

May 2017

Nsawo Village, Uganda, Maternity/HIV Clinic Up and Running as Part of Adopt-A Village Model

Larry Hutchings, Past President, Past District Grants Chair
Rotary Club of Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise, District 5160, California, USA

A maternity and HIV clinic in Uganda is now in operation thanks to the most recent of three Rotary grants benefiting Nsawo Village, a collection of small villages of approximately 2,500 residents. Six years ago a partnership began between the Rotary Club of Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise, District 5160 in Northern California, and Ugandan Rotary Clubs, including lead host club R.C. of Muyenga, R.C. of Nansana, and R.C. of Wobulenzi, District 9211, to adopt a village--that is, to do whatever was necessary to give the people in one village a hand to enable them to pull themselves out of poverty.

The first \$38,000 global grant in 2011 concentrated on reduction in disease and improving nutrition--by providing mosquito nets, clean water and improved sanitation with a new borehole, pit latrine toilets and hand washing stations at the main trading



The Nsawo Maternity/HIV Clinic with patients waiting their turn.

center and at a school; better breeds of beans and maize seeds, piglets, chicks, feed, and veterinary services, thus producing additional sources of protein. The incidence of malaria went down by 95%; other water borne diseases decreased substantially, and the overall diets as well as incomes of villagers improved.

The second global grant of \$46,680 expanded the water supply and focused on trade education and business equipment: sewing machines and brickmaking machines, banana suckers for farmers; pigs and sheep; catering equipment to enable the women to engage in business; and maternal care kits for expectant mothers to promote safe deliveries. Incomes in the village continued to rise due to the farming, catering, and production of sewn items.

One of the benefits of the second grant was that the youth who received the vocational training in brick making and laying constructed a building on donated land in the center of the village for use as a medical clinic. With the building in place, the Rotary Clubs of Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise, Muyenga, and members of Ashland, Oregon, Durango, Colorado, and Vallejo, California made more than \$15,000 in direct grants to the RCC to equip the clinic, as well as obtaining a donated microscope valued at \$10,000.

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Several children have now been born at the clinic; many children and adults have received vaccinations, and it is now being used for wellness/diagnosis for the village at large. However, more assistance is needed to fund regular visits by the doctor and ongoing supply needs. All projects have been championed and overseen by Rotarian Deborah Luyima, club secretary of the Rotary Club of Muyenga.



Village children receiving immunizations at Nsavo Clinic.



First baby born at the clinic held by Rotarian Deborah Luyima.

For information on the adopt-a-village model and how to participate in further assisting the clinic, please contact Deborah at kimydale@yahoo.co.uk or Larry Hutchings at lwhutchings@yahoo.com.



Fun with Interact: Peer Leadership & Depression Prevention

Bob Anthony, President 2017-2018

Rotary Club of Wellesley, District 7910, Massachusetts, USA

Interact teens in Puerto Rico, the United States, and India are having fun introducing content from a Boston Children's Hospital curriculum. Even as they enjoy teaching healthy coping and problem-solving skills such as PIP Problems-Ideas-Plans, they also deliver important information that is not known everywhere. Examples include:

- 1 in 5 cases of depression are wholly preventable.
- Depression is a disease that usually begins in children.

The Interact teens attend train-the-trainer workshops, just as faculty would, and then facilitate the four 45 minute curriculum modules to every student in a grade at a school or in a community youth group. Some youth groups go on to deliver subsets of the content on their own, creating skits or discussing video clips.

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