



KATERI NEWSLETTER

Published by Kateri Medical Services, Inc.

11 Church Street, Tariffville, CT 06081

Greetings from the Ven. Thomas Furrer

Winter 2015

Our Best Year Ever at Kateri Medical Services

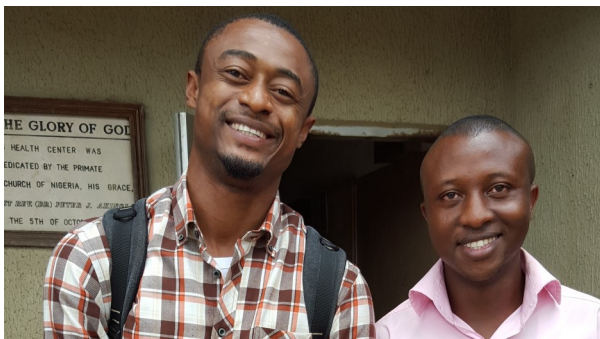
Dear Friends and Supporters of Kateri Medical Services,

We have now completed our 13th full year of running Kateri Medical Clinic. Thanks to all of your hard work, prayers, encouragement and financial support, we have just had our best year ever !!!

Kateri Medical Clinic

We have had many challenges over the past decade. Not least is the continuing threat of terrorism from radical groups in Nigeria. Another problem, especially in our early years, was recruiting and keeping doctors in our remote rural location. Despite all of the problems, we have continued to provide simple, decent, affordable medical care to several thousand people every year. Since May of 2002, we have been open every day – 365 days a year providing medical care.

Pictured below are Dr. Arome Okene (left) who has just finished his Youth Corps year of volunteer service at Kateri Clinic. He did such a good job, we asked him to stay on as a full-time staff member. Dr. Ignatius Daap (right) is our senior physician who has been at Kateri for two years now. Both Dr. Okene and Dr. Daap are excited about the work of the clinic and dedicated to serving the rural poor.



Pictured below are other members of staff, including our Matron Alice (center) who has been the steady hand at Kateri Clinic since we began in 2002.



Despite all of the security concerns and other problems, we continue to be the only not-for-profit medical clinic providing medical care to the rural poor in the Kateri area. Since 2002, we have helped more than 130,000 with medical care at Kateri Clinic.

Annual FaithCare Intensive Medical Mission

For the seventh year in a row, we have partnered with FaithCare and Kaduna Diocese to host an intensive two-week medical mission. Security concerns over the past four years have prevented us from holding this annual mission at Kateri. Instead, we hold the clinic at Jacaranda Farm near the city of Kaduna.

This year we helped more people than ever before. From July 27 through August 7, we helped 7,708 people with medical care. This number included over 200 surgeries, 1,500 who received eye care, 900 who received dental care. A third of the patients were children. About 60% were women, 40% men. In keeping with our desire to offer an alternative narrative to the prevalent religious tension in Nigeria, about 33% of our patients were Muslims; 66% Christians.



We Need Your Help to Keep The Good Work Going

We have been able to sustain this ministry of love for 13 years because **you** have made it possible through your generous donations. We don't receive grants from any government or foundation but instead rely on our regular donors.

Please be generous. Your donation goes a long way to help us make a real difference to real people in the real world.

Sincerely yours,

Ven. Tom Furrer, President of Kateri Medical Services

New Clinic at Iburu Nears Completion –

Ready to Open in 2016

For the past three years, we have been planning, negotiating and building a new clinic at Iburu (about 45 minutes drive southeast of Kaduna and about 3 hours drive from Kateri clinic).

The Iburu Clinic is a three-way partnership between the local Muslim village chief, the Diocese of Kaduna and Kateri Medical Services. The village chief donated the land to Kaduna Diocese with the proviso that the Diocese would build and run a medical clinic there. A donor from Connecticut provided funding for the building of the clinic through Kateri Medical Services. The Diocese of Kaduna increased the size of the clinic from the original plans and raised funds to cover the increased costs. After the Clinic is opened, Kateri Medical Services will fund a doctor and two community health extension workers (CHEWs) for five years.



During our FaithCare mission, we tried an experiment. We took a small crew to our not-yet-finished new clinic at Iburu (about 40 minutes drive from our main mission venue). Despite torrential rains that day, we were able to help 175 people with medical care at the new clinic. Next year, we hope to run a separate satellite medical mission at Iburu for the entire time.

Please see the photo of the team who traveled to Iburu at the top of the next column.



Presenting an alternative narrative to Christian ~ Muslim tensions

Kateri Medical Services operates in a very tense part of the world where religious differences often get expressed violently. Besides offering medical care, one of our subsidiary goals is to be peacemakers between Christians and Muslims. We want to present an alternative narrative to the dominant theme of animosity and violence.

The man in the picture below is a Muslim. The woman is a Christian. Every day at our medical mission, we begin with a prayer service at 5:00 AM. ON this morning, the Muslim man offered the opening prayer. The Christian woman offered the closing prayer. This is one of the few places in Nigeria (maybe in the world) where Christians and Muslims pray together.



At Kateri Clinic, we are working for Peace on Earth. Good Will Towards Men. We live in an increasingly polarized world. In this Christmas Season, help us to continue to build a world of Peace in honor of the Prince of Peace.

Photos From the Field...



Kateri Medical Services, Inc.
11 Church St.
Tariffville, CT 06081
Kateri Newsletter
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Won't you please consider putting the Kateri Medical Clinic in your will ?

"Write the vision...if it seems slow, wait for it...the righteous shall live by faith."

Kateri Medical Services, Inc.— Response Form

Please return this form with your contribution

Please mail to: **Kateri Medical Services, Inc.** 11 Church Street Tariffville, CT 06081

Yes, I would like to help in one of the following ways:

_____ "Sustaining Partner" - a pledge of \$1,000 per year (\$20 per week) for _____ year(s)

_____ "Wall Builder" - a pledge of \$500 per year for _____ year(s)

_____ Regular contributor - I will pledge _____ per month/year

_____ One - time gift of _____

*Please make checks payable to "Kateri Medical Services, Inc." All donations are tax deductible in the U.S.; 100% of your gift goes directly to the clinic. **Kateri Medical Services, Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization.***

Name _____ Address _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

If you have any questions, comments, or change of address, please call: (860) 651-0201 or email

tfurrer@trinitytariffville.org or visit our website at <http://www.katericlinic.org>