

EMAS SARY

A PUBLICATION OF EMAS CANADA

DEC 2021

WHERE NEEDED MOST

These words are about urgent necessity, it is imperative that we act.

Where Needed Most for EMAS Canada today is to reduce the risk of death from pregnancy in Gutu, southern Zimbabwe.

This year a 32-year-old woman bled to death in southern Zimbabwe. She was my friend's sister. Her illness was a common complication of pregnancy that doesn't usually need a transfusion. Her loss of blood was a complication of a complication. It killed her. That saddens me greatly. She died while we were planning for a hospital that will improve women's health in the region. That hospital will not be a reality soon enough.

Where Needed Most for EMAS Canada today is to reduce death among children from lack of food in Gambade,

northern Haiti.

Last Christmas children died from complications of malnutrition in Gambade. Our national staff reported the tragedy. Our hearts were broken. We felt sorrow with the parents because it was for these children that we have built the clinic in Gambade.

All over the world there are people "living in the land of the shadow of death", for them tomorrow is dark. Their needs today are opportunities for us to **give the gift of hope for a brighter tomorrow.**

With your help, light will dawn, and joy will return at least to those lives we impact this giving season.

Donations this Christmas will go towards medical staff training in Gutu, Zimbabwe, and our response to

malnutrition in Gambade, Haiti. Invest for the long-term by giving ***Where Needed Most*** and make tomorrow a better day for the women of Zimbabwe and the children of Haiti.

Happy Christmas and Joyful Giving.

Join us *Where Needed Most*.

Best Wishes for 2022.

Dr. Peter Agwa
Executive Director.



EMAS
CANADA



Photo: Children of Haiti by Zach Vessels/Unsplash

WHAT IMPACT ARE WE HAVING, REALLY?

By Melony Teague

2021 has been a year like no other. Travel has been grounded and our teams have changed the way they do things to adapt to the changing landscape. In some cases, we've left behind old ways of doing things and have adopted better ways to face challenges.

You might be asking, "Are we still having an impact?"

Often, we like to measure progress in numbers, funds raised and in project management terms, but in God's economy, it's not quite as simple. One life changed through EMAS can have immeasurable and intangible value, when the ripple effects of serving and caring for those in need in a Christ-like manner roll out in the communities where we serve.

Who knows whether that child you help feed today will grow up to be a physician to serve the local community, or a nurse or midwife to serve mothers and infants?

We know that medical students and nurses being trained and mentored by our DR Congo team will touch the lives of many and inspire change and hope in their

own local community and the healthcare system of Francophone Africa.

The infrastructure team are laying the groundwork for an improved medical facility in Gutu District, so that we can hit the ground running when it comes time to put words to action. The initial focus will be on a maternity ward to enable better care for mothers and newborns. What better impact can we have than to ensure that mothers and infants have the best chance at survival? It is something we take for granted, but we have the power to make it a reality, starting in Gutu. EMAS envisions the same sort of improved healthcare in Burkina Faso and at the medical clinic in Gambade, Haiti.

We are putting more work on the shoulders of our national partners, especially in Haiti and Ecuador, due to safety issues. This is giving us opportunity to test how deeply they have embraced our vision and whether our lives among them clearly demonstrated the gospel of Jesus Christ. We share in their added responsibility by providing resources and supervision as best as we can from a distance.

On the Asian continent we see our teams working remotely with greater emphasis on teaching. Several EMAS teams meet regularly for prayer. Our work by prayer becomes even more important as we stand by our medical colleagues in these countries we can no longer enter easily. To keep our partners in these sensitive nations safe, we have reduced the amount of information publicly available.

Our Teaching team invests in Nurses in Asia by equipping them to teach the community about proper hygiene and serve them in midwifery and infant care, particularly in rural settings.

The teaching teams have had to adapt by teaching online to bring the latest insights and evidence-based research from North America to share the best practices. They discuss with the lecture attendees the application of this knowledge in their local setting, bearing in mind the local customs and traditions. Attendees reported that the information and materials were useful for the nurses and health professionals and reported how beneficial the



Photo: (left) Children in Gambade, Haiti will benefit from the nutrition program

Photo: (above) Asia Teaching Team on their last trip before lock-down in 2020 They adapted by offering online teaching during the pandemic.



teaching was to their work and to themselves personally. The project's aim is to make available trained practitioners for education and Q & A sessions. By doing this, the health and wellbeing of the locals is impacted in the long run.

The vision of EMAS Canada has not changed, nor has our core value of commitment to making a difference in the long-term. In the coming year as teams look forward in the hope of being able to travel, we still hold to the certainty that God is in control, and that He will guide our mission of healthcare and teaching to adapt wisely to the new service terrain. He will accomplish his plan for those He has given into our care. If He sees the needs of the sparrow, how much more does He see the needs of those we serve in His name?

You are a part of this service. You have a part in feeding the malnourished in Haiti, bringing better healthcare to the woman and infants in Africa, and in teaching local healthcare professionals in Asia and in DR Congo.

The heart follows the treasure: We have seen several donors and volunteers give to the general fund/where needed most, this trend has enabled the board to support the more capital-

intensive programs, some of whom struggled to meet fund raising targets. This kind of giving reflects the heart of God for the world, it shows our eagerness to keep the kingdom of Jesus Christ advancing even when we are not the ones on the front lines. *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"*¹.

Can you envision with us, past the here and now, to a brighter tomorrow?

Donate online or by sending back your donation slip with the prepaid envelope provided.

Thank you!

1. Matthew 6:21NIV



THANK YOU
FOR STANDING WITH EMAS CANADA
IN 2021

YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT
MAKE THE DIFFERENCE TO
THOSE WE SERVE IN TEACHING,
HEALING AND SERVING, AND
EQUIPPING LOCAL HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONALS.

MAKE AN IMPACT BY DONATING TO
WHERE IT IS NEEDED MOST.
Donate online:
www.emascanada.org/donate



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM EMAS CANADA

**SHORT-TERM MEDICAL MISSIONS
WITH A LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE**

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE



FROM SANDY'S DESK

Our virtual office is gearing up for the end of the year. It is a good time to remind you that **our office will be closed Dec 27 and 28 and Jan 3 for the holidays.**

Be sure to get your end-of-year donations in as soon as possible. For tax receipts for 2021 be sure to make your year-end online donations through our website or an e-transfer, before midnight on Dec 31st. **For mailed cheques, we can accept what we receive up to Jan 10 as long as the postmark is dated 2021** Be sure cheque is dated 2021.

If you have any questions, please email us at office@emascanada.org or email me: sandy@emascanada.org

JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM

If you would like to receive our monthly **prayer checklist** and join those who pray for EMAS Canada, please contact the office: office@emascanada.org

*Merry Christmas
from the
EMAS
Office!*

GIVE THE GIFT OF SERVICE

If you would like to volunteer to serve with EMAS Canada there are several opportunities available for 2022 and beyond.

To volunteer, please connect with Peter Agwa: peter@emascanada.org

2021 RIDE FOR REFUGE

Due to Covid-19 the ride was held virtually again this year. 20 participants (Gambade, Myanmar, Zimbabwe-Gutu) raised **\$15,909.**



YOUR DONATIONS ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Your donations and prayers make all the difference. Many receive the healthcare they need because of you. To donate Online go to: <http://www.emascanada.org/donate/>

THANK YOU!

STAY IN TOUCH



WE ARE ON YOU TUBE

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