



GLOBAL
EMERGENCY CARE
COLLABORATIVE



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR MISSION

To reduce disparities in global health by creating access to quality emergency care in resource limited settings.



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

— Margaret Mead

Dear friends and supporters,

In 2015, GECC's programs in Uganda have really thrived. As you know, GECC has been training providers to be Emergency Care Practitioners (ECPs) in Uganda, and we've seen significant success with our training program and, more importantly, in patient outcomes. None of this would be possible without you. Thank you for your generosity. You are educating clinicians, improving lives, and constructing a system to create access to emergency care for millions of people.

Last year, GECC board members and Ugandan collaborators published a groundbreaking article in the scientific journal, PLOS ONE. The article evaluates the outcomes of over 10,000 patients treated by the ECPs, and demonstrates lower mortality rates for all the most common causes of death, including malaria, trauma, and pneumonia. Our results show that for every 41 children under 5 years old with moderate or severe malaria seen by our ECPs, one child lives who would otherwise have died! These outcomes highlight the importance of building emergency care systems by training and empowering local healthcare providers and reinforce its importance as a public health intervention.

Due to generous support from All People Be Happy Foundation and Ronald McDonald House Charities, we saw emergency care in Uganda take several critical steps forward in 2015. GECC strengthened our relationships with several Ugandan partners; expanded the ECP program to an additional site at Masaka Hospital; raised funding to sponsor the training of two of Uganda's first Emergency Medicine Physicians; and made strides preparing additional outcomes data for future publications.

The accomplishments of 2015 have been a culmination of over a decade of hard work and dedication from the whole GECC team and our supporters. As always, we remain deeply committed to helping our Ugandan partners succeed in developing emergency care and ensuring that these lifesaving treatments are available to all Ugandans when they are needed. None of our work or our successes would be possible however, without the support and confidence of all of you!

With our deepest gratitude,

Heather Hammerstedt, Mark Bisanzo, Stacey Chamberlain,
Sara Nelson, and Brad Dreifuss
GECC Board of Directors

2015 HIGHLIGHTS



GLOBAL EMERGENCY MEDICINE SHORT COURSE

In October 2015, GECC enrolled six nurses from Masaka Hospital in the Global Emergency Medicine Short Course (GEMS) at Masaka Regional Referral Hospital. GECC designed and implemented this short course in emergency care aimed at providing an overview of the Emergency Care Practitioner Training Program to these nurses who will enroll in the program in the fall. The course introduced Emergency Medicine concepts to health care professionals working in the hospital setting. It was delivered through a mix of lectures, hands on sessions, and simulation. The students learned the basics of a symptoms based approach to emergency diagnosis and treatment. This is the first course of its kind given on low resource emergency care to non-physician clinicians in East Africa, and that we know of, the world.

2015 ECP GRADUATION

The Nyakibale team ended 2015 by celebrating the graduation of our fourth class of ECPs. Congratulations to Glorious, Deus, and Owen for all of their hard work, dedication, and compassion provided to the patients at Nyakibale. The hospital is lucky to have three more qualified, engaged, and generous clinicians on staff working daily to save lives and improve the health status of the Rukungiri population.



A FIRST: 100% UGANDAN TEAM ON THE GROUND

For the first time in GECC's history, we are excited to announce that our entire ground team is 100% Ugandan, attaining one large step toward long term sustainability. The team is led by our fantastic Program Directors, Rashidah Nambaziira at Masaka and Hilary Kizza at Nyakibale. Hilary is an ECP who took over as the Program Director in the fall of 2015. He has done a remarkable job mastering new skills required for the job, while continuing to work clinically as an ECP. Rashidah, who has been with GECC for four years, continues to build the ECP expansion program at Masaka with skill and grace. We are appreciative of the research teams at both sites working continuously to collect and analyze data to prove that task sharing to non-physician clinicians in emergency care is an affordable and effective strategy to increase access to care for all Ugandans. We especially want to thank all of the ECPs and ECP Trainers who show dedication, ingenuity, and compassion in their work every day.

CRITICAL SKILLS IN CRITICAL CARE



Emergency Care Practitioners, Serena Nakato and Richard Twinomujuni, recently attended the International Conference on Emergency Medicine in Cape Town, South Africa. This was the largest conference on emergency medicine ever held in Africa, but for Richard, it was his first time traveling outside of Uganda. Richard was part of GECC's third ECP training class and has been working as an ECP since 2012. While there, he related a story to GECC co-founder, Dr. Stacey Chamberlain.

Last year, a five-month old boy, the relative of the Emergency Department cleaner at Nyakibale Hospital, was brought to the ED suffering from severe dehydration. He was weak and pale. Most of the health care workers took one

look at him and thought that he would surely die. Richard, having been trained as an ECP, recognized not only how critical the situation was, but also knew he had the power to act. He was able to start an IV immediately on that baby, give IV fluid hydration, and reports that the child left the hospital doing well a couple days later. Because he knows this child who lives nearby, Richard sees this child from time to time. And every time he does, he is reminded of the power of emergency care and how glad he is to be an ECP. He is proud of what he's done and feels like this child is family to him.

GECC is honored to work with Richard and all his fellow ECPs. GECC empowers local health care workers to improve health care delivery, despite harsh conditions, resource limitations, and supply deficiencies. The knowledge and skills of the ECPs are critical: critical to that five-month old boy and critical to every patient that needs emergency care.



REPORT FROM THE FIELD



GECC moved closer to several major goals in 2015, and while our ground teams have faced their typical challenges, they have also enjoyed much success.

At Nyakibale, the ECPs said goodbye to program director, Ben McIsaac, after seven months of tremendous service with GECC. Ben's departure though, meant GECC had achieved one, large step toward long-term sustainability - an entirely Ugandan ground team! In the fall of 2015, Kizza Hilary was hired as program director and has done a remarkable job mastering new skills, while continuing to work clinically as an ECP. In addition, Adrine Kusasira, a Masaka research associate, was promoted to the role of research coordinator. The Nyakibale crew started 2016 off celebrating the graduation of our fourth class of ECPs. Congratulations to Glorious, Deus, and Owen for much hard work and dedication to learning.

The Masaka team saw much expansion this year. Rashidah Nambaziira, who has worked with GECC for the past four years, assumed the role of the program director and Gloria Nirere, a Masaka research associate, was promoted

to the role of research coordinator. In addition, Kamugisha John Bosco, Teddie Kiire, and Birungi Alfundi joined the Masaka team as ECP trainers in the Global Emergency Medicine Short course (GEMS). To complete the ECP Trainer team, we happily welcomed Natakunda Elizabeth, a graduate of our first class of ECPs in 2010, back to GECC in early 2016.

The GEMS course was designed by GECC to give nurses at Masaka an overview of emergency care and teach the skills most essential to patient evaluation and management. The curriculum team, Rashidah, and the ECP trainers worked hard to design and deliver the course, which included an immensely popular simulation curriculum.

Finally, this year saw solidification of the partnership between Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) and GECC. MUST approved the inclusion of the ECP course into its curricular offerings and together we prepared the curriculum for submission to the National Council of Higher Education. Currently, MUST and GECC are solidifying a plan for sustainable emergency care

education and development, as our organizations partner to deliver the ECP training and the Masters in Emergency Medicine for Uganda Physicians in 2016.

As always, the GECC ground team appreciates the support of GECC's many generous donors that have facilitated all their accomplishments this past year. We look forward to another great year ahead with progress in emergency care development and countless more lives improved through better access to emergency care for more Ugandans!



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

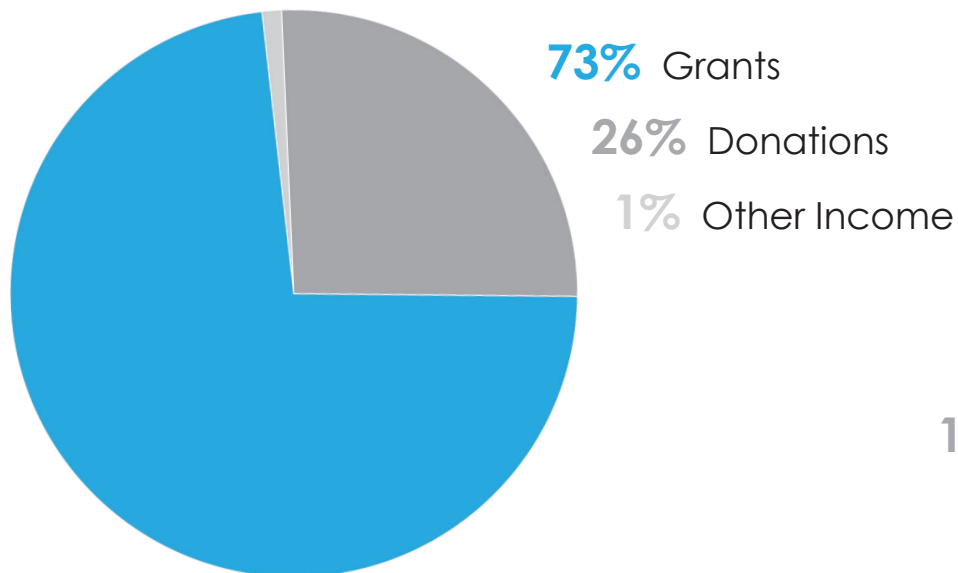


In 2015, GECC received funding from the All People Be Happy Foundation, Ronald McDonald House Charities, Emergency Medicine Foundation, Holmes Foundation, and Freas Foundation. Because of the generosity of these foundations, GECC's overall income increased by over 100%. While this is certainly great news, all the foundation funds are restricted to implement the new Masaka ECP Training Program over the course of two years.

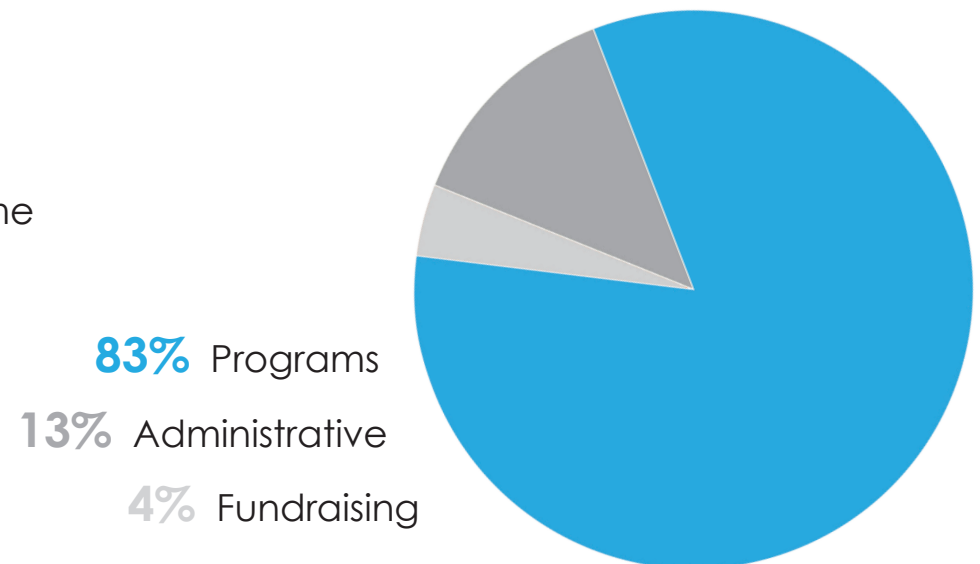
In addition, GECC's enthusiastic volunteers contributed \$1,004,187 of in-kind donations in professional services to the organization. We are incredibly appreciative of all the precious time and skills shared with GECC to build a robust ECP training program and save countless lives in Uganda.



TOTAL INCOME \$365,809



TOTAL EXPENSES \$125,546



FUTURE OF EMERGENCY CARE



The 16th International Conference on Emergency Medicine just closed in Cape Town, South Africa, and we at Global Emergency Care Collaborative are excited and energized by the global effort that we are part of to improve emergency care for all. It was fitting that, during the conference, we received word that our ECP training program and the first ever emergency physician training program have been approved by the Ugandan National Council for Higher Education. This is a landmark event that GECC has been working towards for years with Ugandan stakeholders. What this means in the broader view is that in 2016, emergency medicine training will formally start in Uganda, fully integrated into the educational system and government's health development plan. But what this really means is that fewer children will die needlessly from dehydration. Fewer young men will die needlessly after road traffic accidents. Fewer mothers will die needlessly from complications of pregnancy. And the list goes on.

The world is paying attention to the need for emergency care. The World Health Organization recently

started an Emergency, Trauma and Acute Care Programme. Emergency care directly affects many of the Sustainable Development Goals that the WHO has targeted to improve health and well-being for those that live in extreme poverty. Health ministries are taking heed, as new emergency physician training programs have recently started in Rwanda and Kenya and now will be starting in Uganda as well. GECC is proud to be part of this momentous undertaking and proud of our unique piece in this initiative to train mid-level providers. By training ECPs, emergency care will not only become available in academic centers and urban areas, but also to the most marginalized, the poor and rural, to prevent widening of the disparity gap.

GECC is proud of what we and our supporters have done to save lives of patients Nyakibale Hospital and proud to move forward with our partners in starting a national training program at Masaka Regional Referral Hospital. Together we are part of a global effort to prevent needless death from preventable causes. Together we are making a difference!



THANK YOU



The accomplishments of 2015 have been a culmination of over a decade of hard work and dedication from GECC's ever-supportive foundation partners and our tireless and dedicated volunteers. In 2015 alone, GECC volunteers donated over \$1 million of their time to further our mission. None of our work or our successes would be possible without the support and confidence of all of you. Thank you for your generosity, encouragement, and continued support!

2015 FUNDING PARTNERS



HOLMES FOUNDATION



FREAS FOUNDATION

2015 VOLUNTEERS

U.S. VOLUNTEERS

Mélissa Langevin, Usha Periyannayagam, Brian Rice, Kathylynn Saboda, Emily Grover, Gary Sharpe, Ryan Brandt, Lori Stolz, Elaine Situ-LaCasse, Luke Friedman, Katie O'Brien, and Bonni Theriault

UGANDA VOLUNTEERS

Mélissa Langevin, Brian Rice, Gary Sharpe, Elizabeth Hall, Jordan Maresh, Katie Liu, Ali Frizell, Nate Ward, Keri Cohn, Brandon Ku, Edward Chu, Mariel Colella, Alycia Valente, Aymna Husain, Greg Klazura, Andrew Meagher, Cindy Bitter, Pete Byers, Brandi Landis, Jordan Justice, Omeed Saghafi, Meg Pelis, Jeffrey Lai, and Megan Rybarczyk