



EXPANDING BOUNDARIES AND ADVOCATING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

"It's all part of taking a chance and expanding horizons" – Ronald Regan

Today, hospitals in low resource countries rely upon medical equipment donations as the primary access for the expensive biomedical equipment necessary to improve patient outcomes for millions. Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach is actively engaged in expanding donation access and quality and we are working with international partners to build a better tomorrow for those we serve around the world.

Expanding equipment inventory: Mission Outreach hospital partners in Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Indiana and Kansas provide the majority of biomedical equipment donations for the 95 countries we serve. Outreach and education initiatives regarding the equipment needs of our recipients has increased donations from U.S. hospital donors. Moreover, our hospital donors are linking Mission Outreach to generous corporate donors (contact rkumar@mission-outreach.org to learn more about these opportunities).

Expanding quality standards and expectations: Mission Outreach biomedical and executive staff and board members take every opportunity to advocate for quality. In May, at the Taskforce for Global Health-Emory University, Atlanta GA, Mission Outreach shared the benefits of adhering to WHO guidelines for quality equipment donation and biomedical service to low resource countries.

Dr. Josiah Alamu, a Mission Outreach board member, led a trip to Ghana that provided multiple outreach opportunities to better understand equipment needs and to raise awareness of the importance of working with accredited medical surplus recovery organizations (Mission Outreach is accredited through the MedSurplus Alliance). Leaders from academia, government, faith-based services, and the non-profit sector confirmed the need for standards and welcomed collaboration with Mission Outreach.

Expanding donations and advocating for innovative design: Mission Outreach biomedical staff regularly advocate and support dissemination of innovative programs that will increase access to quality equipment. During a family trip to India, Mission Outreach biomedical engineer met with several biomedical innovators.

In 2018 Mission Outreach purchased and distributed Embrace Warmers-a portable infant warmer-to partners in Nepal and Haiti. Meetings at the Chennai India headquarters of Phoenix Medical Systems, manufacturer for Embrace, set the stage for additional collaboration on Embrace distribution and other innovations designed for underserved populations including those living in low resource countries.

Access to quality biomedical equipment and reduction in healthcare are international challenges, requiring collaborative, international solutions. Mission Outreach biomedical engineer met with Andhra Pradesh Med Tech Zone (AMTZ) in India, a pioneering effort providing low-cost and high quality medical devices. Meetings with Dr. Jitendar Sharma, CEO of AMTZ and Mr. Srinivasa Reddy, Senior Manager Business Development, AMTZ in Vishakhapatnam, India identified potential for collaboration. An effort to increase access to donations and innovation is under review.



L-R: Srinivasa Reddy, Sr.Manager, AMTZ; Ratish Kumar, Biomedical Engineering Supervisor, HSMO; Dr. Jitendar Sharma, CEO, AMTZ



Ratish Kumar, Biomedical Engineering Supervisor, HSMO with Embrace warmer at Phoenix Medical Systems, Chennai, India

EQUIPMENT NEEDED (the most requested items by priority)

- Anesthesia machine
- Diagnostic ultrasound with probe
- Electrosurgical unit
- EKG unit
- Patient monitor
- Sterilizer
- Defibrillator
- Infant Incubator
- Infant warmer
- Phototherapy light
- Fetal monitor
- Hospital beds
- OR table

Contact Ratish Kumar, Biomedical Engineering Supervisor

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