

Tanzania 2012

A Global Kindness Mission

39 Hours 43minutes, over 4 continents, 3 oceans, and crossing over the equator to the southern hemisphere, we finally make it to the small backwater town of Bukoba on the shores of Lake Victoria, the 2nd largest lake in the world. And more surprisingly, our 12 suitcases of dental equipment and supplies made it with only one broken carpule of anesthetic. This was the start of a 5 week Global Kindness Foundation scouting/working trip in which we had 3 dental camps, 1 School Screening, and a climb to the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro.

Why Bukoba you ask? Well IZAAS a charity founded by a handicapped man Mr Raza Fazal has a brother in Vancouver who had convinced us that this out of way place needed a lot of help. And he was right. Lots of help needed.



IZZA'S and GKF Partnering to Help All



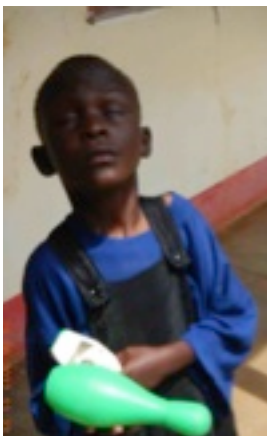
We started off in the Mugeza School for the Deaf run by a Danish Lutheran organization. Dr. Kamaal Sherrif had done the groundwork weeks earlier, and screened all 200 plus students. About a quarter needed significant work. Add to that the handicapped

children warehoused in the public school a kilometer away, and the HIV orphans and we had our work cut out for us. 3 dentists, and a whole slew of enthusiastic volunteers and the show was on the road once we had worked out the usual issues of not enough electricity, and how we were going to sterilize our equipment. We quickly ran into a communication problem. Not only did most of us not know Swahili, but also



The Headmaster's Son Helping Us Communicate With The Deaf

none of us knew the form of sign language they used. We recruited the headmaster's son who was home from university and the problem was solved. In addition, he became one of our best



Sara is Blind, Deaf and Touch Defensive

dental assistants. The children were exceptionally good and it was an eerily quiet camp for the first few days until we started seeing the handicapped, and HIV children. But by far the toughest case we did was little Sara (not her real name). Sara was a very scrawny 6 year old who had just come to the boarding school. She was not only deaf but blind as well. She was very touch defensive probably from being closeted in the back room by parents who didn't know what to do

with her. How do you communicate with a blind deaf girl who's averse to your touch? I got a quick look while her matron forcefully brushed her teeth, and she needed tons of work. She finally touched my beard, and smelled my hands and a connection was formed. We could hold her down and get the work done, but how traumatic would that be? We sat that night and came up with a plan. We would sedate her with



No More Cavities!!!



Emmanuel's Limbs were Amputated By Body Harvesters and He Suffered Severe Facial Trauma

midazolam, which is a mild sedative with powerful amnesic effects. We had brought all the monitoring equipment, reversal drugs etc. so it would be safe. All her extensive work got done, and over the next few days I made it a point to seek her out before leaving each evening. She would feel my beard and smell my hand and it seemed that a small smile would touch the corner of her

mouth. That alone would have made the long arduous trip worthwhile, but there was so much more. We treated African albino kids, some of them who had lost limbs to the body harvesters who hunt them to provide prized body parts to the Witch doctors. We treated children with no arms, malnourished youth with cerebral palsy, and others with syndromes that I recognized



Bukoba Volunteer Group



This is Like Accounting. Teeth Have Numbers Too!!!

from my textbooks. All needed extensive work and toothbrushes that we bought and provided for them. Their living conditions were deplorable, but maybe better than they would have elsewhere. Finally, there were the HIV orphans. Their parents had all died of HIV, and many of them were HIV positive. They were not



Mr Raza Fazal Founder of IZZA'S
With One of The Children He Helps

allowed in government run orphanages because of their HIV status, and IZAAS a charity set up by a man who himself is handicapped was taking care of them. These kids seemed very well cared for. They were happy, well dressed and well fed. It was a pleasure for us to take care of their dental needs. With all our work complete, we packed up our stuff and sent it by road and ferry to Zanzibar, and four of us went to climb the highest freestanding mountain in the world. We all made it, and felt honored to have stood up there and admired the magnificence of God's creation.



We Made it To the Top of the World's
Highest Free Standing Peak

Our next stop was Matemwe, a poor village on the exotic island of Zanzibar. This was Global Kindness's second camp there, but with a



Brother and Sister Team Working in Zanzibar



Sterilizing Takes a Long Time When All You Have is a Charcoal Stove



Does That Look Better?

twist. We had an Optometrist and two Optometry students run an optical camp in conjunction with the dental camp. They diagnosed and dispensed glasses, and also created a list of patients needing cataract operations. Hopefully, we can organize a surgical team to help these patients see again. It was tough working since the inviting white beaches with the beautiful clear blue waters were just meters away. But duty came first, and we enjoyed the feel of paradise early in the morning and in the late evening.

Our final camp was in Kibaha, about an hour outside of Dar-es-Salaam. Again, Dr. Sheriff had done the groundwork and screened all the orphans. 43 children most under the age of



Kibaha Volunteer Group

4, and only 3 days. Why only 3 days? Well our equipment got stuck in Zanzibar since a ferry sank and all transport vessels weren't allowed to sail pending inspections. But we did it, 2 dentists and a lot of helpful volunteers.

The hospitality we got in Tanzania was amazing. We would like to thank all the people who helped make this trip a tremendous success, from people who housed us, to the dedicated volunteers, to those who fed us and arranged for all our transport etc etc. There are too many to name. Thank-You All!!!!

Thanks To The Beta Trust Foundation UK
for Donating Stainless Steel Crowns For
Our Africa Missions



Future Dental Student Gets Some Practical Experience



Mother/Son Team Do Sealants to Prevent Cavities

Dental Stats

- Children Treated 219
- Adults Treated 42
- Teeth Treated 1647
- Amalgam Teeth 332
- Amalgam Surfaces 339
- Composite Teeth 115
- Composite Surfaces 160
- Pulpotomies 77
- Stainless Steel Crowns 89
- Extractions 168
- Fissure Sealants 949
- Scaling 15



Dentists Discussing the Options



Dr. Jaffer Does Minor Eye Surgery
with Dental Instruments

Optical Stats

Patients Examined 310
Presbyopia 48
Myopia 47
Hyperopia 27
Cataracts 27
Glaucoma 4
Itchy Eyes 15
Other Conditions 11

Ready Made Spectacles Delivered
105

Custom Made Spectacles Delivered
36



Look Straight Please



With My Hat Backwards I Can See
Everything



Working Hard!!!!



We Did A Few Sedations to Make it Easier For The Children



Let's Check Those Eyes



This One!!



Can You See The Symbols?



How's That Look??



Kibaha Orphans With No More Cavities



I Can See Great With These Glasses!!!



Everybody Helps Out



Let's Check That Retina!!



Working So Close To The Beach Was Hard!!



African Albino with Severe Skin Lesions



Young Volunteers Working Hard Cleaning Instruments



BEFORE:- Look at That Tartar
He Doesn't Have a Toothbrush.



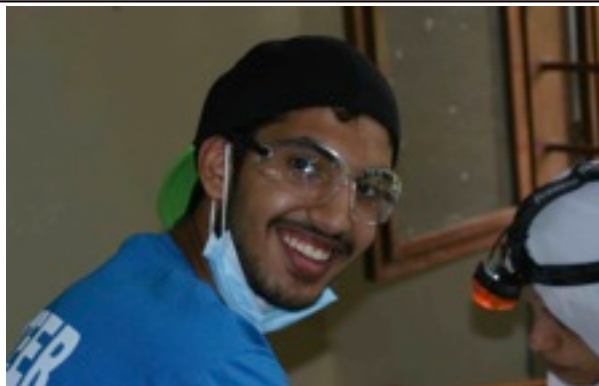
AFTER:- Thorough Scaling
He Also Got A Toothbrush



Her Makeshift Wheelchair and She Needed Over 2
Hours of Work



All The Handicapped Children Get New Toothbrushes. GKF Is
Committed To Giving Them New Brushes Every 4 Months.
Donors Wanted!!



Tired But Still Smiling