

# KATERI NEWSLETTER

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Greetings from the Rev. Thomas Furrer

Winter 2017

## Kateri Medical Services at 15 Years: Where We Have Been and Where We Are Going

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We have come a long way since February 2002. That is the first time I visited Nigeria. On that trip, we saw an empty building in Kateri. Bishop Josiah told us that he wanted to open a medical clinic there but didn't have the funds to pay a doctor and nurse. Our team went home with the desire and the vision to raise enough funds to start a clinic in Kateri. In May 2003, we held our first fund-raising dinner and raised \$48,000 – enough to pay one doctor and one nurse for three years– the beginning.

### The Early Years: 2003 to 2008

In the early years, we faced many obstacles. The biggest challenge was persuading a doctor to live and work in Kateri– a rural village. We had several doctors come and go. There were times when nurses ran the daily clinic with weekly visits from volunteer doctors, chiefly Dr. Alao from Kaduna. Although discouraged at times, we persevered. We felt certain of God's calling and we trusted in His guidance. Growth takes time; despite all of the challenges, patients began to consistently visit the clinic.



*A few of the 3,000 people we helped at Kateri Clinic outreach in July 2017*

### The Arrival of Dr. Niyi and Matron Alice: 2008 - 2014

In 2008, we got the answer to our prayers in two people, Dr. Olaniyi Olaobaju ( Dr.Niyi) and Matron Alice. These two leaders added stability and predictability to the staff. From that time, we have had steady leadership and a growing patient load at the clinic. Dr. Niyi stayed for six years and left a legacy of competence and trustworthi-

ness that has continued to this day. Matron Alice continues to be the head nurse and is the rock of stability for the staff and patients.

### The FaithCare Partnership: 2008 to 2016

In 2008 we began a partnership with FaithCare, an American-based non-profit which has a chapter in Nigeria. Together with FaithCare, we hosted intensive, two-week, medical missions each summer. FaithCare volunteers from America joined the clinic staff and volunteer doctors and nurses from Kaduna diocese. On these summer missions, we were able to help many thousands of people. After eight years, Kaduna Diocese decided that they were ready to conduct the mission with their own volunteers. Consequently, FaithCare is now helping us with intensive missions at our newer clinics in other dioceses.

*People lining up at the pharmacy at Kateri Clinic outreach in July*



*Kateri Staff, July 2017*

### 2017 New Clinics: 2016 – 2017

#### Iburu – Opened in July 2016

Our second clinic in Iburu (about 30 miles southeast of

Kaduna) is now complete after years of planning. In 2010, the local Muslim ruler donated land to the Anglican Diocese of Kaduna with the agreement that the diocese would build and run a medical clinic there. In 2013, Kateri Medical Services received a donation from the family of Nancy Mason to build a clinic in her memory. Nancy, herself a nurse, had worked with children and had dreamed of being a missionary. After Nancy's death, her husband and children wanted a tangible memorial to her life.

In July of 2016, the new clinic was dedicated and began operations under the direction of a nurse and visiting volunteer doctors from Kaduna. In June of 2017, after a long search, Dr. Abel Dahunsi (far left in photo below) was hired, along with the nurse, mid-wife and lab tech.

In July of 2017, we conducted our first intensive medical mission at Iburu, providing medical care to 1,700 people over five days.



*Rev. Tom Furrer, Bishop Markus Dogo, Archirect Ndanusa Fearon and Bob Chagnon at Gidan Waya Clinic construction site in July 2017.*

We have raised **full funding for staff** (one doctor and two nurses) for the first year of operation.

**We are seeking donors** to fund the subsequent four years of staffing (\$20,000 per year for four years for a total of \$80,000).

*Scenes from the medical outreach in Kafanchan, October 2017*



**Funding for Iburu Clinic**

Thanks to the donation of one generous donor, we have funding for staff at Iburu Clinic for the first five years.

**Kafanchan (Gidan Waya) Clinic- Opening in April of 2018**

In 2016, we began planning with the Anglican Diocese of Kafanchan to build a clinic in the village of Gidan Waya – about 20 miles from the city of Kafanchan. This location was chosen because there is currently no medical facility of any

kind in Gidan Waya. Bishop Markus Dogo sees a great need for medical care in this area of his diocese. The new clinic will be located on the grounds of St. Stephen's Anglican Church and the Anglican Secondary School on the same site. Bishop Markus' vision is to have a center of worship, learning and healing all in one place. This was the methodology of the first missionaries who brought the Christian faith to Nigeria 100 years ago.

In October of 2017, we conducted our first intensive medical mission on the site of the new clinic in Gidan Waya. The clinic was not ready for use, so we used the school buildings adjacent to the clinic.

**Financing For Kafanchan (Gidan Waya) Clinic**

We have raised the **full funding for construction** of the new clinic **and for equipping** the clinic for a first phase start-up.



## Gusau Clinic (Graceland Hospital) – Opening in October 2018

In 2016, we began a partnership with the Anglican Diocese of Gusau under the leadership of Bishop John Danbita. Gusau is the capital city of Zamfara State, about 4.5 hours drive north of Kaduna. The population in this area is about 90% Muslim. The minority status of Christians brings many challenges to that community. Bishop John has worked very hard to develop friendly and mutual respectful relationships with the Muslim community. One key part of his strategy for peaceful coexistence is to develop a school and hospital that serves both the Christian and the Muslim communities.

Graceland Hospital is being built adjacent to Graceland International School in a rapidly developing neighborhood in Gusau. The school has been in operation for five years and has a 25% Muslim / 75% Christian student population. It is Bishop John's hope that the school will be an instrument of mutual respect between Muslims and Christians. He has the same hope for the work of the new hospital.

Graceland Hospital is larger than our other clinics. The



size was determined by the Diocese of Gusau. Kateri Medical Services has provided their standard amount to the project. The Diocese of Gusau will fund the balance of the construction. As with our other start-up clinics, we have committed to funding a doctor and two nurses for the first five years of operation.

### Funding For Gusau Clinic (Graceland Hospital)

We have raised the **full funding for construction** of the new clinic **and for equipping** the clinic for a first phase start-up.

We have raised **full funding for staff** (one doctor and two nurses) for the first year of operation.

**We are seeking donors** to fund the subsequent four years of staffing (\$20,000 per year for four years for a total of \$80,000).

## More Clinics in the Future

By the end of 2018, we will have grown from one clinic to four. We are currently in early discussion with three potential partners for future clinics. Our goal is to have 10 clinics operational by 2025.

Our criteria for new clinic partners in Christian communities are as follows:

- Must have a clear mission to demonstrate the love of God through medical care
- Must have the ability to acquire land, along with human and financial resources to be a full partner
- Must have the ability to manage the clinic operations, including the recruitment and management of local staff.

### “New Horizons” Funding Appeal

***As we come to the end of 2017, I am asking all of our supporters to make a special year-end donation to ensure the successful launch of our two newest clinics in Kafanchan (Gidan Waya Clinic) and in Gusau (Graceland Hospital).***

**We need to raise four years of funding for one doctor and two nurses at two clinics.**

**That is \$20,000 per year x 4 years x 2 Clinics for a total of \$160,000.**

We are asking all of our friends and supporters to make a special year-end contribution to our “New Horizons” fund appeal. Maybe you can make a large one-time gift or maybe you can make a pledge over four years.

***I am personally making a gift of \$40,000 to this effort. I will give \$10,000 per year for the next four years. I hope you will join me in ensuring the success of our newest clinics.***

As always, our commitment to our donors is that nearly 100% of every donated dollar goes directly to providing medical care to poor people. We keep our administrative costs very low. When traveling to Nigeria, all volunteers pay their own way.

Please give as generously as you can to our “New Horizons” appeal.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Tom Furrer

President and Executive Director

Kateri Medical Services, Inc.

Kateri Medical Services, Inc.  
11 Church St.  
Tariffville, CT 06081  
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Winter 2017

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*Won't you please consider putting the Kateri  
Medical Clinic in your will ?*

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**NEW HORIZONS FUND APPEAL**

*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:

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$20,000 Supports one doctor and two nurses for a year. Helps 5,000 people receive medical care.
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$10,000 Supports one doctor and two nurses for 6 months. Helps 2,500 people with medical care.
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$5,000 Supports one doctor and two nurses for 3 months. Helps 1,250 people with medical care.
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,500 Buys medicine for 1,000 people in our intensive medical missions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other gift—any amount of any size will make a big difference!

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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*If you have any questions, comments, or change of address, please call: (860) 212-6994 or email*

*thomasjohnfurrer@gmail.com or visit our website at <http://www.katericlinic.org>*