Fall 2022

Dodoma Christian Medical Center (DCMC) has grown exponentially this year, with 50 new employees and signs of expansion visible everywhere. The new kidney dialysis building is now filling up with patients every day (below), and right next to it the long-awaited 71-bed patient ward will soon open. Across campus, the eye clinic and pathology lab are both thriving in their remodeled spaces, and a new morgue building has just been completed. Meanwhile, construction on a dental lab is underway.

Government regulations for zonal hospitals like DCMC have spurred some of this development, but DCMC’s drive to serve patients has been the real engine. The staff’s excitement for the future is contagious.

To see video of DCMC’s growing campus: youtube.com/@tanzaniahealthpartnership

As DCMC stretches toward its future, we give special thanks for several large grants that are having an extraordinary impact on patient care, infrastructure and outreach.

- Christ Presbyterian Church: $207,226 to equip the new patient ward and purchase eye clinic equipment.
- Herbert Family Foundation: $58,000 to purchase a larger generator to ensure stable power for the expanding hospital.
- J.A. Wedum Foundation: $42,000 to build a dental lab.
- Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing, Joyce M. Gouwens Fund: $45,000 to support community health outreach programs in rural areas.

A Year of Historic Growth Fuels DCMC’s Future

Driven to serve, DCMC now totals 130 beds & expects 100,000+ patients in 2023

Thousands of patients come to DCMC every month, and the medical center’s needs for equipment, supplies and medications are increasing as fast as the medical center grows.

Patient bed space has increased 125% in 2022

More than 50% of admissions are children.

2023 Goal: New surgery building (see p. 2)
2023 Goal: New Surgery Building

Expected to be a leading growth area for the hospital, the new surgery building is estimated to cost $450,000, with additional funding required for a phased equipment plan.

In 2023, DCMC’s strategic plan includes constructing a new surgery building to add four more operating theatres and a 9-bed ICU. Currently, DCMC has only one surgery theater, often in use 24/7 because of the daily scheduling scramble among the ob/gyn and surgery teams to accommodate emergencies like unplanned c-sections. “This is not ideal for patients or the surgeons, but we are doing our level best as we wait for the new building to come,” said Nurse Matron Elizabeth Kyangenyenka.

Faraja: Surviving and Thriving Because of DCMC Charity Care

Faraja, a young father, came to DCMC from rural Dodoma with severely infected abrasions down his entire right side after a traumatic motorbike accident. His condition was so life threatening it was unclear how or if he would be able to recover.

DCMC’s medical team jumped into action to care for him, and after 6 months of surgeries, skin grafts and painful wound care, Faraja is now on the road to recovery. Thanks to Tanzania Health Partnership’s charity care fund, he and his family don’t ever have to worry about the costs of his care.

To support this transformational project, contact Anne Hussian, Executive Director (763-231-2954), or go to our website for all the ways to give.

tanzaniahealthpartnership.org/give

Surgeries at DCMC increased 20% this year

DCMC is averaging 40 surgeries per week in its one operating theatre.

Shell of the new surgery building (left), next to the new 71-bed patient ward and dialysis building.
DCMC Eye Clinic – Transforming Lives

Hundreds of patients are coming to DCMC’s new eye clinic each month, experiencing life-changing vision care and eye surgeries.

Most older patients have never seen an eye doctor before coming to DCMC. Many are living with easily treatable eye diseases like cataracts or simply need corrective lenses.

After a simple cataract procedure, one elderly man’s son profusely thanked DCMC’s ophthalmologist Dr. Fransisco Msonge, saying that his father’s successful cataract surgery changed life for the whole family. “My father can see again for the first time in years,” he said. “His life will be different now. Thank you to DCMC for helping my father.”

This young boy arrived with extreme pain and pressure in his eye because of a condition that blocks proper draining of eye fluid. With emergency surgery, his eyesight was saved.

DCMC’s nursing staff was watching a new mother closely after a difficult emergency c-section. When her blood pressure plummeted, she was rushed back to the operating room on the brink of death. With no time to wait for blood from the national blood bank, four DCMC nurses with compatible blood type donated their own blood on the spot, saving the new mother’s life. Her husband sang praises for DCMC’s nurses.

Event Raised $73,005 – Thank You!

THANK YOU to everyone who came in person or watched online to see DCMC’s updates and hear the inspiring experiences of head nurse Elizabeth Kyangenyenka and ophthalmologist Dr. Charles Yancey.

“In Tanzania, there are 69 ophthalmologists for 62 million people. In comparison, there are 53 ophthalmologists just in Edina.”
– Dr. Yancey, reflecting on the dire need for eye care in Tanzania.

Health Is Life

“When people come to DCMC they tell us that they can see the compassionate care from all the staff, especially the hardworking nurses.”
– Nurse Elizabeth, with tears in her eyes as she talked about her nursing team.

Visit youtube.com/@tanzaniahealthpartnership to view the video.
Thank you for seeing us and our work, for giving us the courage to grow, and for sharing your confidence in what we are doing here for our people.”

– Dr. Kabibi Byabato, DCMC pediatrician

This year, we returned to DCMC for the first time in 2.5 years following the pandemic. The growth was astonishing to witness - and so full of promise - but it was their heartfelt expressions of thanks for your support that moved us most. It means the world to them that people and institutions here in the U.S. care so much about the health of their people. Lives are being saved every day because of you. THANK YOU for your trusting, faithful partnership with us – now and in the future.

– Anne Hussien
Tanzania Health Partnership Executive Director

Make Your Impact Today
Visit TanzaniaHealthPartnership.org/give for all the ways to support our mission.

To discuss planned giving, call our office – 763-231-2954

BRINGING HEALTH. SPREADING HOPE.
Our mission is to support compassionate, Tanzanian-led healthcare at Dodoma Christian Medical Center.