



Medical Ambassadors

Information Packet



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Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the Paul Carlson Partnership (PCP) Medical Ambassadors program!

The PCP Medical Ambassadors program is an exciting, expanding program that matches medical professionals in the West with their counterparts in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Medical Ambassador's group is composed of compassionate, dedicated medical professionals who are interested in employing their skill for the betterment of the medical system in Congo and for improving the quality of life for the people there. PCP has been dedicated to work alongside the Congolese, relationally and practically, since 1966 in medical and healthcare work, economic development, and infrastructure projects.

This work has an immediate impact on 800,000 people who depend on the healthcare system of the Ubangi Region in the Equateur Province of DR-Congo. The CEUM, the Covenant Church of Congo, owns and manages 5 hospitals and 108 clinics. This was once one of the most sophisticated systems in sub-Saharan Africa but the impact of a twenty-year war has devastated structures, infrastructure, and communities. PCP is dedicated to the resumption of the medical care system and infrastructure to the prewar days, and ultimately to expand its services.

In this packet you will find multiple ways to engage with this medical program such as joining a Focus Group dedicated to a specific medical specialty, providing consultative work through one of the Working Groups, joining one of our Teacher-Training teams to the Ubangi region, or supporting this organization financially. After reviewing these pages, contact us for more information on how you can be personally involved. On behalf of our friends and colleagues here at Paul Carlson Partnership, we look forward to hearing from you and further discussing how you can become part of this journey together!

Join us!



Dr. Eric Gunnoe
President
PCP Medical Ambassadors



Meritt Lohr Sawyer
Executive Director
Paul Carlson Partnership

Medical Ambassadors

What are the Medical Ambassadors?

The PCP Medical Ambassadors are a group of professionals who are committed to participating in the medical work of the Paul Carlson Partnership in the Ubangi District of DR Congo.

Paul Carlson Partnership has been involved in relationship with the Congolese medical professionals in the Ubangi District for nearly 50 years. Our commitments distinguish us from other organizations in two ways: we are committed to relationship and training-the-trainers. We believe that organizations and individuals in Congo and the US should maintain long-term relationships. As such, we work collaboratively with Congolese professionals to assist and support the priorities of their leadership. Our training-the-trainers method utilizes these relationships to identify specific skills training needed in Congo, and our Ambassadors respond accordingly. We go into depth on this approach on the “methodology” page.

What is a Medical Ambassador?

Each PCP Medical Ambassadors is an individual who is attracted by these two core values.

A Medical Ambassador is a person – medical, or otherwise called to this work – who is intrigued by our unique approach. They commit themselves in three general ways. First and foremost it is the commitment of all ambassadors; to believe in, represent, inform, and promote the medical work and core values. A Medical Ambassador also supports the work financially at any level. And an Ambassador actively participates in the work in a variety of ways; prayer first (as the true foundation of our work), and with volunteering time and individual expertise whether that be medical, administrative, clerical, networking, language fluency, consultanting, or using other skills.

In short, Medical Ambassadors readily share about the work of the PCP, give to the organization, and lend a hand if when needed.

The Paul Carlson Medical Ambassadors program was established in May of 2011 and in the past two years our growing group of Ambassadors have contributed with their finances and expertise in significant and important ways.

In addition to these basic commitments, some Medical Ambassadors may become more fully engaged in the work. These individuals may join Medical Focus Groups to set and implement specific short and long term goals with the Congolese. Some may spend time investigating a specific project or idea to present to the medical focus groups. Others will help plan trips, fundraise, write grants, translate, or travel. These are people with a deeper time commitment to the medical work of the PCP. They are Medical Ambassadors, but not all Medical Ambassadors make this commitment. The following section explains how some of these various roles work together to accomplish our common goals.

Organization

Calling all medical professionals! There is a place for you in Medical Ambassadors!

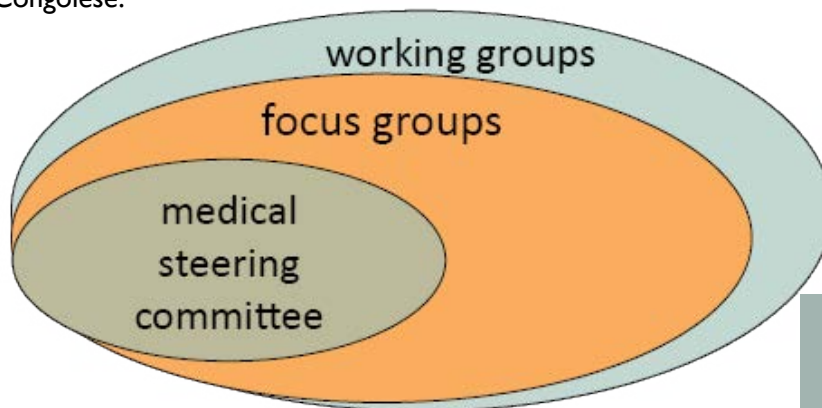
The PCP Medical Ambassadors program seeks to coordinate the medical work of Paul Carlson Partnership by facilitating collaboration between medical professionals in the U.S. and their counterparts in the Congo. A structure consisting of a Medical Steering Team, Focus Groups and Working Groups has been created to assist this process.

The **Medical Steering Team (MST)** is comprised of the President of the Medical Ambassadors program, its Administrator and the Chair of each Focus Group. The PCP Executive Director is an ex-officio member. The MST coordinates the vision, goals and activities of all PCP medical work, in particular, to advise and hold accountable the Focus Groups.

The **Focus Groups**, organized around eight medical specialties, are comprised of medical professionals who are working towards a long-term plan to improve the practice of their specialty in Congo. Each Focus Group Chair coordinates projects with a Congolese specialist and leads the Focus Group towards collaborative projects and medical training trips to Congo. The eight specialties are:

Pharmaceutical	Nursing
Internal Medicine	OB/GYN
Surgery/Anesthesiology	Pediatrics
Hospital Administration	Ophthalmology

The **Working Groups** are less-structured groups formed around medical professionals with a specific idea or passion they wish to pursue. As the idea gains form through research and design considerations, the specific project may be presented to the respective Focus Group to determine alignment with the priorities and best practices for working alongside the Congolese.



*There is 1 doctor in Congo
for every 10,000 people*

*There are 27 doctors in the
US for every 1 in Congo*

History

Dr. Paul Carlson served as a missionary in the Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire), and was kidnapped and killed during the 1964 Simba rebellion. Photos of the young Californian appeared around the world on the cover of Time and Life magazines to honor the life of the martyred missionary. Paul Carlson Partnership (PCP) was founded shortly after his death, beginning with just one hospital and a passion for bringing healthcare to the Congo.



Our mission is to catalyze the growth of self-sustaining families and communities in places of deep poverty in Congo. Working together with local partners we invest in local efforts in medical, economic, and infrastructure development. The last few years of peace in this province has created the opportunity for consistent and reliable medical training by committed and well-trained American doctors and nurses.

PCP serves primarily in the Equateur Province, the poorest province in Congo. In addition, Congo is the poorest country in the world (HDI Index). The most recent civil war has devastated the medical system. The infrastructure was destroyed making transportation of patients and medical supplies very difficult. Buildings, roads and bridges were demolished and the supplies of electricity and water were compromised. Many Congolese medical professionals were killed. The CEUM medical system once was an advanced system for Sub-Sahara Africa. Today Paul Carlson Partnership is committed to the restoration of this medical system. Taking a holistic approach, PCP works through medical development, economic development, infrastructure renovation, and partnerships between American and Congolese medical personnel to introduce and enhance medical training and expertise.

59% of Congolese live on less than \$1 per day

In the Ubangi region, 95% of people live as subsistence farmers



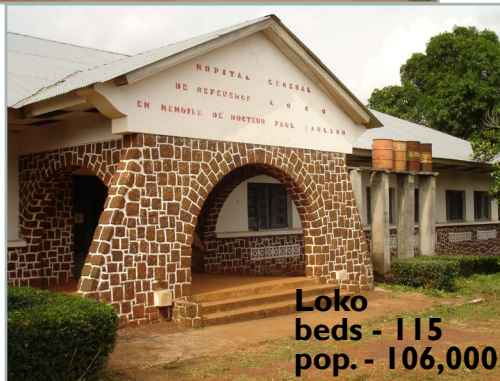
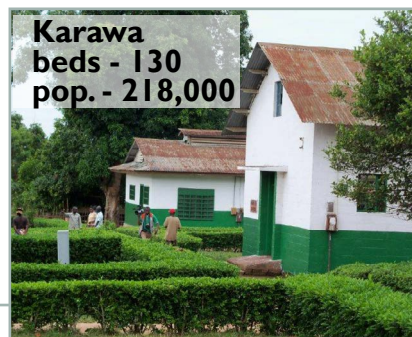
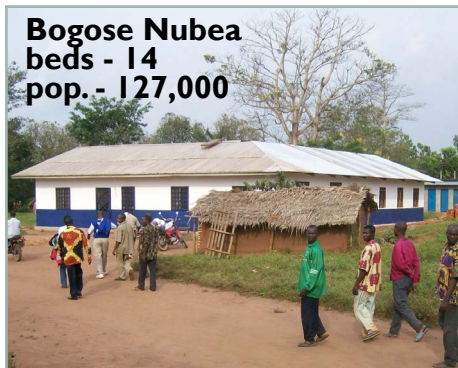
PCP is an affiliate with the Evangelical Covenant Church. Our primary local partner is the Covenant Church in Congo (Communaute Évangélique de l'Ubangi-Mongala or CEUM) .



Medical System

The CEUM runs a medical system that stretches across the Ubangi region of the Equateur province of DR Congo. They run 5 hospitals and 108 clinics, and are working towards opening an additional hospital in the town of Bumba. The clinics are small outposts, generally staffed by one nurse. For many people, the closest clinic is very difficult to get to and the closest hospital may be virtually inaccessible. Even considering these difficulties, the system serves about 800,000 people.

Hospitals



Diseases causing most deaths in CEUM hospitals:

- 1 Malaria
- 2 Anemia
- 3 Diarrhea
- 4 Meningitis
- 5 Malnutrition

Diseases most seen in CEUM hospitals:

- 1 Malaria
- 2 Respiratory infection
- 3 Diarrhea
- 4 Anemia
- 5 Malnutrition

Methodology

PCP has developed an innovative structure through the PCP Medical Ambassadors program to engage Western medical and healthcare professionals to work alongside their counterparts in the Congo, lending their expertise. It is relational, contextually appropriate, and strategically focused through a teacher training model.



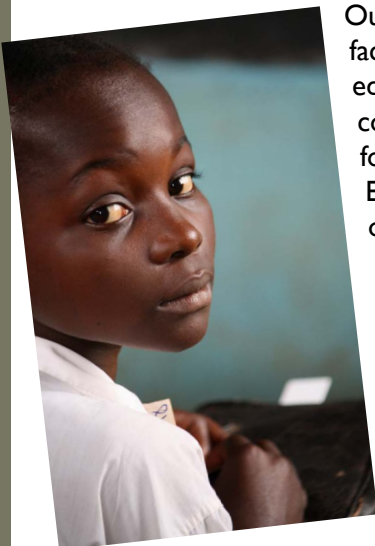
Medical teams traveling to Congo on behalf of PCP teach a group of local medical professionals aligned with their expertise. Typically, 10-12 Congolese professionals, associated with one of the region's hospitals or clinics, are brought to a central location to be trained by the PCP Medical Ambassadors. This skill training includes the training personnel, ongoing follow-up, provision of supplies, assessment training and professional development costs for participating Congolese. Each trained professional returns to their facility, where they train 8-10 people on

the specific skills. In addition, they are equipped with the supplies needed to carry out the program at their respective facility. One Medical Ambassador team trains approximately 100 people through this multiplication impact of training the trainers.

Each Medical Ambassador makes a long-term, relational commitment to the region and teams return on a semi-regular basis to train and follow-up each program. These dedicated professionals are a critical link to the implementation and effectiveness of the Medical Ambassador programs.

1 child of every 5 in Congo does not live to age 5.

For every infant who dies at birth in the US, 18 die in Congo.



Our Congolese brothers and sisters are capable medical professionals; a fact that is not diminished by difficult access to resources and continuing education. Medical Ambassadors make the choice to equip, to inspire confidence, and then step aside and take on a supporting role. Our focus is for the long-term viability and sustainability of the CEUM medical system. Efforts are multiplied exponentially and last longer through the training-of-the trainers approach.

PCP has been working in Congo for almost 50 years, with relationship in true partnership with the Congolese, and remains dedicated to this long-term approach.

Join Us!

Compassionate volunteers are the key to successful medical development in Congo. If you've been inspired to get involved in this vital work or learn more about it, we want to hear from you.

Next Steps!

- 1) Have questions? Contact Mary at marytstock@gmail.com
- 2) Ready to join? Just tell us a little about yourself and we'll get in touch to discuss how you want to be involved.

Please answer the questions below via
email - ambassadors@paulcarlson.org
mail - 8303 W Higgins Rd, Chicago, IL 60631

First Name:

Last Name

Mailing Address:

Email:

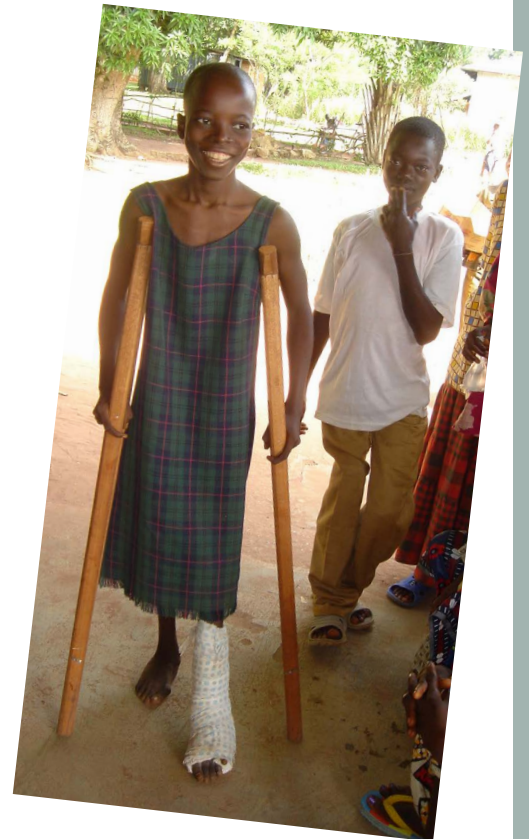
Phone:

Employer:

Title/specialization:

Experience with Congo, Africa, or elsewhere in the developing world?

Anything else you'd like us to know right now?



*Join us with a financial gift:
visit*

*paulcarlson.org/donate-now
or mail to*

*8303 W Higgins Rd
Chicago, IL 60631*

Leadership

Dr. Richard Lingili is the medical director of the CEUM medical system. He received his MD from the University of Kinshasa. His experience is in HIV, malaria, vaccination, blood transfusion, hospital administration, and supervision.



Dr. Eric Gunnoe and his wife, Nancy, live in Portland, Maine where they attend Christchurch Evangelical Covenant. He works as an ICU pediatrician at Maine Medical Center. He makes a considerable fuss about how God can use regular guys like himself to make a tremendous difference in the work of the PCP in the Congo.

Dr. Roger Thorpe, MD, FACS, is a general surgeon who worked in Congo for 30 years. He has returned several times for short visits after retiring in 1996. Roger trained at University of Michigan, U of M Medical School, two community hospitals in internship and surgical residency, a year at MD Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston, and the Prince Albert Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium.



Dr. John Whittington and his wife Ann live in Antioch Illinois. He is a family physician by training and practiced for many years. He now is the lead faculty for the IHI on the Triple Aim: Achieving the optimal balance of good health, positive patient experience of care, and low per capita cost for a population. He previously served as the medical director of Knowledge Management and patient safety officer for the OSF Healthcare System. He and his wife attend Chain of Lakes Bible Church.

Sandra Gutknecht is an Industrial Engineer who started her career in manufacturing and entertainment but migrated to the San Francisco Bay Area where she has been in healthcare administration for the last 20 years. She is currently at Stanford Hospital and Clinics managing a \$100mil expense and revenue budget for their faculty clinics. She is excited to see how God can use her experience to make a difference in the CEUM health system.



Mary Stockmeyer, BS. Ed. MsEd, was administrator of an academic support program for 20 years and is currently a private academic coach. She started and expanded a college-prep program for refugee students, serving many students from Africa, including Congo. She has a lifetime desire for all the skills she's gained to be used by God in Africa. Married for 33 years to Bill, and mother of 3 adult children, Mary is a longtime Member of Christchurch Evangelical Covenant Church in Portland ME.

Meritt Sawyer is the Executive Director for the Paul Carlson Partnership. She has given executive leadership to non-profit organizations for over thirty years as the International Program Director for Langham Partnership International, Vice President of John Stott Ministries and co-founder of FACT, and has been active in a far-reaching series of local and global endeavors. She holds a M.A. in Education and a M.A. in Theology. She and her husband, Steve, have three grown children.

