

# “The Health of our Nation is our Priority”

## CHTI Graduation Ceremony

26 June 2023

On the 26th of June, 2023, Catholic Health Training Institute held the 11th graduation ceremony of 22 nurses of which 6 were females and 16 males and 22 midwives: 11 males and 11 females. The studies of this group were troubled by the Covid-19 lockdown and they deserve special appreciation for their perseverance.

Graduation was celebrated grandly. The celebration was started with a long procession from UNICEF by the graduates and the police music band. People in the street and guests arriving at the ceremony greatly cheered them and wished them success in the health profession.

In attendance to this special occasion were honored guests:

bishop Mathew Ramijo Adam Gbitiku - Catholic Diocese of Wau who celebrated the Eucharist along with fr. Jim Green CEO of Solidarity with South Sudan, fr Santino – diocesan priest, fr Lwanga – Comboni and Fr David. Taban John Guu - the guest of Honor, state Minister of health Dr. Vincent Taban who presented the Certificates, Dr Thomas Tongun Leon - S & SSCBC health coordinator, sisters from different



congregations presents in Wau, director for trainings (SMOH) who in his absence sent a very sensitive message to the graduates that says “*save lives first then money later*”. CHTI also recognized and invited government officers, hospitals- Comboni Hospital, Wau Teaching Hospital, and Sika Hadid Health Center, institutions representatives, local leaders, parents, husbands, wives and relatives of the graduates.

After the mass, the national anthem was sang headed by the police band, followed by CHTI representatives and invited guests’ speeches.





The bishop in his homily, and the invited guests emphasized in their speeches that nursing and midwifery are more challenging than any other profession. They highlighted the importance of professional nursing values like compassion, empathy, love, sympathy and professionalism.

After the award of certificates of completion the graduates alongside tutors taking an oath, pledged: *"with my attitude of compassion and commitment, I will care for all the people entrusted to me, to relieve suffering and promote health without any kind of discrimination (...), to serve faithfully to save God's life in all forms."*

The program also included entertainment prepared by students of 1st and 2nd year. The guests, students, tutors and workers also joined in the dancing with great enthusiasm and joy.

The oldest CHT staff was awarded by the certificates of appreciation and gifts. The new graduates expressed their gratitude to CHTI and SwSS for all they received during these 3 years.

Everything related to this celebration; preparations, decorations, organization, etc. can be written under one denominator: "Solidarity" that dominated



between CHTI students and staff all this time. Everyone was involved and could use his talents: our CHTI' choir spent many days and hours rehearsing a beautiful liturgical setting, the compound was decorated with the remarkable creativity and traditional dances prepared by students from the lower classes.

It was an unforgettable time that we will remember for a long time.

