



Nurses happy receiving pulse oximeters and nebulizer



What can this community do?

- Keep us in your heart and prayers.
- Know that we are very grateful for the generous time and financial support that has been provided
- Join with us that your gifts of time and financial supported will be appreciated.





Acknowledgements

- My appreciation to many Ann Arbor friends!

***It is not how much work we do wherever we are
but the LOVE with which we do it as we search and see
the Face of God in every one***

Sister Priscilla Busingye MD (OBS/GYN)

Thank you!!!!