

# 2013 Annual Report

“I will give to the LORD the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.” Psalm 7:17 (ESV)



## Our Faithful God

There were moments during our ministry in 2013 when we experienced seeming chaos: the new BKCC site flooded during a storm and mudslide. Children were brought to us who had just escaped being killed in their home villages. The only response in the chaos was to remember God’s righteousness and “sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.”

There was so much more good news than bad in 2013! Please rejoice with us in God’s work.



## Pediatric Surgery and Pediatric Neurosurgery

The surgeons performed 2,428 surgeries in 2013. 3,806 children received care at outpatient visits. And there were 3,751 Mobile Clinic patients. From 2004-2013, 16,558 children received surgery. One child who had surgery last year was Cosmas. Francis told his story, "When I first met 7-year-old Cosmas, he would not look at me in the eye, nor would he smile for my camera. Tears almost ran down his cheeks as I asked him about his condition. Cosmas's father explained to me that he was born with bladder extrophy, and has been wet since birth.

School has been a torture for Cosmas. He has very few friends, because he is constantly wet from urine, and always has the acrid smell, even after using diapers. Costs for surgery for Cosmas have been the reason why he still uses diapers at age seven. And the diapers are only bought when he is travelling long distances, like the trip to BethanyKids at Kijabe Hospital.



Cosmas had surgery days ago and though he is still bedridden in our wards, the thought of going home 'dry' has him beaming from ear to ear for all to see. He is particularly grateful to all medical staff who have taken care of him this far, and says he will always remember BethanyKids."

## Pediatric Surgery Training Program

In a span of six years, BethanyKids has been able to train and graduate five pediatric surgeons. The surgeons we have trained work in Tanzania, Madagascar, and Ethiopia. Dr. Erik Hansen leads the training program under the auspices of the Pan African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) and the accrediting body, the College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA). In 2013, two of the pediatric surgery trainees graduated. Dr. Aiah Lebbie from Sierra Leone and Dr. Martin Situma from Uganda, both of whom planned to return to their home countries to continue healing African children and transforming their lives.

Dr. Aiah Lebbie (pictured on the right) told us, "I thank all of you who in diverse ways helped me and the other trainees during our several learning years. I believe that my going back to Sierra Leone with my family will prove to have a significant impact on children with surgical conditions in that country, and as I will be hands-on in the field, your support will be felt through the expertise that I have attained these past few years. God bless you all."



Dr. Mike Matlak, a retired pediatric surgeon, worked at BethanyKids at Kijabe Hospital while Dr. Erik Hansen was in the US transitioning from Samaritan's Purse to SIM. Here is his assessment about the work: "The Pediatric Surgery Residency is in very good shape. The academic standards are high and the surgeons-in-training are receiving an education comparable to many programs in North America....Our residents are being exposed to some of the best teachers in the world and they are really grateful for this incredible experience."

Another training program graduate, Dr. Frehun Ayele, served at BethanyKids at Myungsung Christian Medical Center in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Dr. Bruce Steffes of PAACS sent the following update: "Dr. Frehun Ayele led a team of surgeons from Myungsung Christian Medical Center to perform the incredibly delicate and complicated operation of separating conjoined twins.



The baby sisters were born at a health center in the countryside and were abandoned by their mother. One of the twins had a severe, fatal heart defect and it soon became clear that she could not survive. This made transfer abroad impossible. Dr. Ayele concluded that if he did not intervene urgently, both babies would die. It was clear that one of the twins would die, sacrificing her life for her sister's. The surviving twin, Mariam, is doing well. Please pray for her as she recovers. We praise God for Dr. Ayele's faithfulness in serving Him as he serves the sick children of Ethiopia."

## Spiritual Ministry

The year 2013 brought many blessings for the BethanyKids spiritual ministry. In the wards, the chaplain and volunteers visited a few times a day. They kept the kids busy with activities such as giving them coloring books, reading them stories, providing them with books to read, encouraging them to go out to play (for those who are able), witnessing to the guardians and their kids, showing them Jesus film, and showing Christian music videos. In 2013, 357 people came to know Jesus through our ward ministry.

There were over 400 ladies from all over Kenya who volunteered to do many different things for the Lord through BethanyKids. They created awareness, followed-up on the patients, visited the clinics to encourage patients, and directed patients to Kijabe. Some of the disciplers brought new patients to the hospital, and looked for new patients in villages. And they preached the gospel to all.



Some of the disciplers are professional retired ladies, others are housewives. This group of women has increased over the years, from 209 to 260 to 450. They witness to families, individuals and children. They are always on the lookout for lost souls. Through this ministry 5,465 people of all ages came to Jesus in 2013.

## Joytown Primary School

BethanyKids continued to provide therapy for more than 300 children at Joytown Special Primary School in Thika. Francesca, BethanyKids' mentor and Spina bifida teacher, also serves as a spiritual teacher, sharing the love of Christ with the kids. In 2013 Francesca had the privilege of leading several children to the Lord. Telvin is one of those.

Telvin had had chats with Francesca. She talked with him about the Lord as much as she could. At first, Telvin was not sure whether to come to Christ or not. His reasons were: he thought he was still too young, he feared his friends would laugh at him and he thought he would lose some of his friends. One day he came during therapy time and told Francesca that he wanted to receive Christ in his life. He later told his two friends, Patrick and Samuel, about it and they too wanted to be a part of it. They were both led to Christ by Francesca, and they prayed together.

Proverbs 22:6 says "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." Telvin, Patrick and Samuel made 2013 a new beginning in their lives. Since the day they surrendered to Jesus, they showed exemplary changes in their behavior, and this was also reflected in class-work.



Also in 2013 the Wheels Team, led by Karen Rispin, a professor of Biology from LeTourneau University in Texas, came to Joytown. The nine team members assessed two different types of wheelchairs and repaired many of the broken wheelchairs in Joytown Special Primary School.

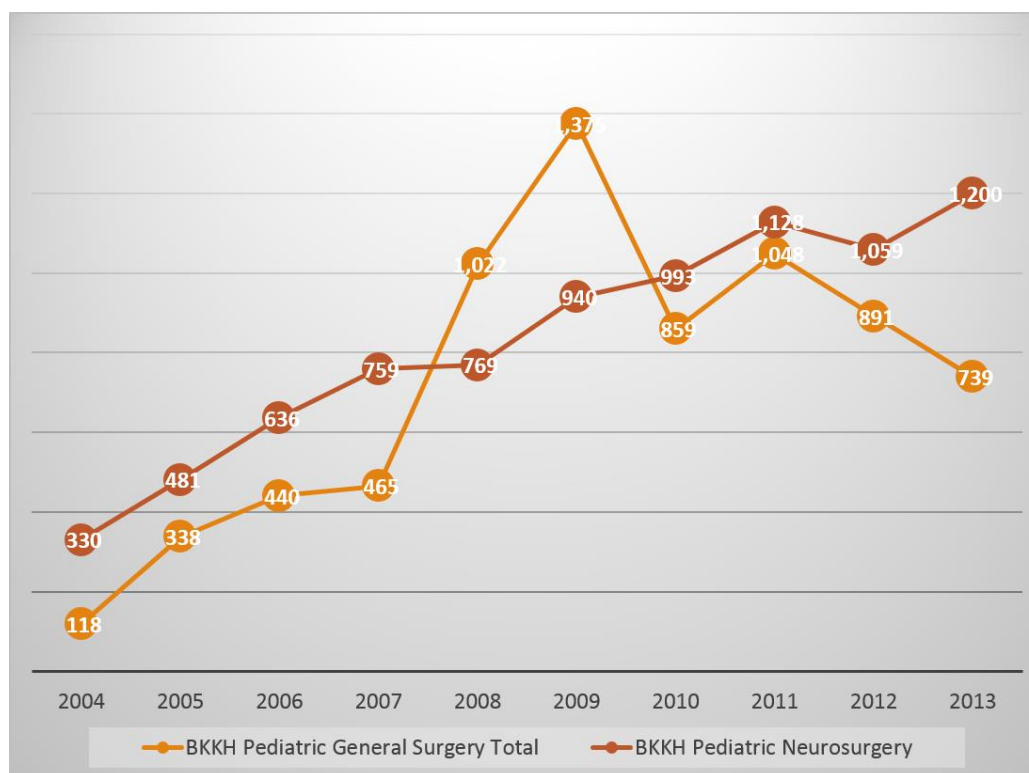
Through this program, over 140 children have benefitted from wheelchairs specially modified to meet each of their needs. The BethanyKids team gained valuable knowledge in wheelchair fitting, modification, repair and maintenance from the students and professors.



## The Mission

Without the support of donors, partners and volunteers, none of this work would be possible. We thank all of you who have adopted this cause as your own. You help BethanyKids to be "a compassionate Christian mission transforming the lives of African children with surgical conditions and disabilities through pediatric surgery, rehabilitation, public education, spiritual ministry, and training health professionals." Thank you.

## 2004-2013 Surgical Procedures at BethanyKids at Kijabe Hospital



## 2013 & 2012 Financial Statements

|                          | <u>2013</u> |                         | <u>2012</u>   |           |                         |        |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------|
| <b>INCOME</b>            |             |                         |               |           | <b>%</b>                |        |
| USA                      | \$          | 845,088                 | 36.9%         | \$        | 848,824                 | 47.3%  |
| Canada                   | \$          | 317,575                 | 13.9%         | \$        | 424,079                 | 23.6%  |
| United Kingdom           | \$          | 94,839                  | 4.1%          | \$        | 8,046                   | 0.4%   |
| Kenya                    | \$          | <u>1,033,424</u>        | <u>45.1%</u>  | \$        | <u>514,600</u>          | 28.7%  |
| <b>Total Income</b>      | <b>\$</b>   | <b><u>2,290,926</u></b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b><u>1,795,549</u></b> | 100.0% |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>          |             |                         |               |           |                         |        |
| Admin/Fundraising        | \$          | 323,034                 | 14.8%         | \$        | 335,496                 | 19.5%  |
| Board Expenses           | \$          | 18,646                  | 0.9%          | \$        | 12,029                  | 0.7%   |
| Program                  | \$          | <u>1,836,767</u>        | <u>84.3%</u>  | \$        | <u>1,375,817</u>        | 79.8%  |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>    | <b>\$</b>   | <b><u>2,178,447</u></b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b><u>1,723,342</u></b> | 100.0% |
| <b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b> | <b>\$</b>   | <b><u>112,479</u></b>   |               | <b>\$</b> | <b><u>72,207</u></b>    |        |

**NOTE:** Audit Reports are available on request by writing to [mrobinson@bethanykids.org](mailto:mrobinson@bethanykids.org). All amounts are in USD.