

Medical Clinic – Liberia



Five years after the end of war in Liberia, thousands of injured survivors say they are still suffering from physical wounds that were never properly treated. Infections and illness from these injuries are common. Although basic healthcare is free in Liberia, more complicated operations such as the removal of bullets usually carry fees which most Liberians cannot afford.

An X-ray to pinpoint the location of a bullet costs \$10 at the JKF hospital in Monrovia but the average Liberian earns under \$1 a day, according to the United Nations development agency, UNDP.

Maternal and infant mortality rates in Liberia are among the highest in the world. Inadequate health services have resulted in infant mortality rates of 157/1,000 live births and maternal mortality rates of 580/1,000,000 live births. Childhood malnutrition is high with 39% of children under five stunted, 86% of children 6-23 months anemic and 53% deficient in vitamin A.

Most people travel to the ELWA hospital which is about 7 miles away - if they have money. They make this trip either by foot or carrying their sick in a wheel barrel.

Through the donations of saints, Compassionate Services International was able to provide funding for the Paynesville Medical Clinic. This fourteen room structure, scheduled to open in December, will house a male, a female and a children's ward along with an operating room, delivery room, two physician's room, two storage rooms and 5 bathrooms.

Because the need is so great among the community, people are visiting the Paynesville Medical Clinic daily asking when it will be open. When the medical clinic is completed and able to open, organization will begin for medical and humanitarian tours to Liberia through Compassion Services International.

Through donations from Truth Tabernacle, Marysville, California and several individuals, Compassion Services International has responded by sending five boxes of medical supplies such as bandages, gauze pads, vitamins, first aid supplies and IV equipment.. Thank you to all that made this gift possible.

More information will follow as it is available.

If you have specific questions, please contact csi@upci.org.

