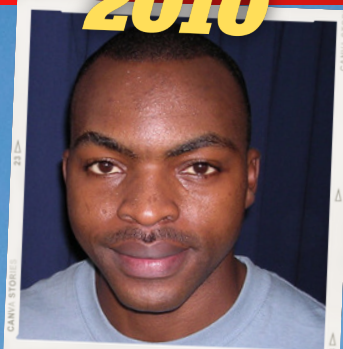


Looking Back Over 25 Years

PAACS has issued 117 graduate certificates to surgeons who have gone on to serve in the under-resourced areas of 21 countries in Africa. These men and women are the true heroes of PAACS, living out the vision of this ministry. Each graduate has an incredible testimony as to how they are being used in their individual communities, both surgically and spiritually. In this edition of the Alumni Newsletter, we are highlighting a few of our graduate surgeons from over the years. They represent the kingdom work of PAACS surgeons in Africa.



Dr. Jean Faya Yaradouno

I am the only surgeon at Hope Clinic in Guinea and also serve as its medical director. I have established and maintained the surgical services of the medical center and coordinate and supervise all the medical activities that take place at the clinic.

I know that God uses me as His working instrument in His hands to demonstrate His love and compassion to the patients and through the medical and surgical care that I offer.



Dr. Rasamimanana Sahalimirina Harison

During my PAACS training at Bongolo Hospital in Gabon, Dr. Thompson was a wonderful mentor and teacher to me. In addition to his role as a model teacher, and mentor, I also considered him to be a close friend. He gave me great insight on how to lead a life as a true Christian doctor.

After graduation, my family and I went back to Madagascar, and I have been working at the same hospital ever since. My team and I perform over 300 surgeries a month at the 200-bed hospital.



Dr. Chukwudi Okorie

After graduation at PAACS Tenwek, the Lord called me to return to Nigeria to serve my home nation and to start training my country's future urologists. I have developed cost-effective, simplified, and safe surgical procedures and protocols to improve urologic care in Africa.

I have also worked with medical engineers interested in developing cost-effective surgical instruments so that urological surgery can be brought to the masses in Africa.



Dr. Henry Ndasi

After graduating from PAACS in General Surgery and completing my orthopaedic fellowship with COSECSA, I returned to Cameroon to the Baptist Hospital in Mutengene. Initially, I was the only surgeon and had only one operating room. Since then, the hospital has grown to five surgeons with a total of seven operating rooms.

PAACS taught me to be flexible in my patient management skills and how to manage my time with so many demands.



Dr. Jerry Brown

Eight months after I graduated from PAACS and arrived at ELWA in Liberia, the first Ebola patient arrived. When a call came that an ambulance was on the way, all the nurses on duty refused to go with me to see the patient. One resigned on the spot! That's when I knew we had a problem. By June, the early trickle of Ebola patients turned into a steady stream of five or more a day, overwhelming the hospital's Ebola treatment unit.

I found myself in a room with all the remaining medical personnel. I was the only doctor left at ELWA. They asked me, "Will you leave us too?" That was an important moment for me, and I decided to fight aggressively with all of my power to help patients survive Ebola.

I came up with my own concoction of antiviral treatments and we began to see recoveries. I believe that what kept me alive were my prayers and the prayers of others. God preserved my family and me because there was a divine hand upon me, and I know that my assignment is just the beginning.



DR. HEURIC RAKOTOMALALA

AFTER GRADUATING PAACS PEDIATRIC SURGERY PROGRAM IN 2011, I DECIDED TO RETURN TO MY HOME COUNTRY BECAUSE OF THE TERRIBLE LACK OF PEDIATRIC SURGEONS. SINCE FEBRUARY OF 2015, I HAVE BEEN SERVING AT MANAMBARO LUTHERAN HOSPITAL IN THE SOUTHEAST PART OF MADAGASCAR WHICH SERVES NEARLY 3 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE REGION.

MY TEAM AND I HAVE BROUGHT HIGH-LEVEL PEDIATRIC SURGICAL CARE TO THIS AREA OF THE WORLD FOR THE FIRST TIME.



Dr. Jean Claude Bataneni

I graduated from the Bongolo Hospital PAACS residency program in Gabon in 2011. My wife and I are both serving as missionary physicians at Nebobongo Evangelical Hospital in the northeast corner of our home country, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). I am the only surgeon at the hospital and also act as the Medical Director.

I see Christ working in my practice every day, often performing healing miracles in my patients and protecting my family from surrounding dangers each day.



Dr. Catherine Mlewa Mung'ong'o

Since we did not have any pediatric surgeons in Tanzania, most of the children born with congenital malformations were left to die. It was while I was in Kenya, that I found PAACS, and I decided to pursue my pediatric surgery fellowship where I graduated in 2011.

I have now come full circle, teaching and mentoring my own PAACS residents. My work as a pediatric surgeon in Tanzania is challenging with many sleepless nights, but Jesus is with me all the time.

2013



DR. AGNETA ODERA

GOD OPENED MY EYES TO THE MANY MEDICAL NEEDS IN AFRICA. I YEARNED TO BRING THE MUCH-NEEDED SPECIALIZED SURGICAL CARE TO MY OWN COUNTRY OF KENYA, BUT I ALSO DESIRED TO TRAIN IN A REPUTABLE PROGRAM. GOD OPENED THE DOOR WHEN PAACS STARTED A GENERAL SURGERY PROGRAM AT TENWEK HOSPITAL IN 2008. IN 2013, I ALONG WITH DR. AREGA LETA WERE THE FIRST GRADUATES OF TENWEK'S PROGRAM.

THE IMPACT OF PAACS IN KENYA HAS BEEN AN AMAZING RIPPLE EFFECT WITH THE WAVES OF CHANGE GROWING WIDER AND WIDER EACH YEAR.

2015



Dr. Elijah Mwaura

My training through PAACS at Tenwek Hospital in Kenya was excellent. I was able to get hands-on, intense, and quality surgical training. Despite the rigor of the program, everyone at the PAACS program made me feel like we were all part of a family.

Since 2015, I have been working at POEA Chogoria Hospital in Kenya. I am the Chief of Surgery and also the Program Director for COSECSA. I can see that my training through PAACS prepared me for these leadership positions.

2017



Dr. Shady Fayik

I decided that I should pursue the PAACS program even though it would mean leaving my family and friends for several years. My most valuable experiences during residency were learning from Dr. David Thompson and Dr. Sherif Hanna. I marveled at how they treated their patients with loving care and an excellent attitude.

It is a privilege to show the Christian way of living at Harpur Memorial Hospital in Egypt and offer patients a model of life that loves them despite our differences and treats them with loving care because we are all created in the image of God.

2018



DR. EBENEZER GEZAHEGN

I JOINED PAACS ETHIOPIA AT SODDO CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL, WHICH WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST LEARNING EXPERIENCES FOR ME. AFTER GRADUATING FROM PAACS, I MOVED TO RURAL JINKA HOSPITAL IN ETHIOPIA WHERE I OPERATED ON HUNDREDS OF PATIENTS.

SINCE I WAS THE ONLY SURGEON IN MORE THAN A 200 KM RADIUS, I OPERATED ON GENERAL SURGERY, ORTHOPAEDIC, AND SOME GYNECOLOGIC CASES. WITH THE LIMITED RESOURCES WE HAD AT THE HOSPITAL, I HAVE WITNESSED GOD HEALING MANY PEOPLE THROUGH HIS HAND OF GRACE.



2019



DR. MARCO FANIRIKO

AFTER SIX MONTHS OF TRAINING AT THE PAACS PROGRAM AT SODDO CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL IN ETHIOPIA, I WAS FORCED TO RETURN TO MADAGASCAR BECAUSE I COULDN'T RENEW MY VISA. IT WAS A DIFFICULT TIME FOR ME, BUT I KEPT TRUSTING THE LORD TO FULFILL HIS PLAN.

IN 2012, GOD OPENED THE DOOR FOR ME TO BE ACCEPTED INTO THE PAACS PROGRAM AT BONGOLO IN GABON. MY WIFE AND I MOVED THERE AND SPENT THE NEXT FIVE YEARS COMPLETING MY GENERAL SURGERY TRAINING. I THEN COMPLETED THE PAACS HEAD AND NECK FELLOWSHIP AT MBINGO BAPTIST HOSPITAL IN CAMEROON.

WE RETURNED TO MADAGASCAR IN JANUARY 2019. I AM NOW WORKING AT HOPITALY VAOVAO MAHAFALY, MANDRITSARA. IN 2022, PAACS WILL BE STARTING A GENERAL SURGERY PROGRAM AT HVMM WHERE I WILL SERVE AS FACULTY. I THANK GOD FOR RETURNING ME TO MY HOME COUNTRY TO SERVE HIM.

2020



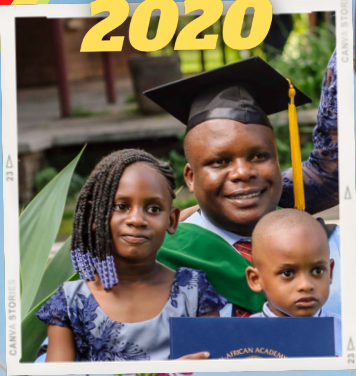
Dr. Fridah Bosire

I am grateful to PAACS for training me to be a surgeon and teaching me about Christ. After graduating from Tenwek this year, I started work at St. Mary's Mission Hospital in Langata, Nairobi. It is a large mission hospital that caters mostly to people from the Kibera slums. I have been covering the hospital alone for the month of April, sometimes handling ten cases a day plus running endoscopy.

I have loved the transition from my theatre staff staring at me like I am crazy when I prayed for patients, to now having them voluntarily join me as we pray together for patients. God has been gracious and faithful!

The College of Surgeons of East, Central, and Southern Africa (COSECSA) has awarded Dr. Bosire the Gerald O'Sullivan medal. It is awarded every year to the Fellow who graduates top of the class and incorporates their score from both the junior and senior level exams. Dr. Bosire was the top scorer for the FCS senior level exams.

2020



Dr. Mugisha Nkoronko

Tanzania's shortage of surgeons necessitated my father, who suffered a severe head injury, to travel more than 1,000 kilometers to find a surgeon who was able to operate. This traumatic experience within my family sparked a desire within me to provide surgical care for the people who are in need of help in my country.

It is through PAACS that I learned to be a Christian surgeon and to be a part of the solution to many pathologies that require surgical attention. I am committed to spending my life as a practicing surgeon, serving God and His people.

IMPACT OF PAACS GRADUATES *

We estimate one PAACS graduate will touch 3,053 lives in one year, through clinical and surgical procedures.

Combining all current PAACS graduates, over an estimated 25 year career, more than 8 million lives can be touched.

*Based on the 2020 PAACS Alumni Survey