

2019

HEALING FAITH
UGANDA
ANNUAL REPORT



HEALING
FAITH

INTRODUCTION

Malaria continues to be a critical and deadly problem for families living in Uganda. The World Health Organization, WHO, estimates there were 228 million cases of malaria worldwide in 2018, with an estimated 405,000 deaths due to malaria. The African regions accounted for 92% of the world-wide cases of malaria and 93% of the world-wide deaths, most of those coming from sub-Saharan countries. Healing Faith Uganda continued its work in the Mayuge District where the malaria burden continues to be high. This year also brought forward expansion for Healing Faith Uganda. The organization is beginning the preliminary work to offer its services to the Jinja District, specifically the Budondo sub-county. Healing Faith Uganda made significant strides in the fight against malaria in 2019, a record number of patients were seen and treated this year. Education continues to be the focal point of Healing Faith model, insuring each household receives vital education regarding the signs, symptoms, treatment and prevention strategies regarding malaria.

Healing Faith Uganda has been able to provide stable, full-time employment and benefits to 26 Ugandan Nationals in 2019, which is an increase from 2018. The expansions planned for 2020 will not only increase the outreach capability of the organization but provide additional job opportunities for Ugandan nationals.

The following report gives an overview of the programs and achievements over the course of the year for Healing Faith Uganda.

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THE MALARIA CENTER

2019 was a record setting year regarding the number of patients seen at the Malaria Center. Over ten-thousand (10,000) patients were tested for malaria at the Healing Faith Malaria Center this year. There were several contributing factors to the increase in patients seen. The first factor was an extended rainy season in this region of Uganda. This led to an extended breeding season for mosquitos. With a longer, extended breeding season the mosquito population was allowed to thrive in ideal conditions, leading to more cases of malaria. The second factor contributing to the increased patient load was “word of mouth.” It has become known locally that the Healing Faith Malaria Center is always stocked with medication and always has medical staff on duty. This has led to more people traveling from further distances from other villages to utilize the services offered at The Healing Faith Malaria Center.

The Center is staffed with 5 medical personnel; a medical clinical officer, a laboratory technician and 3 nurses. In addition, the Malaria Center is equipped with a social worker and 2 outreach team members who are trained to meet the educational physical needs of both the patient and the care giver/family members who brought the patient to the Center. Support staff is also on duty to maintain and allow for smooth day to day operations.



The Malaria Center first opened to patients in August 2017

MALARIA CENTER PATIENT DATA 2019

	Patients Tested	Positive Cases	% Positive Cases	Households Educated	Total Educated
January	548	400	72.99%	603	361
February	427	327	76.58%	350	228
March	671	523	77.94%	574	559
April	874	602	68.88%	540	545
May	946	552	58.35%	535	599
June	937	640	68.30%	619	605
July	1249	838	67.09%	794	756
August	850	544	64.00%	583	517
September	914	543	59.41%	569	578
October	928	661	71.23%	601	590
November	811	520	64.12%	559	501
December	861	582	67.60%	483	531
TOTAL	10,016	6,732	68.04%	6,810	6,370

With the addition of the Laboratory to the Malaria Center, a new strand of Malaria was identified this year within the community utilizing microscopy. *Plasmodium Malaria* was identified and treated within a small population of the community. This strand of malaria, while treated with the same medication and treatment course, was not previously identifiable utilizing only the RDT (Rapid Diagnostic Testing) method. The addition of the lab has not only improved our quality of care but extended the scope of malaria that is identifiable and treatable at the Malaria Center.

With the extended rainy season experienced this year, the number of cases with exponentially higher when compared to 2018. July was the highest month on record for the Malaria Center. Although it was predicted the number of cases would decrease as we approached the end of the year, the unusual rainy season kept the numbers high throughout 2019.

NET DISTRIBUTION

In 2019 the Mobile Malaria Team was established. Initially this team continued with the education model as developed by Healing Faith Uganda to educate from home to home for the signs, symptoms, treatment and prevention strategies for malaria. The Mobile Team has three areas of focus in 2019. First, the team began working on the Island of Jaguzi to educate and equip the members of this underserved community with both testing and treatment as well as education and net distribution. Second, the team focused on the area in and around Malaria Center I. The team worked within the surrounding villages to do home to home visits to collect follow up data, insure nets were still being properly utilized and to educate any new members of the community. Finally, the Mobile Team ended the year by educating and distributing nets in the village of Buose in the Budondo subcounty. This is the village the new Malaria Center II will be located, and continued work will be done in this area in 2020. We wanted to begin in this area to start establishing relationship with not only the local leaders of the area but also the residents.

The Mobile Team continues to install life-saving mosquito nets over sleeping areas within homes in the local communities. Mosquito nets when used properly and consistently remains the best prevention technique to prevent the transmission of malaria. Mosquito nets remains a vital component of Healing Faith Uganda's education and prevention strategy for the communities within the Mayuge and Jinja Districts.

2019 Net Distribution Data

	Households Educated	Nets Distributed	Adults Covered	Children Covered	Pregnant Women Covered	Total People Covered
January	333	1112	755	973	41	1728
February	102	200	232	247	7	479
March	112	360	266	294	8	560
April	173	723	298	359	12	657
May	152	771	379	475	*	854
June	174	789	503	456	43	959
July	292	1032	580	599	52	1179
August	141	401	466	390	19	836
September	0	0	0	0	0	0
October	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	270	909	653	776	6	1429
December	274	914	658	785	18	1443
TOTAL	2718	7211	4307	5354	206	9661

In the months of September and October the Mobile Team was providing follow up education and collecting follow-up data on homes already educated and covered by nets. Therefore, there was not net distribution by the team during these months.

* data from this month missing

THE MOBILE MALARIA TEAM

In 2019 the organization was able to expand its outreach with the creation of the Mobile Malaria Team. A feasibility study was done with the local leadership of Mayuge District and the island of Jaguzi was identified as the first pilot area. Through a partnership and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Mayuge District the team was allowed to educate, test, treat and provide mosquito nets to the underserved, underreached island of Jaguzi. This Mobile Team would make the hour and a half journey to the landing site on Lake Victoria, then take a 20-30-minute boat ride with all of their equipment to the island of Jaguzi. The team would set up camp, sleeping in tents, and spend Monday through Thursday testing, treating and educating the population of the island.

Education remains the most valuable tool in equipping families to fight malaria. The Mobile Malaria Team was able to educate home to home on the island providing testing, treatment when necessary and education as to the signs, symptoms and prevention strategies for malaria. Each home on the island was equipped with mosquito nets over each of the sleeping areas. A survey of the entire island was completed, and the data gathered.

Malaria Data from the Island of Jaguzi

	Patients Tested	Positive Cases	% Positive Cases	Households Educated	Total Educated
April	1,425	1018	71.44%	173	736
May	854	605	70.84%	152	379
June	932	661	70.92%	174	476
July	1,179	755	64.04%	292	580
August	837	490	58.84%	141	446
September	989	433	43.78%	358	0
TOTAL	6,216	3,962	63.31%	1,290	2,617

Almost 1,300 homes were visited by the Mobile Malaria Team on the island of Jaguzi. The malaria prevalence on the island was very high due to its location within Lake Victoria. After equipping each sleeping area with mosquito nets the team will return in 2020 to gather follow up data. This data will be analyzed to determine the impact.

After the completion of the Jaguzi Island project, the Mobile Team began working in the Igulubi area surrounding the Malaria Center. The team gathered follow up data to analyze the impact the Malaria Center has had on the local community. This data was gathered and will be analyzed in 2020.

SEVERE PATIENTS

Patients who were diagnosed by the medical team to have increased malaria parasite level or who need a level of care that exceeded that available at the Malaria Center were deemed “severe.” Patients that needed overnight care or were deemed too severe to be treated at the Healing Faith Uganda Malaria Center were taken to either *Whisper’s Magical Children’s Hospital* located in Jinja, *KAMU Medical Clinic* located in Jinja or *Kasalaba Clinic* located in MagaMaga. These patients were transported by Healing Faith Uganda staff including a Nurse and Social Worker or Outreach Team Member. Patient care was transferred to the medical staff of the receiving facility. A social worker or patient advocate insured the care givers for the patient were settled and had everything needed while the patient received treatment. The following morning a nurse checks in on the patient to insure improvement is being seen. In 2019, Healing Faith saw 248 severe cases. The team identified multiple patients who arrived at the Malaria Center in severe condition, many of those patients would have succumbed to the malaria and had it not been for the quick intervention and recognition of the severity of the situation by the medical team.

Patients that were diagnosed with a severe case of malaria, patients who were repeat visitors to the Malaria Center or those patients who came from a community with a high concentration of malaria cases received follow up care within their home.

A follow up team dispatched from the Malaria Center, consisting of medical personnel, a Social Worker and Outreach Team Member was sent to the patient’s home. This follow-up allowed the nurses and medical team to insure the patient was improving medically, was compliant with medication and there were no secondary complications. It allowed the Social Work team to follow up with the primary care giver to make sure all questions were answered regarding malaria, that the patient was being adequately cared for and to check external factors within the home and surrounding area to prevent further malaria transmission. It also allowed the Outreach Team Member to provide the patient and care giver were mentally, physically and emotionally support.

OVERALL IMPACT

2019 was a record setting year for Healing Faith Uganda in terms of patients seen. The overall impact of the programs of the organization are listed below. This year the programs of Healing Faith Uganda tested 16,232 patients for malaria. Of those patients 10,694, 66%, tested positive for malaria and received treatment. The teams educated 7,746 households and educated 9,268 individuals as to the signs, symptoms, treatment and prevention strategies related to malaria. Our teams distributed and hung 7,211 long lasting insecticide treated mosquito nets insuring that 8,807 people are now sleeping safely under nets.

THE STAFF

Healing Faith currently employs 26 Ugandan Nationals in a full-time capacity. 2019 saw a decrease in Western Staff while promoting our Ugandan staff. The position of Medical and Education Manager, previously held by a Western Staff member was re-designated and a Ugandan National promoted into the new position of *Medical Coordinator*. This was a decrease in Western Staff dependency, while advancing and promoting the Ugandan staff. 2019 also saw the growth and expansion of the Ugandan staff members totaling 26 full time positions. This is an overall increase in staff from 2018 which is due to the expansion of programs and increase in operations. Since 2015, Healing Faith Uganda's operations have grown from 2 part time Ugandan staff members in 2015 to a total operation of 30 full time employees.

The 2019 Healing Faith Staff includes:

- Medical Clinical Officer (2)
- Medical Coordinator
- Registered Nurse
- Enrolled Nurse (4)
- Nurse
- Nurse/Midwife
- Nursing Assistant
- Social Worker (2)
- Outreach Coordinator
- Outreach Team Member (2)
- Area Coordinator
- Executive Director/Founder
- Director
- Human Resource Manager
- Secretary
- Media & Daily Operation Manager
- 9 Support Staff

HEALING FAITH UGANDA IN ACTION



Island of Jaguzi located in the Maygwe District









2019 Staff

Photo credit: Bob Ditty

A LOOK AHEAD TO 2020

In 2020 Healing Faith Uganda plans to begin construction on Malaria Center II, which will be located in the Jinja District, Budondo sub-county, village of Bucose. This will serve a larger area and a larger population than the Malaria Center I which is located in the Mayuge District. This new Center will expand the outreach and overall impact of Healing Faith Uganda in the fight against malaria. In addition to the physical expansion, Healing Faith Uganda will be expanding the Ugandan National Staff, its education program and follow up data to better determine the impact of the organization's programs.

Healing Faith Uganda's dedicated staff are working to fight malaria in Uganda one net, one family, one day at a time. With proper education, prevention, and feasible access to malaria testing and treatment, we believe there **will** be a day where families in Uganda will no longer lose their children and family members to malaria!

2019 Annual Report
Prepared by:



Robert Jason Segner
Director
Healing Faith Uganda