



Patients wait under tents in the hot sun to register and receive treatment.

Bulamu Healthcare International's First Medical Camp — A Huge Success

Future Performance Can Be Improved

April 4, 2016 was the first day of a planned three-day medical camp using the Buwambo Medical Center in the Wakiso District, Uganda. We expected to treat 1,200-1,500 patients, provide education and training to patients and their families, and foster cooperation and best skills exchange among the volunteer and paid local medical staffs recruited by Bulamu. In actuality, April 4 was the first day of a four-day camp that treated 1,820 patients, provided screenings for cervical cancer and associated education, assisted in two births—one by natural means, the second by C-section, and hosted a three-hour visit by local

government officials and the US Ambassador to Uganda, Deborah Malac, and Ugandan National TV the next day!



Gerald Atwine
Bulamu President & Founder

There were numerous minor “kinks” in our set-up and operation that we fixed as they arose. The theme for our second camp, now scheduled in early August is... ***“Plan our Work and Work our Plan”***—more detailed planning and organizing, then better management of the volunteers. We expect our next camp to be longer, improved, and more efficient from the start.

We had both medical and healthcare volunteers from the US Peace Corps. They were highly motivated, well trained, and experienced in dealing with the local population. Most all expressed an interest in participating in future camps, and were impressed with Bulamu’s performance with the exception of our initial planning. The staff of Buwambo Medical center was also professional and supportive. These two groups were instrumental in the quality and quantity of the care we were able to deliver.

Financially, we came in under budget and met our primary financial goal of delivering medical care at the cost of \$10 per patient. Approximately \$5,000 of heavily discounted medications were prescribed. A full financial report will be available by mid-June, and our fiscal year (June 30) reporting is expected to be complete by end of July. Both will be posted on our website.

A notable accomplishment was the screening of nearly 200 women for cervical cancer, of which 126 proved positive, and underwent cryo-therapy. Cervical cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in resource poor countries such as Uganda. This process takes about 5 minutes from start to finish and a woman's life can be changed forever. This was by far the most essential service to women we provided, thanks to Dr. Vicki Mui OB/GYN - a Peace Corps volunteer.

Major Educational Services and Training (most while patients waited for treatment): Making washable(reusable) menstrual pads, Basic Family Hygiene techniques, e.g. hand washing, and Helping Babies Breathe (HBB) a program of the American Academy of Pediatrics, teaching neonatal resuscitation techniques for resource limited areas of the world.

Most Common Problems Treated: Upper Respiratory Tract Infections, Skin Disorders, Ear and eye infections, Malaria, Hypertension, Diabetes, Pelvic Inflammatory disease, Urinary Tract Infections, Dehydration and Malnutrition amongst children, Digestive tract disorders including worm infestations.

Reported by Gerald Atwine, RN and Medical Camp Director, Co-Founder and President of Bulamu Healthcare International.

TOP: US Ambassador Deborah R. Malac (center), Gerald Atwine and Peace Corp medical volunteers.

BOTTOM: Patients meet with medical personnel for assessment.





MORE PHOTOS

To see more photos of our medical camp at Buwambo [CLICK HERE](#).

QUICK STATS

1,820 - patients treated
10 U.S. Peace Corp Volunteers
33 Ugandan Medical Personnel
> \$5,000 spent on prescription drugs and medicines
< \$10 per patient for treatment



US Ambassador Deborah R. Malac visited the camp on April 5th

"I have had a lot of experience in Africa, most recently in Liberia. I understand the challenges of providing health care for rural communities, so it is wonderful to see all of the people who are working here at the clinic providing primary care to Ugandans in the local area.

I'd like to recognize the volunteer health care professionals from the United States Peace Corps and Bulamu Healthcare (International), who organized and funded the clinic, and the staff of the Buwambo Health Center who made this clinic a success.

The United States government remains committed to help improve the quality of health care that is delivered in Uganda, and to improve access to that health care by the Ugandan people. This camp is an example of how to accomplish both of these goals."

For information about Ambassador Malac [CLICK HERE.](#)

Bulamu Healthcare—On the Ground in Uganda

Bulamu's maiden medical camp, hosted at the Buwambo Health Center in central Uganda. We worked on 1,820 patients after extending an extra day. We offered free screening and treatment for cervical cancer. Of those treated and interviewed two weeks following the camp, most patients appreciated their treatment and felt they had



Dan Morris Tumusiime
Bulamu Uganda Coordinator

received vital health education applicable to their daily living.

The Bulamu team acquired hands-on experience for organizing and planning future camps. The demand in the rural countryside was much greater than expected! Our next camp can be a little more comprehensive, could run for 4.5 to 6 days to allow for team building and better mobilization. Our patient target should be 2,000, about 450 per camp day.

We need to increase the proportion of surgical skills to accommodate the demand of minor surgeries like hernia and goiter; several patients were disappointed.

Peace Corps Uganda was very helpful in mobilizing US healthcare volunteers. We hope to increase our networking and local partnership building to collectively maximize the impact.

Dan lives and works in Uganda. He is “Mr. Bulamu in Uganda” weeks before and weeks after our medical camps take place. He will be critical to Bulamu’s success until Gerald is able to relocate.

Thank You From Uganda



Memorandum from Beatrice Hakayiza, Nursing Officer/Public Health Specialist, Nansana Municipality, Buwambo Health Center IV, Wakiso District Local Government, Kampala, Uganda, dated May 1, 2016:

“RE: Appreciation Letter

On behalf of Buwambo Health Center IV, Wakiso District, Uganda, I wish to express our gratitude to Bulamu Healthcare International especially its individual donors in USA for providing us with free healthcare through the just concluded medical camp that we hosted on 4th-6th April, 2016. We were able to work on over 1,800 needy patients that was remarkable.

During the camp, social mobilization (the organization of medical personnel and equipment) was well done and even after (extending the camp) ... more patients kept coming for the services especially screening of the cancer of the cervix, dental conditions, surgical operations and asking for free glasses.

(A description of the inadequate basic medical equipment at the Buwambo clinic, and a request for Bulamu's support in obtaining such equipment followed).

Once again, we would like to thank you for the medical initiative and continued support.

Sincerely,"



Residents of rural Uganda continue to need help with healthcare. Help us fund our next medical camp, currently scheduled for August 2016.

You can make a difference!

Thank you!

[Donate Now](#)