

Donate Now

CACHA counts on the generosity of people like you to send medical teams, equipment and medication to our host countries of Benin, Gabon, Tanzania and Uganda. 100% of your donation will go towards our projects that have a direct impact on the lives of people with little or no access to medical care.

On behalf of those who will benefit from your generosity, we thank you for your interest in our organization.

Yes, I want to help.

CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____
 PROVINCE _____ POSTAL CODE _____
 TELEPHONE _____
 EMAIL ADDRESS _____

DONATION INFORMATION

\$100 \$50 \$25 OTHER

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

VISA MASTERCARD

CARD NUMBER _____
 CARD HOLDER NAME _____
 EXPIRY DATE (Month/Year) _____
 SIGNATURE _____

We also accept personal cheques
 CACHA is a registered charity and issues tax receipts. Our charitable registration number is 86288 9755 RR0001

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 8-31** Tanzania Speaker Series with Special Guest Sister Clarissa Mchallo, Medical Officer in Charge, Kilema Hospital
- March 19** Members Meeting Montreal 10:00 a.m. Location TBD
- April 16** Medical Mission to Gabon Departs
- April 26** CACHA Art Gala 5pm - 9pm Chapel of the University of Ottawa
- May 7** Members Meeting Ottawa 10:00 a.m. 100 Marie Curie, Third Floor

CACHA

Our humanitarian foundation offers basic health care to isolated African villages, participates in the fight against HIV/AIDS, and contributes to the training of medical and support staff both in Canada and in the host countries of Gabon, Benin, Tanzania and Uganda.

Board of Directors

Dr. Don Kilby	Johanne Labelle
Dr. Suzanne Rydzik	Arlene McKechnie
Christopher Fisher	Francisca Alencar Sousa
Jean Montgrain	Stephanie MacGregor
Elizabeth Lavole	June Dwyer

Acting Executive Director: Greg John
Administration: Oona St. Amant

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Email: cacha@uottawa.ca
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Charitable Number: 86288 9755 RR0001

CACHA welcomes Sister Clarissa Mchallo to Canada

For much of the month of March, CACHA will have the pleasure of hosting Sister Clarissa Mchallo, the medical officer in charge of Kilema District Hospital. Along with Greg John, our former CIDA intern in Tanzania and current Acting Executive Director, Sister Clarissa will be delivering a series of presentations to interested groups in Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa about how CACHA and Kilema Hospital are co-operating in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Sister Clarissa: Welcome to Canada!



Chris Fisher and Sister Clairssa Mchallo at the groundbreaking of our HIV Center

Over the past year, CACHA and Kilema Hospital have co-operated on a number of initiatives intended to improve rural health in communities in Northern Tanzania. The two latest initiatives reflect our commitment to meeting the immediate health needs of the world's poorest in a manner that will give African communities the ability to sustain themselves in the long term.

Given the massive scale of the HIV epidemic in Tanzania, there will be plenty to talk about. UNAIDS estimates the infection rate in the country to be approximately 9%, meaning that there are likely over 2.5 million Tanzanians currently living with the virus. For the relative few who are knowingly HIV positive, treatment is usually either unavailable or unaffordable. Hospitals such as our partners at Kilema are therefore forced to repeatedly treat those infected for a variety of opportunistic infections, limiting their ability to invest in facilities, train health staff, or generally improve their quality of care. And when someone does eventually pass away, he or she often leaves numerous dependents--children or spouses--in desperate, hopeless situations. According to UNICEF, there are over 2,000,000 orphans in Tanzania alone.

The first initiative is an orphan support program, designed to provide basic material and psycho-social support to children in great need. Secondly, in November 2005 we began construction on a new 2400 square foot building on the grounds of Kilema Hospital, meant to house a full HIV treatment facility, as well as our orphan program.

Everyone can help

You don't have to be a health care professional to join the fight against HIV/AIDS or help increase the standard of living of rural African communities. Below are some examples of how Canadians are supporting the cause right here at home. We thank everyone who helps support CACHA.

A huge crowd attended a concert on Dec 4 at Club Soda in Montreal organized by Isabel Turcotte and her team

The Gatineau and Val des Monts Dojos held a karate tournament to support our cause. Ha-ji-me!

Volunteers drive CACHA. Pictured are some volunteers sorting and packing pills for a medical mission.

Members from various Toronto area Rotary Clubs helped to build Kilema Hospital's HIV center for 2 weeks in January.

Students from U of O IHP and Colonel By S.S. have held fundraising spaghetti dinners and other events...squisito!

THANK YOU!!!



Together We Can Make a Difference



Membership Card

Become a Member

We have a strong and committed membership base and we want you to be a part of it! By joining Canada-Africa Community Health Alliance as a member, you will become more involved in the direction of the organization and have ample chance to make a difference.

Membership Fee: \$25

Yes, I want to become a member.

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BUILDING A BOND WITH BENIN

CACHA's third medical mission to Benin took place from the 18th of November to the 2nd of December 2005. In all, over 4000 people received treatment and medication on this mission, and approximately 1800 students from 7 schools in the area were de-wormed. Of these students, 62 orphans received 2 months worth of multi-vitamins.

In the village of Aklampa, our CACHA team of 10 was joined by 2 doctors and 4 medical students from University of Ottawa completing clinical electives, whose strong efforts greatly contributed to our clinic days. This collaboration allowed us to offer experience and knowledge that will in the long run contribute to the shared goal of improving rural health. In Aklampa, we also toured the dispensary that villagers have been constructing, and made a monetary contribution that should ensure its completion in time for CACHA's medical mission to Benin in 2006. The remainder of the medical mission, from Aklampa to Anoum, was a success not only from a primary health care point of view, but also because of the knowledge and training we were able to offer our friends in Africa. The Beninese contingent that participated consisted of a nurse, a medical student a recently graduated doctor, a cameraman, and 3 support staff to help with triage. We were also joined by a

pharmacist's assistant from Cameroon. We could always count on the local community to support our work and provide warm African comradery during our occasional downtime.



Team Benin in front of Aklampa's dispensary-to-be

A big thank you to everyone who helped make the 2005 Benin medical mission a success by creating new bonds of friendship and strengthening existing ones: the Canadians and Beninese who participated directly in the mission, as well as all our local organizers, interpreters, assistants, cooks, drivers, washers, dance instructors and community members.

NEW VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Allison Burnett has recently joined CACHA as the committee lead for fundraising. She will be heading up a committee of seven new volunteers in 2006, and is excited to take on this new volunteer role. The calendar is full of events and fundraising activities for the year, so the team will be kept very busy!

Allison's background is in the marketing & communications fields. She has a Bachelor degree in International Business from Carlton and an MBA from University of Ottawa, and has professional experience in the fields of corporate social responsibility, events and sponsorships, and marketing. She has also volunteered in various capacities over the years, including time with Habitat for

Humanity and Oxfam. She co-founded the alumni association for her undergraduate program and ran the chapter for several years. She has organized many large scale events in a professional and volunteer capacity.

Allison was married just last June, and lives in Ottawa with her husband and their puppy, Timber. She enjoys travel and has spent time in various countries in Europe, in northern Africa (Morocco), and in South America. She also frequently travels to the west coast of Canada to visit her family. In her spare time in Ottawa, she enjoys being active outdoors and participates in several sports.

GETTING READY FOR GABON

Preparations are well under way for the upcoming medical mission to Gabon, expected to depart April 16th. As with similar past expeditions, planning and execution of the caravan will be done in partnership with a Gabonese NGO named Caravane Médicale pour le Gabon, and we will once again be joined by representatives from CEGEP St-Jean sur Richelieu. Over the course of a 3-week period we expect to visit over 5 villages, and we look forward to the same enthusiastic turnout as previous caravans to Gabon (in 2005, we treated over 500 patients/day). We are fortunate to have a CIDA intern, Ali MacLean, on the ground in Gabon to assist our Gabonese partners in planning the caravan.



We're still seeking pharmacists, nurses and dentists to participate in the Gabon medical mission 2006. If you are interested, contact cacha@uottawa.ca or Elizabeth Lavoie at betty_lavoie@hotmail.com.

INTRODUCING HOUSE OF HOPE

Located in Kasese, Uganda, the House of Hope Orphanage is CACHA's latest project. This endeavour was started in 2001 by a Canadian-Ugandan named Edward Muyobokey, and has steadily increased its capacity to house and care for these children who have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS, war, or abandonment. Currently 47 children call the House of Hope their permanent home, and the joyous songs they enthusiastically sing to visitors testify to the loving environment in which they are raised.



The House of Hope crew

Since October 2005, CACHA has had a CIDA intern in Uganda working with Edward and the House of Hope. As with all new overseas partnerships, it is crucial for the partners to gain familiarity and trust, so that efforts and resources from both sides can be utilized effectively. By spending an extended period of time at House of Hope in Uganda, Jimmy Sebulime, the CIDA intern, has been instrumental in accomplishing this vital relationship building.

To our delight, relationships are not the only thing that Jimmy has been helping to build. With the support of CACHA and House of Hope's dedicated Toronto fundraising team, the House of Hope Orphanage in Uganda has been diligently working on constructing a number of future income-generating projects: a chicken house, a maize mill, a vegetable garden, and a cow-shed are all either under construction or planned for the future. These projects, when complete, will provide the orphanage's children with a more balanced and nutritious diet, and will also allow the orphanage to gain financial independence. These two outcomes reflect CACHA's commitment to meeting vital needs of today, while investing in and strengthening African institutions for the future.