

# Generating Hope



## Hope for Our Sisters 2025 Impact Report

**Thank you** for enabling our sisters, medical/outreach teams, and us to shine light into the darkness this year through your financial investments, time, social sharing, and prayers. **Your consistent generosity** fuels our programs and equips our teams as they share hope and health with our sisters in Angola, the DR Congo, and Nepal.

Our focus on fistula prevention is bolstered by this fact: up to 55% of the time, a common complication our sisters can face after surgical fistula repair is **stress incontinence**. This condition negatively impacts their quality of life. Incontinence management and pelvic floor care is essential, but this teaching is often not available. Our team at CEML Hospital in Lubango, Angola, was able to gain this knowledge from a visiting Portuguese physiotherapist who taught our team members and our sisters, so this critical information can be shared with others into the future. **Thank you** for enabling this hope-generating training!



**Fistula Ambassadors** in Angola play a critical role in identifying current fistula patients for repair and educating communities to prevent fistula. In June, **200 women were identified** by Votoka fistula ambassadors to be assessed for fistula repair. Most ambassadors are either former fistula patients or their close friends and relatives. When they experience their own or a loved one's healing, they cannot help but share this hope with others. Marcolino, fistula ambassador, is shown left with the precious sisters he brought from Kwanza Sul for surgical repair. **Thank you** for funding our outreach, repair, and prevention work!



Shot on AWESOME A05s

One of our most **impact-producing and sustainability-focused programs** is funding new physician education through PAACS (Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons). You partially funded the training of two physicians who are becoming general/women's health surgeons. Our current/third student-partner is Dr. Benedito Joaquim, pictured with his family and training at CEML Hospital. Dr Benedito said, "Each day, I have come to understand that loving one's neighbor transcends mere words; it is expressed through tangible actions." **Thank you** for investing in his future!



Dr. Shirley Heywood (Surkhet, Nepal partner) believes **fistula can be eradicated in Nepal by 2030!** Her team is doing outreach in 45 municipalities, including the very rural areas. They hold fistula prevention and awareness sessions, identify women with fistula, and help them reach Surkhet for assessment. They meet with a variety of groups: women/community groups, NGOs, Advance Birth Attendant trainees, Female Community Health Volunteers, grassroots-level health workers, and province/district-level doctors/nurses. They developed a new fistula film, story books, leaflets, and prints in Nepali and Hindi languages to distribute. **Thank you** for funding the future eradication of fistula in Nepal!



Our Community of Hope enjoyed a wonderful night with **Dr. Myron Glick and Fidèle Menavanza**, of Jericho Road Community Health Center. Dr. Glick shared, "Following the invasion of Goma by rebel forces, our Wellness Clinic in the DR Congo continues to provide essential care to its community despite ongoing challenges. Thanks to the generous support from the Goma Crisis Relief efforts led by the HFOS Community (of Hope), our partners...have received vital resources." **Thank you** for investing in this critical partnership by enabling us to send almost \$9,500 to our teams in Goma for crisis relief!

Brooke's DR Congo trip is being rescheduled due to the invasion by and continued presence of M23 rebels in Goma, DR Congo.



**"Thank you for generating hope with our sisters, medical/outreach teams, and us!"**

*Brooke F. Sulahian, HFOS President & Co-Founder*

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