The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. **And they praised the God of Israel.**

Matthew 15:31
Message from the Executive Director

In the words of our cover page we “praise the God of Israel” that in 2016 the mission of BethanyKids was once again fulfilled in the lives of children in Africa needing surgery and rehabilitation.

It’s a privilege to participate in God’s ongoing work of healing. It’s a blessing to see the amazement on the faces of parents when they’re given new hope for the future of their children. It’s an even greater joy when Moms and Dads take their first steps of faith in Jesus Christ.

And so on behalf of the 31 staff members, 7 pediatric surgeons, 4 surgeon trainees, 17 Board members in 3 countries, and countless volunteers connected with BethanyKids I share this Annual Report with you. It presents in pictures and words “a look through 2016” at what was accomplished by the grace of God – the training of African pediatric surgeons, children’s surgery in 5 African countries, outpatient clinics, mobile clinics, rehabilitation and sharing the gospel message.

In 2016 we moved into the newly-constructed BethanyKids Children’s Centre in Kijabe with its abundance of inpatient and outpatient space, its healing natural light, its indoor and outdoor play areas, and its well-equipped ward for more seriously ill children. Again, we “praise the God of Israel” for this new place dedicated to the care of children.

Your financial and prayer support makes it all possible and so, as our motto expresses it, we count on your continuing partnership with BethanyKids in “Healing African Children – Transforming Lives.”

Blessings,

Malcolm D. Robinson
Executive Director
Johnny (5) and Opio (6) are two precious reasons we are training pediatric surgeons and partnering with hospitals in multiple African countries.
Johnny and Opio are “brothers” – both abandoned as infants and taken in by a Christian couple in Kampala, Uganda, who currently have around 30 children in the care of their orphanage. The brothers have both suffered from gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) and a swallowing disorder since they were born, which means that eating is a painful ordeal, marked by reflux, vomiting, and recurring aspiration pneumonia.

Surgery was the only option, and because of our partnership with Mbarara University Teaching Hospital in Uganda, Johnny and Opio were able to get the help they needed without having to travel to another country or pay for care at a private hospital. Dr. Martin Situma, one of our former trainees and the only pediatric surgeon for this large referral hospital, performed their surgeries and because it is a government hospital, their care was completely free!

January 2016

Construction is completed on BethanyKids Children’s Centre (BKCC). Patients and staff joyfully move into the new facility.
BKCC is officially opened at a joyous and moving dedication ceremony.

3,122 Mobile Clinic Visits

April 2016

BKCC is officially opened at a joyous and moving dedication ceremony.
A full-time, permanent Mobile Clinic team is created, allowing for more consistent and effective care for families across Kenya.

Thirteen year-old Dan and his family live outside of Eldoret, not far from where most of Kenya’s famous runners are born and train. Dan’s older brother is an aspiring athlete and runs the 800 meter race locally hoping to break onto the national stage. But Dan cannot walk. Born with spina bifida and hydrocephalus, Dan uses a wheelchair to get around.

The hospital where Dan was diagnosed and treated as an infant does not offer the kind of rehab that is essential for a child with spina bifida to live an active and healthy life. So without the accessibility of our Mobile Clinic, it’s likely that Dan’s life would look drastically different. Instead of facing restriction, shame, and poor health Dan thrives in school, where he is actively involved in the debate club, and is excelling in academics.

Luke McAuley, occupational therapist, joins our rehabilitation team to further develop our inpatient therapy at BKCC, as well as assist with Mobile Clinics and at Joytown.
Like many parents who come through our doors, Janet brought Silvia to us already knowing that she couldn’t afford the surgery her infant daughter needed. What she didn’t know was that after a successful surgery, Silvia would experience complications that would keep her in the hospital for another 35 days.

Without the many gifts we receive from caring individuals around the world, Janet would have been left with an impossible hospital bill and lifelong debt. What a blessing to provide not only physical healing, but financial and emotional peace to parents like Janet!

Janet is 21 and lives with her only relative, an aunt, who has six children of her own. They live in a single-room rental house in Kibera, the largest slum in Nairobi, and Janet’s aunt supports them all by selling vegetables from a roadside kiosk.
Dr. Edmond Ntaganda, from Uganda, passes his board exams to become the 7th graduate from our Pediatric Surgery Training Program.

December 2016-
March 2017
Doctors’ strike closes all government hospitals across Kenya. BethanyKids remains open and continues to offer subsidized care.
3,770 Therapy Sessions

Resources & Results

Total Expenses $1,592,257
405 Wheelchairs Serviced

Medical Training $911,281
Mobile Clinics $130,702
Joytown School $56,807
Children’s Centre Construction (Kijabe) $252,536
Administration/Fundraising $147,377

Total Expenses $1,592,257
BethanyKids is 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.

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