

# 2022

## ANNUAL REPORT



HOSPITAL SISTERS  
**Mission Outreach**



*A clinician cares for a patient during an Operation Hope Medical Missions surgical mission trip to Comayagua, Honduras in April 2022. Mission Outreach provided medical and dental supplies to Operation Hope for this project.*

## LETTER FROM

### Erica Smith, Executive Director



HOSPITAL SISTERS  
**Mission Outreach**

“

*The poverty of the poor is not a call to generous relief action, but a demand that we go and build a different social order.*

– Father Gustavo Gutierrez, OP

”

Dear Friends,

Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach does not simply exist to “send things” to people in need around the world. Our history, as founded by the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, impels us to do more than that: we are to be in solidarity with our international partners to promote equitable access to basic health care for all, no matter where on Earth one happens to be born.

Throughout 2022, Mission Outreach has focused on transitioning out of COVID operations to the new post-pandemic world. We face many challenges: supply chain costs/delays; the continuing threat of COVID; and the devastating effects of climate change and war. These detriments make low-resource areas of the world even more vulnerable than they were in the past.

Yet, as you will see in this annual report, we have great reason to be hopeful and enthusiastic in the face of despair. We have the strength, commitment, and determination of our colleagues, volunteers, supporters, and partners near and far; and when united in love, we overcome all challenges. We also know we never act alone – blessings from God sustain us daily and urge us forward.

Thank you for your continued support of Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach.

Best wishes,

Erica Smith  
Executive Director

#### **Mission Outreach Team**

Nick Amdor, *Warehouse Supervisor*  
Luis Cueto, *Warehouse Associate*  
Vicki Detmers, *Recipient Services and Operations Manager*  
Natalie Donaldson, *Major Gift Officer*  
Darin Gardner, *Operations Specialist*  
Joe Hardwick, *Volunteer Specialist*  
James Holding, *Inventory Specialist*  
Ratish Kumar, *Procurement and Biomedical Engineer*  
Sue McMillan, *Volunteer Specialist*  
Erica Smith, *Executive Director*  
Kenneth Ware, *CDL Driver/Warehouse Associate*  
David Wilcox, *CDL Driver/Warehouse Associate*

#### **Mission Outreach Board of Directors**

Father James Deiters, *chair*  
Vicki Megginson, *vice chair*  
Todd Smart, *treasurer*  
Pam McClelland, *secretary*  
Ann Carr  
Steve Hassebrock  
Dan McCormack  
Sister Rosily Menachery, *OSF*  
Geoff Nielsen  
Erica Smith  
Catherine Taylor-Yank  
Jerry Worrick



## Change in Leadership

In February 2022, executive director Georgia Winson retired after 10 years of service to Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach. During Georgia's tenure, a few highlights of her many accomplishments were the establishment of the Biomed Program and the successful transition of Mission Outreach to Hospital Sisters Health System.



## Community Involvement

Mission Outreach was once again a beneficiary of the Lincoln Half Marathon held on April 2, 2022. The race welcomes people from across the United States to “run where Lincoln walked.” Mission Outreach has participated in the Lincoln Half for more than 10 years.



The Roman Cultural Society selected Mission Outreach as the beneficiary of their 54th Annual Golf Outing held on July 29 at Piper Glen Golf Club. At the Italian dinner following the outing, the RCS presented Erica Smith and Sister Ann Pitsenberger, OSF, with a \$20,000 donation.



Mission Outreach was proud to have two exemplary volunteers, Jack Denny and Jerry Orban, selected for the “Good As Gold Volunteer Awards,” an annual community recognition hosted by the University of Illinois Springfield. Jack and Jerry were honored at a ceremony at UIS on April 25, 2022. Pictured are Jerry, Sue McMillan (Mission Outreach volunteer specialist), and Jack.



## Equipping to Thrive in Migori, Kenya

In July 2022, representatives from Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach traveled to Migori, Kenya, to attend the groundbreaking for a 60-bed mother/baby hospital. Kenya Relief, who has been working in Migori for 20 years, and is a long-time partner with Mission Outreach, is constructing the new hospital with the goal of reducing infant and maternal mortality rates in the Migori region. They are currently 20 times higher than that of the United States.

Mission Outreach has made a multi-year commitment to the “Equipped to Thrive” mother/baby hospital. The organization intends to provide up to five 40-foot containers of medical supplies and equipment, which are procured from hospitals and clinics around the Midwest. In addition, health professionals from Mission Outreach and Hospital Sisters Health System will donate capacity building services, such as: biomedical support, inventory management, supply chain optimization, and nursing education to the project.

“Our goal is to support the work of Kenya Relief to improve health and create opportunity for citizens of Migori to learn and work in the hospital,” said Erica Smith, executive director of Mission Outreach. “COVID-19 has reminded us that global health is local health, so we’re looking forward to also learning from our Kenyan partners as we share resources and information.”

Mission Outreach estimates it will invest approximately \$250,000 into the project, with a sizable return on investment anticipated. The contribution of donated medical supplies, equipment, and services to the “Equipped to Thrive” project will be worth about \$2.5 million. The new hospital is scheduled to open in phases, with the birth center opening in 2024 and other specialties following over the next three years.







## Biomedical Equipment Program Growing

Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach saw an upward trend in the donation of biomedical equipment in FY22, with more than 750 pieces of equipment (including necessary transformers) worth approximately \$700,000 procured. This equipment, when accompanied with support services, will assist hospitals and clinics in low-resource settings around the world.

The Mission Outreach Biomed program, led by bioengineer Ratish Kumar, was able to assess, evaluate and repair more than 400 pieces of equipment worth \$320,000. This equipment, with the required transformers, went on shipments to countries such as Tanzania, Sudan, Paraguay, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Ghana, Cuba, Venezuela, South Sudan, Zambia, South Africa, the Philippines, and other destinations where access to high-quality biomedical equipment is very limited.

In December 2022, the Mission Outreach Biomed program was selected as a Henry Schein Global Product Donation recipient for 2023-2025. This partnership will provide Mission Outreach with a broad selection of health care products and supplies to distribute to international partners. All products are new and usable and are provided in large pallets valued at \$5,000–\$25,000 each.

“Being a Henry Schein Global Product Donation recipient will give us access to in-demand equipment and supplies that otherwise may be difficult for us to resource; yet, enables our partners around the world to deliver life-saving care,” said Kumar. “We are excited about how much we will be able to do with this generous donation.”

## 2000 Miles to Heal (Ecuador)

Dear friends,

I've had this photo to send you to thank you for the donation of the Synthes plates.

It was truly a miracle you must know about.

Our tray was almost empty. These are plates we often need in order to optimally treat certain fractures.

The miracle is that you sent us the EXACT plates of the sizes that we were missing. AND that that very week of surgeries we had a case for which we needed one of the sizes you provided.

How awesome and unfathomable is the Grace of our Lord and how wonderful the people whom He uses to be His Hands to serve people in need.

Thank you!

In His love,  
Flor

The right is an actual message we received on Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022, from Flor Fellers, who is with Fundacion La Vida Hospital in Portoviejo, Ecuador. Mission Outreach provided Fundacion La Vida a 40-foot container of medical supplies and equipment through partnership with Bayside Medical Missions and Education Outreach.

The Ecuadorian surgical nurses in the photo are holding the tray that was used for the surgery mentioned in the letter. The trays and other surgical equipment were prepared for shipment at Mission Outreach by volunteers who are retired surgical nurses from local hospitals.

The site of care – from Springfield to Portoviejo – spanned 2,879 miles and involved a complex network of people to ensure quality health care with supplies and equipment. For the patient who needed that life-improving orthopedic surgery, it made a world of difference.



## Investment in Rural Health

A partnership between Mission Outreach, St. Elizabeth Hospital in Arusha, and the Rotary Club of Green Bay will have lasting impacts on the health and wellbeing of thousands of people throughout northern Tanzania.

On December 16, 2022, a container of medical supplies and equipment from Mission Outreach arrived at St. Elizabeth Hospital. It held 1,309 pieces of medical equipment/boxes of supplies weighing 17,881 pounds. The value of the contents, in American dollars, was \$432,029 – an impressive return on a \$38,000 investment (the comprehensive cost to create and ship the container). More importantly, this container of supplies will save the lives of people who otherwise may not have access to even basic health care.

Working together, we can address health inequity and provide access to care for everyone in the world. And as St. Elizabeth Hospital continues to grow and develop as a health system, this donation strengthens them to deliver high-quality care now, while also planning for the future health of their community and region.



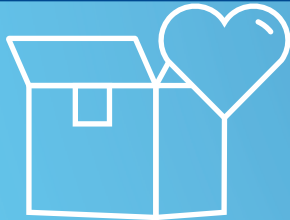
FY 2022

Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach

# BY THE NUMBERS



**28** Countries served



**46**

Containers of medical supplies and equipment shipped

**81**

Midwest hospitals and clinics partners who gave supplies and equipment

**6**

New colleagues welcomed



**9,743**

Volunteer hours donated - equivalent to **5 full-time employees**

**758**

Containers of medical supplies and equipment shipped since 2002



**\$9.2 Million**

Value of supply and equipment donations





## Honoring A Life of Service



On October 13, Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach held a reception and established an endowment fund in honor of Sister Ann Pitsenberger, OSF. In 2022, Sister Ann celebrated her 70th Jubilee, the anniversary of her first profession of vows as a Hospital Sister of St. Francis. Sister Ann is a founding member of Mission Outreach in 2002 and has been a Development Support volunteer with the organization ever since.

“Thanks to the vision of Sister Ann, and others who helped create and sustain Mission Outreach, we are able to support global health efforts that improve the health and well-being of people in places that otherwise may not receive clinical care,” said Erica Smith, executive director of Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach. “It was a fantastic event to celebrate Sister Ann’s years of service, both as a religious Sister and her dedication to Mission Outreach. We hope the Jubilee Endowment Fund will grow and continue her legacy of giving for years to come.”

The Jubilee Endowment Fund has already raised more than \$30,000, with the seed money provided by the Roman Cultural Society of Central Illinois.

### **Mailing information:**

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