

MEDICAL TEAMS WORLDWIDE

50,000 REFUGEES IN MELUT, SOUTH SUDAN AND NO HOSPITAL

WINTER 2014



Above: Dr. Kelley examines a child for a lung infection.



Above: On the first day of clinic, Dr. Kelley worked into the night.



THE MISSION

This fall, Medical Teams Worldwide returned to the Upper Nile Region of South Sudan. The team continued its development program for the small hospital in the town of Melut. Presently, the county of Melut has no surgical capability or diagnostic abilities for the county's population of almost 50,000 residents. This need is compounded greatly by the influx of 70,000 refugees, displaced due to the recent civil war in South Sudan. In addition to the development project, the team planned to give medical relief to the remote village of Bien Thien, situated on the banks of the White Nile River.

On the first day, the team assembled and purchased supplies in Nairobi, Kenya. The next day, the team flew to the South Sudan border and spent the night due to refueling needs of our chartered plane. On arriving in Melut, South Sudan the team set up camp on the grounds of Gideon



The Team: (Left to Right) Dr. Alan Kelley, Jim Button, Tim and Marsha Dillard





Above: Dr. Kelley checks a woman's enlarged glands.



Above: Dr. Kelley listens for pneumonia in a child.

Theological College. The college has set aside ¾ acre of land for a future Medical Teams Worldwide compound to be used by the team for outreaches in to the communities of the Upper Nile. The following day the team met with other relief organizations primarily concerned with the recent influx of 70,000 refugees. We met with GOAL, from Ireland and Doctors Without Borders to coordinate our medical relief efforts. Later in the day, Jim Button, a professional plumber, visited the local small hospital to make an assessment for the repair and restoration of the water supply of the hospital that has been unavailable for years. Medical Teams Worldwide is committed to restoring this water supply as a first step in in our development plans for the hospital. Later in the day Dr. Alan Kelley held a medical clinic that continued into the night.

CLINIC IN BIEN THIEN, SOUTH SUDAN

The following morning, the team traveled 40 miles by boat up the White Nile River to the village of Bien Then. The team worked



Above: Dr. Kelley examines a child's sore throat.



Above: Jim Burton, Tim and Marsha Dillard act as pharmacists in the village of Bien Thien.

THE TEAM WAS SURPRISED TO DISCOVER ONE HALF OF THE CHILDREN IN BIEN THIEN VILLAGE SUFFERED FROM PROTEIN MALNUTRITION.



Above: Jim Button, a professional plumber, examines the broken water main supply pipe for the hospital.



Above: Tim Dillard distributes glasses to farsighted patients who were unable to read for years.



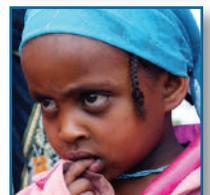
Above: Dr. Kelley listens for infection in a woman's lung.

out of an abandoned but recently built small hospital. Dr. Kelley treated over 120 patients that day. He saw many cases of malaria, dysentery, bronchitis, worm infections and fungal infections. Unhappily, the team discovered over 50% of the children in that village suffered from protein malnutrition. During the stay the team also gave deworming treatments to over 120 adults and children and distributed vitamin packets to all the children. Finally, the team dispensed over 90 pairs of reading glasses to those adult patients with age related farsightedness. Imagine unable to read for 5-10 years and then having your ability to read restored in a few minutes.

The residents of Bien Thien were very thankful for the medical aid Medical Teams Worldwide provided. They asked for a return trip as soon as possible.



Above: A local nurse distributes anti-worm medications to children.



PROJECT UPDATES



HOSPITAL FOR SOUTH SUDAN

On this last trip to South Sudan Medical Teams Worldwide helped to start the repairs of the local clinic's water system and continue the planning for Melut's future hospital. On arriving we discovered the existing already limited 34 bed facility had a water supply cut by local refugees. At the local medical clinic there is no diagnostic equipment such as x-ray or ultrasound. **The clinic also lacks any surgical capability for the 50,000 residents of Melut County.**

Medical Teams Worldwide plans to install 2: 40 foot retrofitted containers (like the ones pictured on the left) placed next to the existing building with surgical, diagnostic and dental capabilities. Also a small emergency room will be added. The containers retrofitting will be constructed to the medical standards of the United States. Ideally, when one walks into the surgical facility one will feel they have been transported back to the United States for surgery.

If anyone is interested in a designated gift for this hospital please mark the designation on the donation.

FUTURE PROJECTS

BUNGOMA, KENYA: STREET CHILDREN RELIEF

Medical Teams Worldwide plans to visit Bungoma, Kenya to give medical relief to the street children and the residents of the outlying villages this Winter.



RETURN TO MELUT SOUTH SUDAN, SUMMER 2014

Medical Teams Worldwide plans to return to Melut, South Sudan in summer 2015. We plan to treat refugees from the civil war and continue our development of the hospital.



IF YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTNER WITH OUR MEDICAL PROJECTS,
 PLEASE MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO:
MEDICAL TEAMS WORLDWIDE
 16541 REDMOND WAY #133C, REDMOND, WA 98052
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