

The Congo Clinic Initiative

Developing Clinics
Empowering Change
Saving Lives



PAUL CARLSON
PARTNERSHIP
50 YEARS OF SERVING CONGO



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PARTNERSHIP

Friends,

One out of every five people dies before the age of 5 in Congo - most of them from preventable causes. The needless human toll is staggering and access to medical care impedes treatment.

PCP is seeking 108 churches, groups, or families to partner with 108 Congolese clinics to engage in a collective, high impact partnership to support life-saving medical care.

The Congo Clinic Initiative is not just another mission project. It is an initiative of reciprocity. We seek to come alongside the local Covenant Church of Congo (CEUM) to provide resources and encouragement. We also seek to learn from them and to build a knowledgeable heart for Congo. Finding meaningful, tangible engagement globally can be elusive. We know Congo is the poorest country in the world but how can we connect with something more than a financial transaction? In this initiative, we will practically demonstrate our love and compassion by supporting a clinic. And, we will devote ourselves to learning from this fantastic part of God's multicultural Kingdom, a transforming impact on our own hearts and minds.

Once you are matched with a clinic, there are many ways to grow deeper in your partnership. You may learn about the people who work at your clinic and those whom they treat. You might research cultural and spiritual practices of the community. Their local historical and economic tales shape today's living conditions. Congolese devotionals reveal a different set of questions of God and a different contextual lens on biblical passages. There are numerous opportunities for you to develop an understanding of Congo. My prayer for all of us is that, as we go deeper with Christ in our quest to understand another part of God's Kingdom, we will be transformed in the process.

This packet details just the beginning of how you can open your hearts and minds while also serving vital needs in Congo. You will be given photos, a map and information about your partner clinic and the clinic staff. Quarterly newsletters will follow with ideas for infusing your church, group or family with an understanding of a world centered in the heart of Africa. The possibilities are limitless.

Join us on this journey to make a collective impact in the Covenant medical system in Congo. And be prepared for a transforming journey as we pursue this together! By the grace of God.

Together for Christ's Kingdom,

Meritt Lohr Sawyer
Executive Director

The Program

PCP is seeking 108 churches, groups, or families to partner with 108 clinics to engage in an authentic, high impact partnership to collectively raise the standard of medical care in DR Congo. Through this initiative you will commit to support life-saving medical care. With a heart to learn, we will also seek to gain a knowledgeable heart for Congo.

Obstacle Medical care is inaccessible for the 1.6 million people in Congo's Equateur Province. Typically, the closest hospital is a ten-mile walk and local village clinics lack basic necessities. The clinics operate without electricity or clear water. Medicines and supplies are available only intermittently. Curable illnesses take lives every day.

Objective To increase access to medical care by developing the local village clinics and to provide essential resources to raise the standard of care. We are seeking partners for a united and coordinated effort. Together we can overcome this tragic reality.

Outcome You can equip a clinic to operate for a year and provide it with first-time solar electricity. Deaths from treatable diseases will be prevented with a dependable stream of medicines and supplies. Salaries will equip staff members to feed their families. *Lives will be saved.*

You Will Receive: A photo and details of your clinic and quarterly updates about Congo, the culture, life there, and medical realities. Congolese devotionals and activities will inspire us to learn from God's Kingdom as revealed by our Congolese brothers and sisters. Our desire is to see every CCI Partner transformed by their embrace of the people and culture of Congo.



Developing a Knowledgeable Heart for Congo

What does "developing a knowledgeable heart for Congo" mean?

Embrace: When we embrace our Congolese partner community as co-operators in God's Kingdom we position ourselves to be open to new experiences and to learn. By learning about Congo, the joy of the people, and some details such as their educational, medical, or economic realities, we find ourselves ready to receive, to learn, and be transformed.

Infuse: Infusing our newfound knowledge of Congolese culture into our church or group practices helps internalize the lessons learned. Let us seek to infuse our own congregations and families with the richness of the Congolese culture. We can learn some customs, food, and phrases in their language. We seek to embrace the rich diversity of the Congolese culture by absorbing it into our own congregations.



Expand: Our pursuit for a knowledgeable heart for Congo leads to an expanded understanding of God's Kingdom, and to personal growth. As westerners, we can forget that God's Kingdom is reflected in the fantastic multicultural world God created, and is not defined by American culture. We limit ourselves by knowing God solely through our own culture. When we spend time with people different from ourselves, it changes our world view. When we ask what questions other people bring to God and how they approach their faith, it helps us expand and grow in our own faith.

Developing a knowledgeable heart for Congo means intentionally embracing our Congolese partner community and infusing the resulting knowledge of Congolese culture into our own context, with the hope of an expanded understanding of God's kingdom.

Activities to Develop a Knowledgeable Heart for Congo

Some ideas to get you started in developing a knowledgeable heart for Congo. You will receive a welcome packet with more ideas, and new suggestions every quarter, along with Congolese devotionals, cultural information, and updates from Congo.

Prayer

- Create a one-month Congo Prayer journal. Post it on your church website
- Commit your group to pray for CCI

Learn about medical realities in Congo

- Research the top five medical reasons kids die in Congo
- Learn about a specific disease and treatment in Congo
- Learn why Congo is the worst place to be a mother

Learn about Congo and Africa

- Research and create a resource list of movies about Congo and Africa
- Create a film screening at church or watch as a small group at home
- Research and create a resource list of books to read and discuss

Learn More!

- Follow www.allafrica.com
- Take French lessons
- Visit a local African exhibit
- Create an alternative gift fair



Join us!

Join the Journey!
Build a Knowledgeable Heart for
Congo...

When you sponsor a clinic, you will
equip the front line of medical care.

Become a Congo Clinic Initiative partner!

Step 1: Send us the completed commitment form and your first financial contribution

Step 2: Matched! PCP will match your church with a clinic in Congo and send you clinic and staff photos, and information about the CEUM medical system

Step 3: PCP will send quarterly updates on medical realities in Congo, cultural information, Congolese devotionals, and more.

Step 4: Create a leadership team at your church to infuse Congo culture and information to bring a knowledgeable heart of Congo into your church.

Together, with a united and coordinated effort, we can raise the standard of medical care in the Covenant medical system in Congo!

Join us in this initiative of reciprocity. Partner with a clinic for five years and dedicate your family, church, or group to building a knowledgeable heart for Congo. Join us, and together we can raise the accessibility and standard of medical care that will save lives.

Contact Us to Learn More!

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Five-Year Plan

Year I	
Sustainable solar energy	\$5,000
Annual: Pharmaceuticals	\$1,200
Medical Supplies	\$1,750
Salary	\$1,000
Operations	\$1,000
Year Total	\$10,000

Year II	
Development (to be announced!)	\$5,000
Annual Costs	\$5,000

Year III	
Development (to be announced!)	\$5,000
Annual Costs	\$5,000

Year IV	
Development (to be announced!)	\$5,000
Annual Costs	\$5,000

Year V	
Development (to be announced!)	\$5,000
Annual Costs	\$5,000

...and join 107 other churches to
collectively make a difference.



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