



**MISSION
TO HEAL
IMPACT REPORT
2024**

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A MESSAGE FROM GLENN GEELHOED

As 2024 concludes, we express heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported Mission to Heal’s transformative work this year. Through empowering medical education and outreach, we have advanced our goal of “reaching the furthest peoples first,” enabling local leaders to transition from trainees to trainers and creating a sustainable healthcare network.

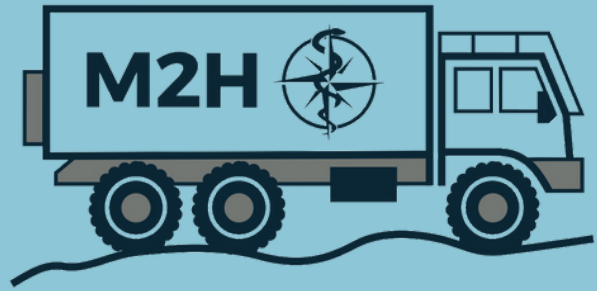
Our Mobile Surgical Units have reached isolated communities, and we have also enhanced fixed healthcare facilities, ensuring continuity of care. Some notable achievements include a training program led by Dr. Godfrey in Uganda, who performed life-changing surgical procedures, a women’s health programs led by Dr. Nicole Williams, and new eye clinics with Dr. Carol. These efforts are expanding to Kenya in partnership with the Winds of Change and the Ministry of Health, where four mission sites are planned for 2025.



We also celebrate our trainees and would like to highlight Muhammed, who has been pivotal in Uganda and Kenya but now faces a personal health battle with a brain tumor. His courage and dedication inspire us all as we pledge to support him in his recovery.

Thank you for being part of this impactful journey. Together, we are empowering communities and transforming lives across underserved regions.

OUR MISSION



Mission to Heal exists to bring surgical education to local healthcare practitioners in the most remote areas of the world. Through teaching a variety of basic and intermediate surgical skills, our work has a sustaining effect that enhances the medical capabilities of clinics in underserved areas.

OUR OBJECTIVES

TEACH

Train local health workers to manage their community's medical needs with fewer outside resources to support sustainable self-reliance.

HEAL

Provide surgical operations and medical care to those who need it, who have limited or no access to it, and who cannot afford it.

TRANSFORM

Inspire medical professionals with the heart and hands to function in needy and poorly-resourced conditions.

BY THE NUMBERS: 2024 IMPACT

In 2024, Mission to Heal expanded its reach and impact, with some great milestones achieved:

- 2 Countries Visited
- 4 Medical Missions Conducted
- 7 Healthcare Facilities
- 13 Volunteers
- 20 Local Health Providers Trained
- 70+ Surgical Procedures
- 1800+ Patients Screened

Highlight from the Field:



Our volunteer teams traveled to remote locations in Kenya and Uganda to work in collaboration with local organizations and facilities, train local health care professionals, and provide critical care to hundreds of patients. The following is a surgical education highlight from June.

In June 2024, we conducted a mission at Mparo Health Centre IV in Uganda. Part of the team, including Dr. Glenn Geelhoed, Dr. Dan Olsen, and local medical staff including the facility in-charge Dr. Mucunguzi Godfrey, treated an 11-year-old girl who suffered from severe burn contractures on her left hand that had fused her fingers together and rendered her hand non-functional. Her parents sought help, hoping for any improvement.

The team excised scar tissue from her palm and fingers, separated the fused digits, and released stiff joint contractures. Full-thickness skin grafts were carefully applied to her hand and fingers, and a protective burn dressing and splint completed the procedure.

The girl was closely monitored during recovery, and her care was transitioned to Dr. Godfrey, with ongoing support from Dr. Olsen via WhatsApp. The surgery restored finger functionality and improved her hand's appearance, delighting her family.

This case also served as a hands-on training opportunity for the Ugandan medical staff, equipping them with skills to address burn contractures—a common challenge in the region—long after the mission ended.

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

At Mission to Heal, we believe strongly that training local health care professionals is critical to sustainable global health programs and in creating lasting change in local communities. This year we expanded our training programs to offer eye care alongside surgical skills, minor dental care, and women's health.

Surgical Skills

When 5 billion people lack access to safe surgical care, it only seems natural to bring the operating room to them. With our Mobile Surgical Units, we can teach and operate in harsh environments that vary significantly from the typical operating rooms of tertiary hospitals. Equipping local providers with surgical skills not only offers immediate relief while we are in the field, but also provides sustainable surgical care for the community long after we have left.

Women's Health

Kenya and Uganda have some of the fastest-growing populations in the world, which means many pregnant women and a high number of deliveries. Incorporating women's health into our medical missions was a natural choice, as it significantly increases our impact in the communities we serve.

Dental Care

Learning in 2019 that people were dying from dental abscesses due to a lack of basic dental care was disheartening. So, what does a transplant surgeon who has dedicated a lifetime of service to the most remote communities do? They learn basic dentistry and teach local providers how to identify tooth decay and periodontal disease and extract teeth before they lead to abscesses.

Eye Care

When a majority of the patients being screened report issues with their eyesight, the natural response is to develop an eye program that equips local facilities with the knowledge to conduct basic eye testing. This empowers patients with accurate information, helping them avoid unnecessary tests and costs when purchasing glasses.

Our Vision for 2025

M2H 2025: Expanding Surgical Impact in Kenya

As we look toward 2025, Mission to Heal is driven by a clear vision: to expand our reach and deepen our impact in the places we go to most. Our return to these regions is more than just a visit—it's a commitment to sustainable change.

Our partnership with Winds of Change will take us to Laisamis Sub County in Kenya, where we'll carry out four focused missions between February and August. For each mission, we will bring skilled healthcare professionals and support staff, ensuring that we can address a range of surgical, women's health, dental and eye care needs. In line with our approach, we'll be working alongside local healthcare workers, empowering them with the knowledge and skills to sustain healthcare improvements long after our teams depart.

M2H has always been driven by a goal to cultivate self-sustaining healthcare systems in remote regions that will thrive for years to come. In 2025, we will extend training, facilitate knowledge sharing, and provide hands-on support, all with the hope that our efforts today will yield healthier communities tomorrow.



GET INVOLVED WITH MISSION TO HEAL

Join us! Whether it's
through volunteering,
donations, or partnerships,
your support is invaluable.

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THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED
SUPPORT



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