

# GHANA MEDICAL HELP 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

*A 5 YEAR REFLECTION*





## 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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### ABOUT THE COVER

NURSE USING GMH-DONATED VITAL SIGNS MONITORING DEVICE TO TAKE BLOOD PRESSURE OF A PATIENT. THESE DEVICES FACILITATE VITAL SIGNS MONITORING IN OUR PARTNER HOSPITALS AND HAVE GREATLY INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND ACCURACY OF PATIENT CARE.

# INTRODUCTION

*EQUIP.*



*EDUCATE.*



*EMPOWER.*



These words truly encapsulate what Ghana Medical Help is all about. For 5 years, we've been working with local health care professionals to develop projects that sustainably advance their capacity for providing access to basic health care in northern Ghana for 2 million people. Now, we're able to see the difference that 5 years can make, and we're proud to share it with you in our 2015 Annual Report!



# ROOTS

There's a well known expression: "Be the change you want to see in the world". GMH founder Kelly Hadfield took this to heart when she started GMH 5 years ago. Deeply impacted by experiencing the preventable death of a young Ghanaian friend, Kelly started on a journey to change the face of medical care in Northern Ghana. As the initiative evolved, 3 fundamental values guided all GMH activities.



## CORE VALUES

### *Health as a Basic Human Right*

We believe that every human being has the right to access basic medical care.

### *Sustainability*

We are committed to sustainably advancing the capacity of health care professionals and improving the medical infrastructure.

### *Community Engagement*

We prioritize partnerships with community health care professionals and Ghana Health Services to tackle barriers to health.

### *Integrity*

We ensure that our operations are mindfully conducted, socially accountable, transparent and respectful.

DONATE TODAY AT [WWW.GHANAMEDICALHELP.COM](http://WWW.GHANAMEDICALHELP.COM)

GMH PARTNERED WITH ROTARY CLUBS FROM ACROSS CANADA AND GHANA TO DONATE MORE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT THAN EVER BEFORE! THANK YOU TO CAROL FORDE OF THE BARRIE ROTARY CLUB FOR MAKING IT HAPPEN!





## MEDICAL AID

*"I was at first confused...after 2011, I saw that there was a major increase in patient attendance but a decrease in infant and maternal mortality rates."*

*- Dr. Englebert, describing his observations when first coming to work at Navrongo District Hospital and remarking on GMH's easily visible impact. GMH sends hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of basic medical equipment every year to advance the capacity of community health care workers and improve the medical infrastructure in rural Northern Ghana.*

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Our medical equipment donation program is at the core of GMH operations, and serves as a gold standard model to promote good practice in this area of aid that can perpetuate negative impacts if done improperly. Providing local health care workers with the basic tools they need to do their jobs effectively has been shown to dramatically improve the quality of patient care, boost staff morale, reduce mortality rates for the most vulnerable: pregnant mothers and infants, and much more.

## OUR MODEL - Establish a genuine partnership, not a power dynamic.

- **Research** to identify the greatest needs, monitor impact, and evaluate project sustainability.
- **Due diligence** in procuring items that are durable, portable and long lasting.
- **Collaboration** with local health care workers and governing bodies to ensure community engagement and their ownership over projects.
- **Ongoing follow-up** to ensure items are maintained and support is available for repair and ongoing training.

Learn more about our shipments at [www.ghanamedicalhelp.com](http://www.ghanamedicalhelp.com)



"THE LAST TIME WE RECEIVED  
REGULAR EQUIPMENT FROM [SOURCES  
OTHER THAN GMH ] WAS AROUND  
2005...WITHOUT GMH'S SUPPORT, WE  
WOULD ALL HAVE PACKED UP AND  
GONE HOME YEARS AGO."

- DR. WILLIAM GUDU, MEDICAL  
SUPERINTENDENT, BONGO HOSPITAL

## HUMANITARIAN AID

*To change the health status of a population, one must take a multi-faceted approach and target health infrastructure, community health care worker training, public health education, and poverty.*

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### GMH AMBASSADOR WORKSHOPS

Our in-Ghana volunteers, called GMH Ambassadors, are the heart of GMH. The GMH Ambassadors, who are typically nursing staff in our partner hospitals, attend quarterly education workshops on topics from equipment maintenance and repair to new skills like neonatal resuscitation. These workshops have created an avenue of communication and collaboration between the hospitals that never existed before. The GMH Ambassadors love being able to improve the health of their neighbours who need it and desire to share knowledge and resources with one another, train their fellow staff members on new skills, and promote an incredible new culture of camaraderie between hospitals.

### SHEEP

When people don't have access to sufficient income to provide their families with food or shelter, it's easy to see how health can cease to be a priority. S.H.E.E.P. (the Sheep, Health, and Economic Education Project) is a new program GMH adopted from the non-profit G-Roots in December 2014 to address this problem. Beneficiary families receive a pregnant female sheep and keep the first 3 generations of offspring, which they are able to sell at a very high value. An ewe born in the 4th generation is returned to GMH and donated to a new beneficiary family. In this way, the program quickly becomes self-sustaining and provides rural farming families with a stable source of income that doesn't rely on an increasingly unpredictable climate. To qualify, families agree to attend bimonthly seminars that are one part asset management and one part public health education, covering topics such as health and sanitation, family planning, malaria prevention, alcoholism, and much more.

Learn more about our projects at [www.ghanamedicalhelp.com](http://www.ghanamedicalhelp.com)





"A PRIVATE PLACE FOR PREGNANCY CHECK-UPS" – LISTED BY WOMEN FROM THE VILLAGE OF KADEMA AS ONE OF THEIR GREATEST NEEDS, AFTER ACCESS TO WATER. THEIR PRENATAL EXAMINATIONS CURRENTLY TAKE PLACE ON THE GROUND UNDER A TREE.

## EXCITING UPCOMING PROJECTS!

*Developing innovative approaches to tackle inadequate access to health resources, and facilitate Ghana Health Service's engagement in remote communities.*

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### MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES

Innovation is essential to overcoming barriers to health. That's why GMH is partnering with medical technology powerhouses like the National Optics Institute (INO) and ChipCare to bring ground-breaking point-of-care devices to the rural and remote communities of northern Ghana. These devices will empower community health workers to provide better care for isolated populations with limited or no access to traditional health care for financial and/or geographic reasons. In the same fashion, GMH is partnering with the International Trade Council and Ghana Health Service to pilot a revolutionary mobile clinic. The MediCart will instantly change the face of medical care in remote communities, providing:

- Home visits
- A private examination room
- Electronic medical record creation and storage
- Early diagnosis of disease or disability
- Emergency referral services
- Access to basic medical services, including immunizations and basic treatment of injuries and illnesses
- Health promotion and prevention, emphasizing sexual and reproductive health

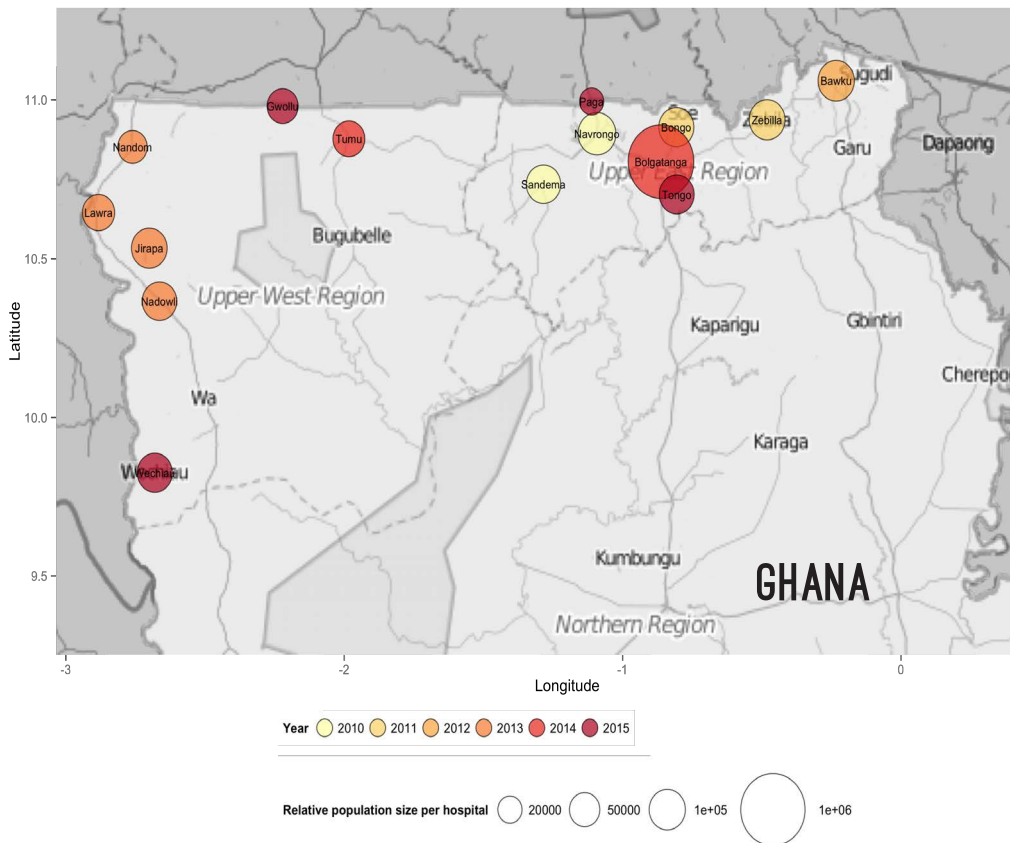
### IT PLATFORM

When life gives you lemons, you make lemonade. And when life gives you a novel, fertile culture of communication and collaboration between your partner hospitals, you support it! How? By developing a tablet-based knowledge-sharing platform that connects GMH, hospital staff, Ghana Health Service, and rural health workers across northern Ghana to one another and to invaluable educational resources. The IT platform will provide a forum for hospital staff to ask questions and share information and medical supplies. It will serve as an access point for electronic medical libraries, innovative applications, training videos and more! And if that wasn't enough, it will streamline the critical research process that underlies our targeted donation approach.

Learn more about our projects at [www.ghanamedicalhelp.com](http://www.ghanamedicalhelp.com)

# WHAT HAVE YOU & GMH BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH?

**Increased support** from 1 to 15 district hospitals. This has enabled hundreds of thousands more people to access medical care that would have otherwise been unable.



## Seen

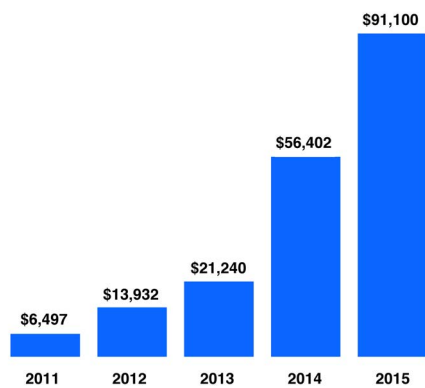
- ↑ Hospital attendance
- ↑ Diagnostic accuracy & efficiency
- ↓ Maternal & infant mortality
- ↓ Maternal & infant morbidity

**Trained** 20 nurses to become trainers for expanding basic medical education for hundreds of young rural hospital nurses/midwives



# 5 YEARS OF CREATING CHANGE!

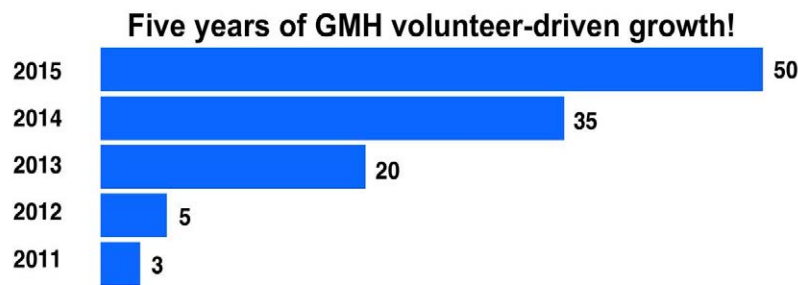
**Fundraised** over \$185,000, with 2015 as the most successful year yet!



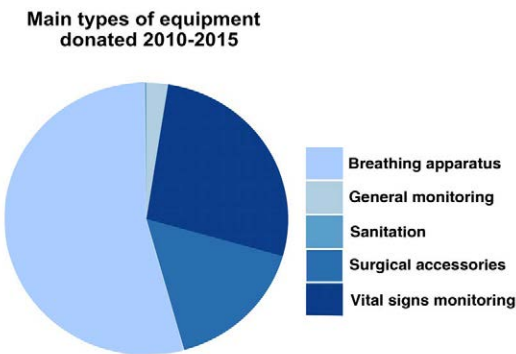
**Donated** over \$525,000 worth of equipment, all of which is continuously monitored, maintained and operated.



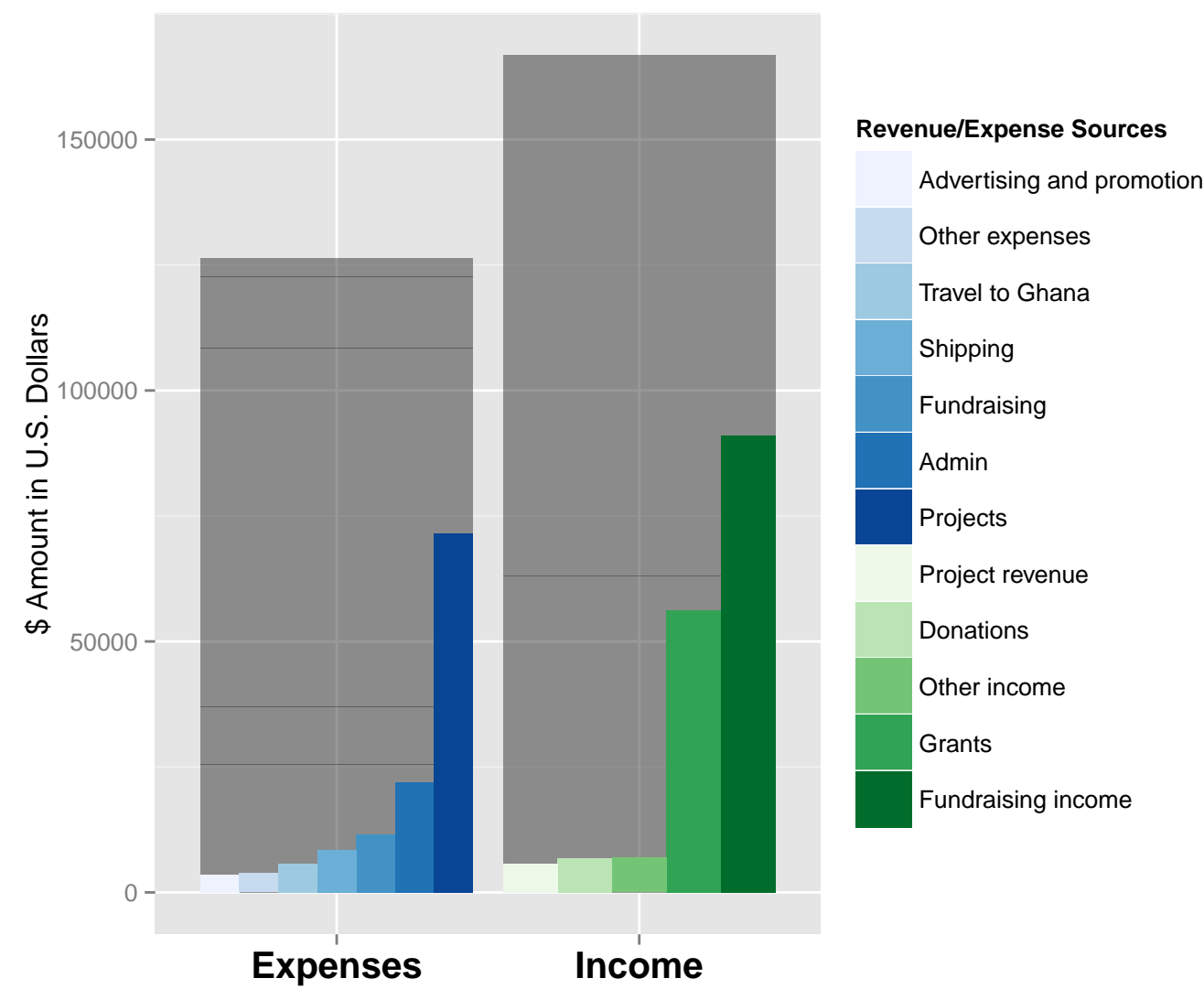
**Grown** from a volunteer base of 3 in 2010 to 50 in 2015, including volunteers from Europe, North America and Africa



**Supplied** a variety of critical diagnostic and life saving equipment



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY





GMH'S PARTNERSHIP & RESEARCH MODEL ENSURES WE AVOID CONTRIBUTING TO 'EQUIPMENT GRAVEYARDS' AND THAT OUR DONATED ITEMS ARE WELL MAINTAINED, MONITORED AND OPTIMAL FOR THE CONDITIONS THEY ARE USED IN.





# HOW YOU CAN HELP!

*(And we definitely do still need your help!)*

*The power to make a genuine difference in rural global health is in your hands.*

## Donate!

GMH's achievements are your achievements. Your generosity has enabled us to save thousands of lives. But sadly our pockets are now empty - help us keep the momentum of our projects going by donating today or becoming a "GMH Member!" Learn more or donate at [www.ghanamedicalhelp.com](http://www.ghanamedicalhelp.com).

## Get Involved!

Volunteers are the soul of GMH. If you would like to get involved, we have a wide variety of opportunities for any level of commitment. Get in touch to talk about the role that's right for you at [info@ghanamedicalhelp.com](mailto:info@ghanamedicalhelp.com).

## Represent!

Show your support with a GMH t-shirt or water bottle, or make a friend feel good with one! No one loves their GMH shirt more than retired Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield, who will autograph copies of his books sold through the GMH website - [www.ghanamedicalhelp.com](http://www.ghanamedicalhelp.com).



# MEET THE GMH-ERS!

**Kelly Hadfield**  
Founder / Director

**Dr. Dominic Akaateba**  
Director of Operations

**Taha Tabish**  
Board

**David Berkal**  
Board

**Olivia Knight**  
Administrative Director

**Graeme Lewis**  
Online Operations Manager

**Dr. Rodger Gwiazdowski**  
Data Scientist

**Vicki Wells**  
Volunteer Coordinator,  
UK Chapter

**Erin Godard**  
Finance

**Yogen Dua**  
Finance

**Vijay Dua**  
Finance

**Justin Millerson**  
Marketing and design

**Orhan Sumen**  
Videography

**Eamonn O'Connell**  
Videography

**Mazen El-Baba**  
Equipment acquisition

**Laura Trout**  
Volunteer Coordinator

**Sandra Jongen**  
Fundraising

**Stephanie Carey-Yeargan**  
Fundraising

**Julia DiMambro**  
Special events

**Dr. Michael Martyna**  
Fundraising/Coordinator,  
Alberta Chapter

**Hazel Vint**  
Programs/Photography

**Jan Hueting**  
Marketing/Fundraising

**Martha Cordell**  
Fundraising

**Marla Tomlinson**  
Data team

**Madelyne Cosme**  
Data team

**Cory Schilling**  
Data team

**Jake Wicks**  
Data team

**Tobe Madu**  
Equipment acquisition

**Dr. Hannah Brotherstone**  
Programs

**Kate Atkinson**  
Equipment acquisition

**Hannah Barlow**  
Programs

**Michelle Peters**  
Research

**Aaron Bird**  
Videography

**Kombian Bisianin**  
GMH Ambassador,  
Sandema Hospital

**Stephen Adombire**  
GMH Ambassador,  
Sandema Hospital

**Rita Alamah**  
GMH Ambassador,  
Navrongo Hospital

**Thomas Nfi**  
GMH Ambassador,  
Navrongo Hospital

**Samuel Banyeh**  
GMH Ambassador, Lawra  
Hospital

**Evans Ibn Samba**  
GMH Ambassador, Lawra  
Hospital

**Sabastian Kpibaayiri**  
GMH Ambassador, Lawra  
Hospital

**Raphael Bakura**  
GMH Ambassador, Nandom  
Hospital

**Dramani Abdulai**  
GMH Ambassador, Tumu  
Hospital

**Ebenezer Ossom**  
GMH Ambassador, Bongo  
Hospital

**Francis Agana**  
GMH Ambassador, Bongo  
Hospital

**Francis Tibil**  
GMH Ambassador, Zebilla  
Hospital

**Jacob Kuburiba**  
GMH Ambassador, Bawku  
Hospital

**Sarpomaa Farah Ofori**  
GMH Ambassador, Bawku  
Hospital

**Nuhu Abdul Hafiz**  
GMH Ambassador, Nadowli  
Hospital

**Vitalis Tonde**  
GMH Ambassador, Nadowli  
Hospital

**Evans Nindor**  
GMH Ambassador, Jirapa  
Hospital

**Sulemana Mohammed**  
GMH Ambassador, Jirapa  
Hospital

**Martin Taabazuiny**  
GMH Ambassador, Jirapa Hospital

**Mathew Nwinviel**  
GMH Ambassador, Nandom  
Hospital

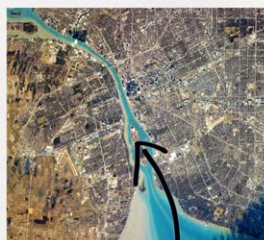
**Joseph Bapengne**  
GMH Ambassador, Tumu  
Hospital



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IN GLOBAL HEALTH

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Author of the #1 Bestseller *An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth*



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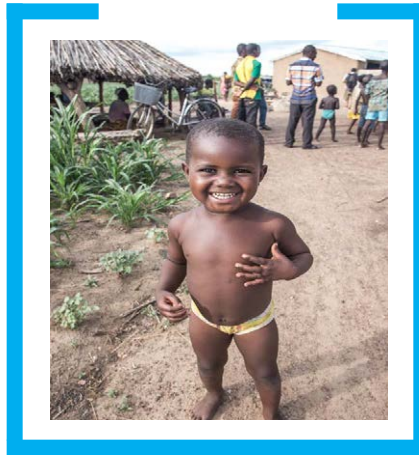


[www.ghanamedicalhelp.com](http://www.ghanamedicalhelp.com)



GhanaMedicalHelp





Ghana Medical Help improves health outcomes sustainably in rural Ghana by innovative, scalable and culturally appropriate interventions.

GMH is a Canadian registered charity.  
#82872-4138

For more information about GMH projects  
or making a donation, please email  
[info@ghanamedicalhelp.com](mailto:info@ghanamedicalhelp.com)  
or call us at 416.428.9506.

[www.ghanamedicalhelp.com](http://www.ghanamedicalhelp.com)

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\*Special thanks to our on-site photographer Hazel Vint\*