# YOTKOM NEWSLETTER:

# MARCH 2024.



**AMBROSE TELLS HIS STORY** 



Ambrose, aged 27, collapsed in church one day during a choir practice. His colleagues were terrified and for a moment lost for what to do. Soon after, he was rushed to Yotkom Hospital, still unconscious. After a clinical assessment and further testing he was discovered to have Type 1 Diabetes. After treatment and on regaining consciousness, Ambrose couldn't contain his joy. He was so grateful for his life being saved.

"Something I found different here from the other hospitals is the commitment of the nurses and doctors toward their patients" he said. "They are all so caring and sympathetic to patients. May the good Lord reward and bless the staff of Yotkom abundantly !"

#### YOTKOM CONTINUES TO MEET BIG HEALTH NEEDS

Our Yotkom Hospital continues to serve the community of Northern Uganda, providing medical and surgical care to over 400 patients per week.



We provide General Practice type services to all ages and have a well -equipped emergency department which is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We are helping an increasing number of women access good pregnancy care and a safe birthing environment.

If patients require admission to a hospital bed, this can be provided, along with access to Elective and Emergency Obstetric, General and Orthopaedic surgery.



#### CHANGES IN THE YOTKOM AUSTRALIAN BOARD

Yotkom Uganda is registered as a charity in Australia and in 2024 we are welcoming three new members onto the board of directors: Justin Murray, Sarah Warlow, (on left) and Ben Auld (right). They will bring fresh ideas and new energy as they work alongside Andrew and Anne Wright, Lynne Pemberton and Pat Holdsworth to help us grow.



### **EYE CLINICS**

Sarah Warlow, a Brisbane Optometrist, is travelling to Uganda with Andrew Wright on 20 March to undertake free eye clinics in schools and rural communities across Northern Uganda.



Yotkom will be providing some donated lenses and glasses to give to people with impaired vision. The Compassion Care Fund will also assist patients with more serious eye disorders (such as cataracts) to access free surgery and specialist review.



If you would like to give to Eye Care in Northern Uganda, simply label your tax-deductible donation for this purpose.

#### A NEW HOSPITAL WING IS COMING

We were humbled and encouraged by the donations we received during the recent Gateway Church Christmas Offering toward construction of a new hospital wing.



In March and April, Phil, a Project manager from Australia will be on site with Andrew, interacting with local builders, engineers and the town council. We hope to finalise plans, agree on a budget and commence construction by May 2024. The two year project will employ many local builders and labourers, giving much needed employment, boosting the economy as well as ultimately providing the Yotkom Hospital with some amazing new spaces to grow into.

Some key areas we are creating include a purpose-built accident and emergency department, a dedicated orthopaedic operating theatre, a physiotherapy and rehabilitation area, counselling and chaplaincy spaces and bigger radiology and laboratory rooms. An additional 50 inpatient beds will be provided in general wards and space will be set aside for infectious diseases, intensive care and palliative care, helping us meet some big needs in Northern Uganda.

Thank you to those who have given toward this vision.

## **REGULAR DONORS NEEDED**

Our hospital provides subsidized health care to a community in Africa who have very limited resources. Over 50% of the patients are poor by World Health standards and half the population are under 15 years of age.



The fees we charge for treatment only cover 65 % of the overall cost. So...your help is vital in sustaining our daily hospital services. Regular donors provide the monthly life blood to Yotkom, enabling us to do the essential things like buying medications and paying salaries for our team of 90 African health and support workers who care for the sick in our facility.

If you are not already one of our regular donors, please consider becoming one by **setting up a regular tax-deductible monthly donation** through your netbank into our Australian account:

Account Name : Yotkom Uganda BSB: 064 186 Account Number : 10884542

Or click on this link for regular paypal giving via credit card: **DONATE NOW** 

Every monthly gift goes a long way to meeting needs in Uganda. \$25 enables us to......treat 20 children with severe malaria



\$50 will......give full pregnancy care and safe delivery to 10 mothers



Thank you again for your interest in the health care needs of Africa and for being one of our valued Yotkom partners and supporters.

God Bless
from
Andrew Wright,
Australian Director.
Yotkom Uganda.

www.yotkom.com