



Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop – Northwest Region of Cameroon Africa

INTRODUCTION

It gets super interesting talking about the impact of Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop on the war-torn villages of Ndop – Ngoketunjia Division of the Northwest region of Cameroon. The women and the children living in these villages which have been severely damaged by the long war between the armed separatists and the Cameroon military, say Grace Gardens Hospital is the best thing that has happened to their community. According to the testimonies from these villagers, access to healthcare was a veritable nightmare before the coming of Grace Gardens. They practically depended on herbs for their health before the coming of Grace Gardens. Those who had money to go to the hospital had to travel long distances. Grace Gardens has brought them smiles. One of the beneficiaries of this affordable and quality healthcare is a mother who delivered a full-term baby and decided to throw the baby in a pit toilet (pit latrine). This woman was almost bitten to death by other villagers for throwing her baby in the toilet. When the staff of Grace Gardens were notified, the security guard and the emergency response team of Grace Gardens, rushed to the scene, rescued the woman, pulled the baby out of the toilet and brought them to Grace Gardens. Mother and child received medical care and today, they are doing well thanks to Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop. Over the years Grace Gardens has endeavored to develop the most effective method of building structures and organizing activities that will give her a competitive advantage in a challenging environment.

In December 2011, the founder and CEO of Grace Gardens Dr. Samuel K. Ndinjiakat received a message that her Mother Mama Mary Nahnjuteh was sick. He was told that while his mother was trying to stay warm using a local fireside made of wood, she accidentally burnt herself. This happened in the village of Bangolan – Ndop in Ngoketunjia Division of the Northwest Region of Cameroon. The CEO after consulting with his wife, Emelda Ndinjiakat decided to travel from USA to Cameroon to help his mother. The CEO spent ten days in the village of Bangolan in December 2011: treating his mother and other villagers. Many villagers came to consult; coming with their medical booklets with hope that this young Doctor (their son from America) will cure

them from all their ailments. There was a health clinic not far from the house of the CEO's mother. He visited the clinic, and the administrator of the Clinic Mr. Tatapong Emmanuel allowed him to provide free consultations to all villagers who came. For ten days, the CEO of Grace Gardens provided care to the many who came.

Even though the purpose of his visit was to take care of his mother, he ended up caring for many of the villagers who were sick and had no one to help them. After ten days, it was time for the CEO to return to USA; the people were sad to see him depart for USA. It was rewarding for the CEO of Grace Gardens, but he felt a need and a responsibility to do something. After returning to the US, he founded Faith Gardens Medical Foundation International in 2013 with a mission to raise funds, medical supplies, and medical equipment to provide quality medical care to individuals through Grace Gardens and its affiliates in Cameroon and other countries which are in need of quality healthcare.

After the creation of Faith Gardens Medical Foundation International in 2013, the CEO and his wife traveled back to Cameroon to plan for medical missions.

In 2014, the CEO successfully led the first maiden medical mission trip to Cameroon during which they provided care to more than 1333 people. During this first medical mission trip, the CEO met with the Prime Minister of Cameroon H.E. Philemon Yang who accepted to do everything to support Faith Gardens Medical Foundation International in its mission to provide free medical care to those in medically underserved. Faith Gardens Medical Foundation International continued to lead yearly medical missions to Cameroon until the crisis in the Northwest and Southwest started. Our last effective medical mission was in 2017.



The CEO with his mother (middle) with two 2016 Medical Mission Team members (Nurse Marie and PA Amy).

Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop was conceived in response to the cries of the local population for a permanent health unit that can meet the health care needs of the people after savoring the periodic annual outreach medical mission by Faith Gardens Medical Foundation International USA to the communities of Ngoketunjia division of the Northwest Region of Cameroon. The population appreciated the quality of services, effectiveness of drugs in handling their health issues, the cost of the drugs and medical supplies and the education and counseling they received that served as an eye opener to a better health status and life.

FORMATION OF GRACE GARDENS HOSPITAL NDOP

The name Grace Gardens is derived from a quote by Alison Wood-Osmun which states: ‘A Garden is an act of faith and of prayer – of encompassing meditation, of generosity and community. It is a belief in the earth as a sacred place, a sacred gift, to nurture, to reap and sow. It is that place of GRACE within us which freely gives and receives.’ Therefore, Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop is that PLACE of Grace considered by the vision bearer as a SACRED PLACE, SACRED GIFT to the people with a mission to sow, nurture and reap.

The business plan of Grace Gardens Hospital was conceived in 2012 and was finalized in 2014. In 2015, construction work started on the Primary care center. Thanks to the sister-in-law of the CEO, Dilys Chafa, a professional design of the primary care center was drawn from a sketch drawn by the CEO. Victory Construction Group headed by Mr. Victor Lue and Mrs. Chafa Dilys supervised the construction of the Primary Care Center.



Site of the Current location of GGH Ndop. Land donated by Dr. Henry Tatangang including the old cement block shown here.



Foundation of the Primary Care Center



Technical Visit by District Medical Officer of Ndop: Dr. Bambo Emmanuel accompanied by Chief of Bureau of Nursing for Ngoketunjia Mr. Teboh George. Visiting here: Dr. Nick Ngwanyam.

After the technical visit by the DMO of Ndop, a favorable technical report was written by the DMO to the Regional Delegate of Health for the Northwest Region, a formal application was submitted by the CEO on August 5, 2015 demanding the creation of Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop.



Primary Care Center Under Construction.

The process of authorization was very challenging; required very tight diplomacy and negotiations which is beyond this newsletter. The CEO had series of meetings with local leaders, mayors, Regional Delegate of Health for the Northwest, Minister of Public Health, Parliamentarians and Senators from the Northwest Region, Governor of the Northwest Region, other Ministers, and Prime Minister of the Republic of Cameroon. As you will read later, certain leaders in the Prime Ministry and the Ministry of Public Health played pivotal roles in the creation and opening of Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop.

In March 2016, Project CURE, a US charitable organization conducted a feasibility study at Grace Gardens Hospital. Project CURE donated medical supplies and medical equipment to Grace Gardens Hospital. Thanks to the support of the Director of Cabinet at the PM's office Prof. Ghogomu Paul Mingo and the Prime Minister of Cameroon, Grace Gardens received exonerations on the medical supplies and equipment. Behind the scenes, Mr. Godfred Foryang, working at the PM's office ensured that the papers went to the right offices. In June 2017, the CEO of Grace Gardens Hospital submitted a new application for both creation and opening to the Regional Delegate of Health for the Northwest. Grace Gardens Hospital achieved a crucial milestone; the dedication of Grace Gardens Hospital to God thanks to Mrs. Emelda Ndinjiakat. A

prayer warrior group (intercessors led by Pastors Hezekiah, William, Ndiformubeh and Pah Teboh George) prayed for the hospital while going around the building and land SEVEN times.



The CEO posts with the Director of Cabinet H. E. Ghogomu Paul and Representative of Project CURE Ms. Susan Healy after a visit with PM and Director of Cabinet in March 2016.



Project CURE Feasibility study at Grace Gardens in March 2016

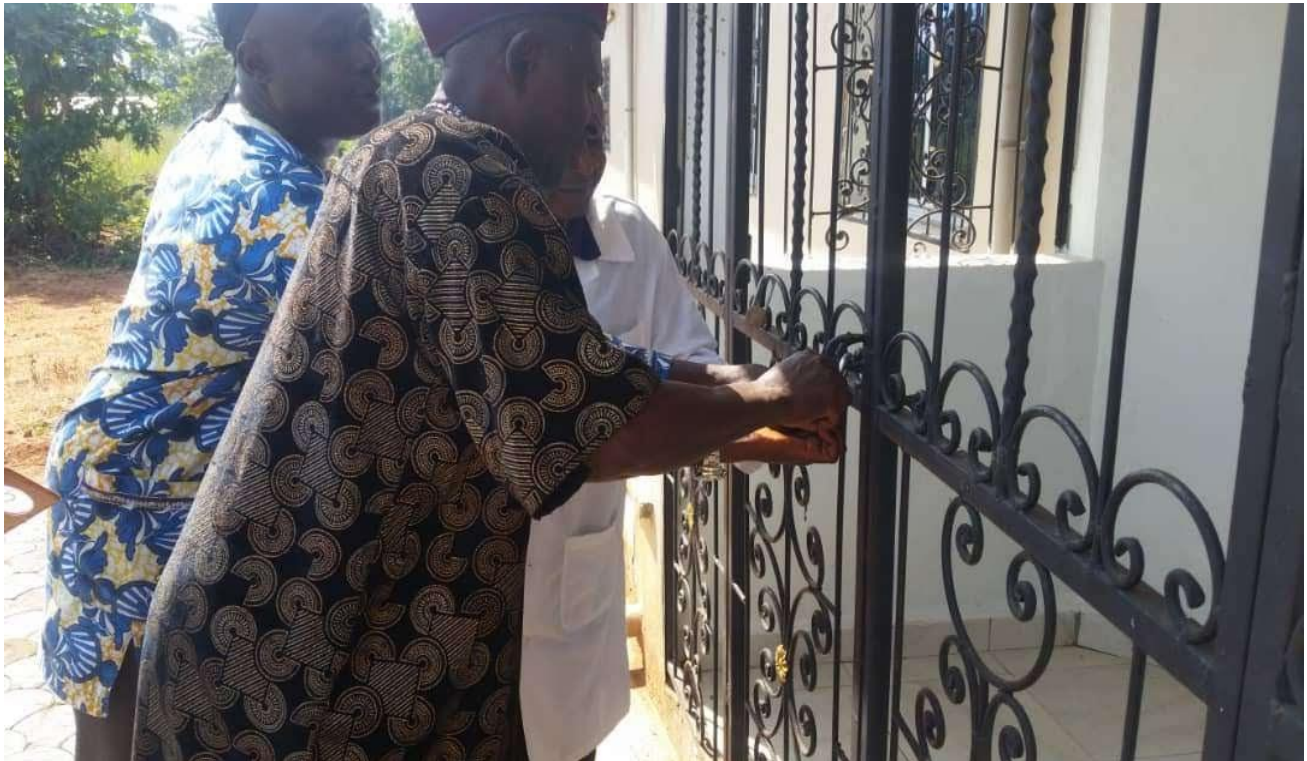


Prayer team and Grace Gardens Team post after prayer dedication of GGH Ndop on Friday June 9, 2017.



The President of the Northwest Medical Council posts after formal visit with local leaders, CEO's mother, and future staff of GGH on July 4, 2018.

FINALLY, Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop obtained authorizations for creation in August 2018 and authorization to start functioning in December 2018. Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop effectively started functioning on the 26th of November 2019 due the crisis in the Northwest and Southwest Regions. The Primary Care Center has 15 beds, employing 23 employees plus a fulltime primary care doctor. The Surgical Center has a 45 beds, employing 27 employees and a fulltime doctor specialized in women's and a Chief consultant Obstetrician-Gynecologist from Sweden Dr. Philip Gotllieb. Dr. Philip has trained Dr. Douanla on how to use a mobile colposcope called the Gynocular made by Gynius; a Swedish based company. Images from cervical cancer screening are uploaded to the ColpAdvisor; an artificial intelligent software in android phone. The images are analyzed by Dr. Philip in Sweden and final diagnosis sent back to Grace Gardens with treatment plans. The hospital provides quality, affordable care to about 400 patients per month, conducting an average of 500 test per month. The management is progressively introducing various units, services and equipment as the need arises.



Turn-in-key Date November 26, 2019. Quarter Head on Mbiyeh – Bamunka Ndop & Ndop Health officials opened Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop, assisted by GGH CNO Pah Teboh George.



Pioneer Team of Employees post on November 26, 2019 after the opening ceremony.



First Day of work at Grace Gardens on November 26, 2019.



First patient at Grace Gardens Hospital Ndop, Noovember 26, 2019.



First complete medical team at GGH: Dr. Lembi (middle in white) Posts with the Team January 2020



First baby (Named Grace) delivered at GGH by Dr. Lembi and Nurse Judith on January 26, 2020



Twins delivered at Grace Gardens in
March of 2020



Grace Gardens Kitchen becomes functional in April 2020



Construction of Grace Gardens well begin with digging of well, inserting cement rings closing it with a lid as shown here in April 2020.



Construction of water tower in April 2020



Construction of water tower complete in April 2020



With no incinerator, the staff had to burn trash and other medical wastes and push the ashes into this hole



Grace Gardens Lab was fully equipped by April 2020



Preparing for COVID-19 in May of 2020.



By June 2020, Grace Gardens had signboards all over the town.



On June 13, 2020 Grace Gardens bought a motorcycle for emergency response. This our own ambulance



In late June 2020, the construction of Grace Gardens incinerator began for burning of trash and wastes



Grace Gardens organized fight against COVID-19 in June 2020



Women taught on how to use the masks and how to sanitize their hands.



On July 16, 2020, an official contract for the construction of GGH surgical center was signed



By August of 2020 Grace Gardens was already well equipped to perform surgery. Dr. Ntuntu Performs hernia repair.





Successful completion of the incinerator in August 2020



First group of Community healthcare worker established in August of 2020



By November of 2020, the construction of GGH Surgical Center was almost complete.



On November 26, 2020 GGH celebrated first anniversary





Children received toys during the 2020 Christmas event at GGH





Action day:



**Thanks to all the staff of
the Grace Garden Hospital in
Ndop Bamenda, who just
recieved a donation of
protective face mask made
by volunteers of the TOH
Foundation.**



"You shall never walk alone".





By May 2021, the surgical center had a roof, walls plastered and the floor concreted.



First Official visit to GGH by the Catholic Women in June 2020.

FAITH GARDENS
MEDICAL FOUNDATION
INTERNATIONAL, INC.



*Faith Gardens 2021 Medical
Mission to Cameroon
July 11 - July 29*



Staff of GGH posts with CEO (extreme left) and his wife (extreme right standing), July 2021



First Breast and Cervical Cancer screening and treatment organized at newly constructed surgical center by CEO and his wife Emelda Ndinjiakat shown here teaching the women July 2021. Emelda is a registered nurse and a cervical cancer survivor. The July 2021 medical mission was focused on breast and cervical cancer screen and treatment. A total of 117 women were screened for cervical cancer using the World Organization Technique of Visual Inspection with Acetic acid (VIA) and 34 women were diagnosed with precancerous or early cancerous cells (cervical cancer). Even though this was a very small sample in one location, it does indicate that the incidence of cervical cancer is high in low middle-income countries like Cameroon. At the end of our medical mission, the women who came in great numbers pleaded with the CEO and his wife to start Grace Gardens Women Health Association with mission of educating them on women's health issues. Grace Gardens Women Health Association was created in July 2021 by Mrs. Emelda Ndinjiakat and today, this association has more than 300 registered women. These women are not only learning about their health issues, but they can also now make marketable products such as soap, perfumes, lotions, and other items which they sell in order to have money to take care of their basic needs.

STATISTICS ON CERVICAL CANCER CMR

- Cervical cancer, although preventable, is the fourth most common cancer among women globally, and the second most common and deadliest gynecological cancer in low-and-middle-income countries. Screening is key to the prevention and early detection of the disease for treatment.
- Cameroon has a population of 6.74 millions women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer.
- Current estimates indicate that every year 2356 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 1546 die (65.6%) from the disease.
- Cervical cancer ranks as the 2nd most frequent cancer among women in Cameroon and the 2nd most frequent cancer among women between 15 and 44 years of age.
- Data is not yet available on the HPV burden in the general population of Cameroon.
- However, in Africa about 3.8% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time
- 67.2% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPVs 16 or 18.



Women post after Cervical Cancer awareness, screening, and treatment of cancerous lesions at Grace Gardens in July 2021



Another milestone of GGH was the formation of the Grace Gardens Women Health Association during the July 2021 Breast and Cervical Cancer screening and Treatment.



GGH second anniversary and inauguration of Surgical Center November 26, 2021





Surgery at the Surgical Center



**GRACE GARDENS HOSPITAL NDOP
& ENAVI CLINIC BAFFOUSSAM
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CAMPAIGN**

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**Friday March 18th,
2022 Grace Gardens
Women Health**

**Saturday March 19th
General Public
Time: 8am-5pm**

During this eye screening Dr. Ayukotang Enowntai of ENAVI Clinic provided free consultation to 203 patients; 30 free prescriptions eyeglasses and 203 eye drops to patients who attended the campaign. Many young men and women testified that they could see and read very well for the first time.



Dr. Ayukotang Enowntai of ENAVI (middle in blue) and Dr. Valery Yongbang Yuh (extreme right in blue polo shirt) of Grace Gardens post with the staff after the free eye screening.

CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING TRAINING BY Dr. PHILIP GOTLLIEB FROM SWEDEN FROM August 24 to August 27, 2022.

Here is a brief Summary of the training report by Dr. Philip: “I got in contact with Dr Samuel Ndinjiakat and the hospital through MedAid UK as I had expressed my wish to offer my services to train staff in doing cervical cancer screening by the use of the Gynocular and Swede score. The staff have been prepared to some degree through contact with Dr Daniel Kimani, Kenya and MedAid UK. The Hospital has earlier this year acquired the Gynocular with stand and smartphone. A year ago a visiting gynaecologist has performed thermo therapy on the basis of VIA and bringing his own electrical equipment.

Time of stay: August, Wednesday 24 to Saturday 27
Wednesday 24: theoretical training, Cervical cancer epidemiology, cause, normal anatomy, Dysplasia, Swede Score evaluation of degree of dysplasia, treatment, The Gynocular and Colpadvisor

Thursday 25: Hands on training with 6 patients. At the same time discussing the images seen and evaluation of Sweed Score.

Friday 26: Theory : Other features to be seen, Schistosomiasis. Hands on training with Gynocular and Sweed Score evaluation, 8 patients.

Saturday 27th: Hands on training 6, patients. Uploading details from five patients to the Colpadvisor. Totally 20 patients were seen, four were transferred for biopsy and excision and two underwent Canister based Cryo therapy.

Mr Ouzerou Ndinyanka, business manager of Grace Gardens Hospital played a great role in solving practical and logistic problems occurring along the way. His engagement made the whole event a valuable experience for all parties involved.

Training and lessons learned: 1 doctor, Dr Douanla Leonnelle, and four nurses trained: Mary, Nadesh, Odette and Jonathan. Dr Douanla performed all colposcopies. The nurses have tried sporadically and even tried vaginal speculum examination.

Treatment: Two patients with Swede Score < 5 , corresponding to CIN 1, were treated with canister-based cryotherapy: A finger-thick cotton ball was attached to a cotton stick. The cotton ball was cooled down by spraying the gas from the canister and the ball applied immediately to the surface of the cervix. To start with the patient would feel coldness but after 30 seconds no discomfort. The cotton ball was held in place for three minutes. After one minute pause the procedure was repeated with a new frozen cotton ball. On visualization the cervix would show sign of inflammation. The patients will be called for follow up after 6 month

Colpadvisor: Images were successfully uploaded to the Coldadvisor APP with 6 images and details on the Swede Score information and the relevant clinical information for five patients. However, we did not succeed to create connection to the Colpadvisor on my laptop which will be necessary for sharing and evaluating images in the future. We will ask Gynius (Karl Breilkoph) for help solving this. Maybe it is a matter of revealing the password for the smartphone and use it for locking in on the Colpadvisor on the laptop so that images can be shared and evaluated. The Gynocular with smartphone works well, it is small, mobile and gives amazingly good images. As cervical screening will progress at Grace Gardens Hospital patients will be found with CIN 3 and more severe lesions which should be treated. At the moment the patients are referred for biopsy/excision. As I understand using Swede Score is new in the region and the hospital who will receive the patients for treatment are not used to this grading and some confusion may arise. Since Grace Gardens Hospital will be the only facility for the screening in the coming years, the best thing would be to plan for treatment at Grace Gardens, and that should be Loop Electrosurgical Excision Procedure (LEEP). Of course, it is best to have access to histological evaluation but it is not mandatory before you do the LEEP. – That is part of the “see and treat” regime recommended by WHO in remote areas.”

Dr Philip Gottlieb August 29 2022



Dr. Philip training staff on cervical cancer screening and treatment at GGH



Staff observing as the Dr. Philip sets up the Gynocular



Dr. Douanla performs cervical cancer screening using the Gynocular under the supervision of Dr. Philip. Sustainability is very crucial for us at Grace Gardens. It is about coming and providing care under medical mission trips. It is about training the next generation of healthcare providers and leaders who will continue to provide quality care to the people of Cameroon and beyond. Our vision is to be the leader in building healthiest communities. For all these years Grace Gardens has been the leader in rebuilding through preventive and holistic healthcare. In synergy with the Grace Gardens Women Health Association, we are empowering the local population in taking the lead to fight against cervical cancer and educating the community on vaccines and preventive healthcare. Our daily operations has doubled in 2022 compared to 2021 as shown in the table below.

Consultations	Deliveries	Hospitalization	Major Surgeries	Minor Surgeries	Malaria	Typhoid	Urinary tract infections	Lab clients	Total Tests
2210	96	1025	82	172	857	82	92	4100	6231

The shows Grace Gardens Operations From January 2022 to September 2022

Our Key Areas of Needs:

- 1. Constructions of Grace Gardens Network Center (Auditorium for Grand Rounds, continuous education, residents for visiting doctors and medical students, restaurants, and conference rooms)**
- 2. Ambulance (right now we have a motorcycle)**
- 3. Construction of a second well (digging of well, building rings and water tower, motor pump, and reservoir)**
- 4. Various reagents (equipping our Lab)**
- 5. Women and child health supplies**
- 6. Imaging: Portable chest x-ray machine, ultrasound machine**
- 7. Communication system for telemedicine**
- 8. Constant supply of medications**
- 9. Looking for PARTNERS**



Dr. Samuel Ndinjiakat

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and others in
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areas who cannot
afford basic
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