

2020

# HEALING FAITH UGANDA

ANNUAL REPORT



**HEALING**  
FAITH

# INTRODUCTION

Malaria is a mosquito-borne infectious disease, caused by a protozoan parasite infecting the body due to a mosquito bite. When an infected mosquito bites a human, it can introduce the parasite from its saliva into the person’s blood. Malaria is widespread throughout tropical and subtropical regions of the world, and Africa carries a disproportionately high share of the global malaria burden, both in terms of total malaria cases and malaria deaths.

In 2018, an estimated 228 million cases of malaria occurred worldwide. Most malaria cases in 2018 were in the World Health Organization (WHO) African Region accounting for 213 million cases equating to 93%. In 2018, there were an estimated 405,000 deaths from malaria globally. Children aged under 5 years are the most vulnerable group affected by malaria. In 2018, they accounted for 67% (272 000) of all malaria deaths worldwide.

Healing Faith Uganda continues to work in the Mayuge District where the malaria burden continues to be high due to the proximity to Lake Victoria. As with previous years, education continues to be the focal point of the Healing Faith Uganda model. The goal is to ensure that each patient and household that comes to the Malaria Center receives education regarding the signs, symptoms, prevention strategies and medication regimen regarding malaria.

Healing Faith has been able to provide stable, full time employment, including health benefits to 25 Ugandan Nationals in 2020.

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

2020 was another record setting year regarding overall attendance and patients seen at the Malaria Center. Over eighteen thousand (18,000) patients were tested for malaria at the Healing Faith Malaria Center this year alone. This is an increase from ten thousand (10,000) patients in 2019. Several factors contributed to this increase. One, the rainy season in Uganda has been extended. This has led to a prolonged and fertile breeding season for the mosquitoes. This has led to ideal conditions for the mosquito population to thrive which in turn led to more cases of malaria. The second factor is increased word of mouth. With the World experiencing shutdowns and cutbacks due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, many local clinics or government hospitals were either understaffed, under supplied or closed completely. The Malaria Center is known locally as a place that always has staff present and always has testing and treatment supplies in stock. The sphere of influence of the Malaria Center has increased exponentially and people are traveling from further and further distances to reach the Center.

The Malaria Center is staffed with eight (8) medical personnel; a Medical Clinical Officer, Laboratory Technician, Medical Manager and five (5) Nurses. In addition to medical needs of the patient there are staff members on hand to meet the educational needs of both the patient and the family members that brought the patient into the Malaria Center. In addition to the medical needs of the patients, education remains a focal point for each patient. In addition, the support staff on duty help to maintain smooth daily operations.



## MALARIA CENTER PATIENT DATA 2020

| Month             | Patients Tested | Positive Cases | % Positive Cases | Households Educated | Total People Educated |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| January           | 1,236           | 761            | 61.57%           | 777                 | 830                   |
| February          | 1,089           | 641            | 58.85%           | 711                 | 689                   |
| March             | 1,278           | 782            | 61.19%           | 847                 | 822                   |
| April             | 562             | 446            | 79.36%           | 331                 | 371                   |
| May               | 1,337           | 1059           | 79.21%           | 780                 | 881                   |
| June              | 1,648           | 1273           | 77.25%           | 926                 | 1,103                 |
| July              | 1,835           | 1355           | 72.77%           | 986                 | 1,188                 |
| August            | 1,795           | 1383           | 75.42%           | 1,043               | 1,139                 |
| September         | 1,651           | 1197           | 72.50%           | 902                 | 1,024                 |
| October           | 1,800           | 1323           | 73.50%           | 1,008               | 1,176                 |
| November          | 1,966           | 1508           | 76.70%           | 1,223               | 1,248                 |
| December          | 1,867           | 1405           | 75.25%           | 1,105               | 1,119                 |
| <b>2020 TOTAL</b> | <b>18,064</b>   | <b>13,133</b>  | <b>70.31%</b>    | <b>10,639</b>       | <b>11,592</b>         |

The number of patients seen in 2020 at the Malaria Center increased as the year progressed. November was the highest month on record to date. April was a low month due to the COVID 19 Pandemic and the subsequent Governmental shutdowns, those will be discussed later in the report. The upward trend of patients seen each month is expected to carry over into 2021.



A major at-risk population for malaria is pregnant mothers. Mothers experiencing malaria during pregnancy are at risk for preterm labor, low birth weight or in worst case scenarios death of the fetus. Due to the increased number of expecting mothers attending the Malaria Center, Healing Faith has an Enrolled Midwife/Nurse on staff. Annette is not only able to treat the expecting mothers but is also able to educate them regarding the dangers of malaria during pregnancy.

| Month             | Pregnant Patients Tested | Positive Cases | % Positive Cases |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| January           | 21                       | 10             | 47.62%           |
| February          | 15                       | 5              | 33.33%           |
| March             | 23                       | 10             | 43.48%           |
| April             | 13                       | 10             | 76.92%           |
| May               | 40                       | 32             | 80.00%           |
| June              | 26                       | 17             | 65.38%           |
| July              | 30                       | 21             | 70.00%           |
| August            | 36                       | 28             | 77.78%           |
| September         | 26                       | 23             | 88.46%           |
| October           | 27                       | 19             | 70.37%           |
| November          | 18                       | 11             | 61.11%           |
| December          | 10                       | 6              | 60%              |
| <b>2020 TOTAL</b> | <b>285</b>               | <b>192</b>     | <b>62.50%</b>    |





*Annette meeting with expectant mothers*

## SEVERE PATIENTS

With the addition of the laboratory, staffed by a Licensed Laboratory Technician, a new strand of malaria was identified within the community last year. *Plasmodium Malaria* was identified and treated within a small population of the community. By adding microscopy to the testing process, the severity of the malaria case is able to be quantified and treated accordingly. If a patient is identified as Positive ++3 or ++4 for malaria, they are deemed severe. Throughout the course of the year four hundred sixty-three severe patients were identified and treated.

When the patient is deemed too severe to be treated at the Malaria Center or those requiring a blood transfusion they are labeled as a “referral case” and taken to Jinja. These patients are stabilized by the medical staff at the Malaria Center, then transported by and attended to by Healing Faith medical team including a Nurse, Outreach Team Member and a Driver. 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. Patients requiring blood are taken to the nearest facility with blood available. Patient care is transferred to the receiving facility. In 2020 the Healing Faith Malaria Center saw 52 such referral cases. Many of those patients would have succumbed to the malaria had it not been for the early recognition, diagnosis, stabilization and transport by the medical team.

| Month             | Severe Patients | Referral Patients |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| January           | 4               | 4                 |
| February          | 7               | 6                 |
| March             | 11              | 11                |
| April             | 6               | 3                 |
| May               | 14              | 4                 |
| June              | 20              | 1                 |
| July              | 29              | 2                 |
| August            | 34              | 4                 |
| September         | 76              | 0                 |
| October           | 73              | 6                 |
| November          | 113             | 4                 |
| December          | 76              | 7                 |
| <b>2020 TOTAL</b> | <b>463</b>      | <b>52</b>         |



## COVID-19 IMPACT

Uganda, like the rest of the World was greatly impacted by the COVID 19 Pandemic. To contain the spread of the virus the Government of Uganda implemented lockdown measures. These included closure of all International borders, shutdown of all transportation networks including personal vehicles, motorcycles, busses and taxis. A curfew as put into place and gathering of large amount of people was prohibited. This severely impacted the programs of Healing Faith Uganda.

During the month of April, the Malaria Center was forced to close down for a two week period due to these restrictions. A special permit was required from the Government that would allow the Malaria Center to re-open. In addition, a permit was required for the Medical staff to operate a vehicle to transport the essential medical staff only to the Malaria Center. This permit was required to be renewed every three days. After a two-week shutdown the doors were allowed to re-open, however strict COVID 19 protocols has to be put into place. Only essential medical personnel were allowed to travel by vehicle to the Malaria Center. A personnel evaluation was put in place by the management team and five (5) lower risk medical staff were identified to operate the Malaria Center. Two of our female medical personnel were deemed high risk due to being pregnant and remained at home during the lockdown. While many NGOs within the area were forced to shutdown completely have prolonged closures, Healing Faith Uganda was able to gain the necessary permits to re-open after only a two (2) week closure.

Two of our Programs, The Mobile Malaria Team and Net Distribution Team were forced to shut down operation due to the Governmental restrictions put into place. Before the shutdown occurred 285 nets were distributed to a local NGO to help with their vulnerable population. The Mobile Malaria Team, which previously traveled to hard-to-reach populations on the islands within Lake Victoria was forced to shut down as well. To this date the Government restrictions have prohibited these activities from resuming. Healing Faith Uganda is in communication and collaboration with the Government of Uganda in hopes of resuming these programs when the restrictions are loosened or removed.

The subsequent restrictions led to having to cutback within the organization as non-medical personnel were not allowed to travel to the Center. Two Social Workers, Outreach Coordinator and a Driver position were lost due to the cutbacks brought on by the Government Restrictions.

## THE STAFF

The 2020 Healing Faith is comprised of twenty-five (25) full time Ugandan Nationals and two (2) part time Ugandan Nationals. In January 2020 Healing Faith created a new position of *Program Manager*. This position oversees and manages all aspect of the Healing Faith Uganda Programs and oversees all non-medical staff members. This position was filled by a Ugandan National, Mr. Kenneth Nandala, who has been an excellent addition to the organization. In addition, a Ugandan National was promoted within the organization to serve as the *Human Resource Coordinator*. Miss Nairuba Esther, was promoted from Secretary into the new position as *Human Resource Coordinator*. This position was previously held by a foreign national. Again, this year Healing Faith Uganda has decreased its dependence on Foreign National staff members and hired or promoted Ugandan Nationals.

The 2020 Healing Faith Staff Includes:

- Program Manager
- Medical Coordinator
- Medical Clinical Officer (2)
- Lab Technician
- Registered Nurse
- Enrolled Nurse (4)
- Nurse
- Nurse/Midwife
- Outreach Team Members (2)
- Area Coordinator
- Director
- Human Resource Coordinator
- Support Staff (8)



## 2020 IMPACT

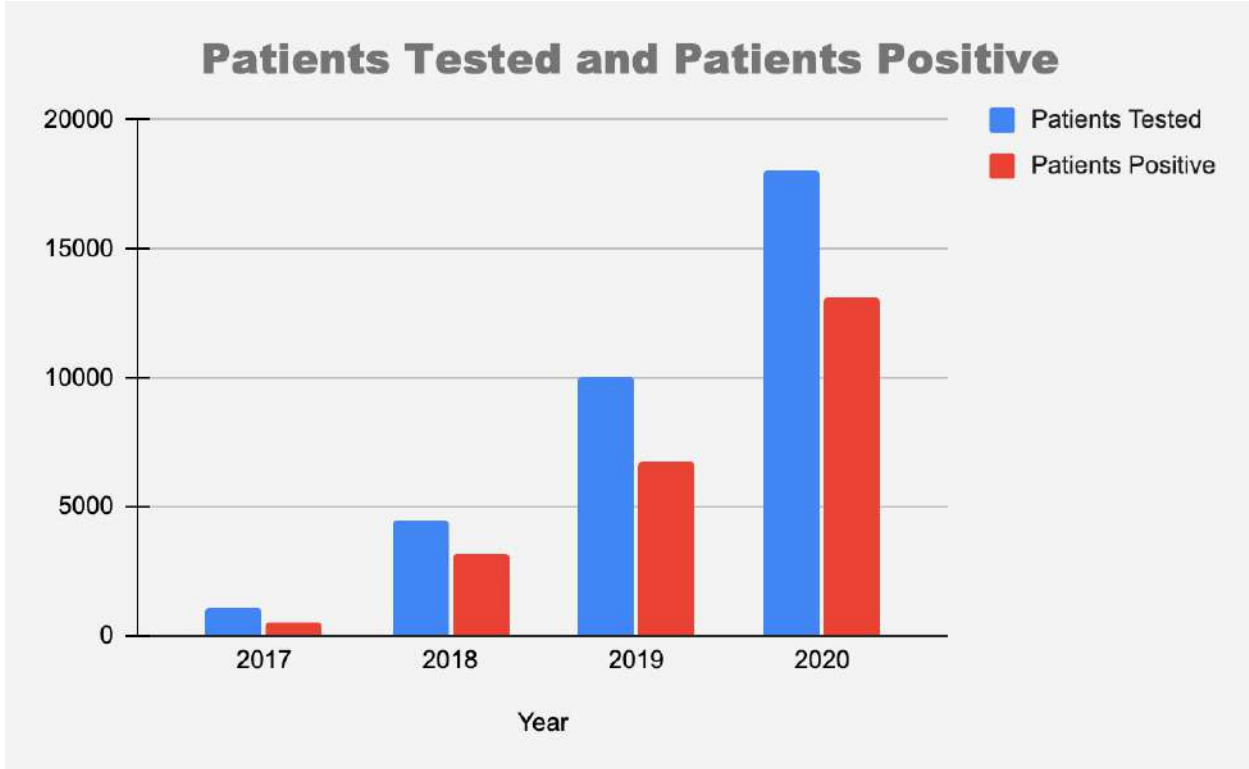
Despite the challenges faced by Healing Faith Uganda and the World as a whole, 2020 was another record setting year in terms of patients. The Malaria Center tested eighteen thousand sixty four (18,064) patients for malaria with over seventy (70%) of those patients testing positive and receiving treatment. The team educated ten thousand six hundred and thirty nine (10,639) households. Eleven thousand five hundred and ninety two (11,592) individuals above five (5) years of age were educated as to the signs, symptoms, treatment and prevention strategies for malaria.



# HISORICAL DATA

Since opening the Malaria Center doors in the summer of 2017 Healing Faith Uganda has tested over thirty-three thousand patients for malaria.

| Healing Faith Uganda: Historical Malaria Center Data |                 |                   |               |                     |                                 |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Year   | Patients Tested | Patients Positive | % Positive    | Households Educated | Individuals Educated (>5 years) |
| 2017   | 1,076           | 520               | 48.33%        |                     |                                 |
| 2018   | 4,458           | 3,157             | 70.44%        | 4,203               | 9,049                           |
| 2019   | 10,016          | 6,732             | 68.04%        | 6,810               | 6,370                           |
| 2020   | 18,064          | 13,133            | 72.70%        | 10,639              | 11,592                          |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  | <b>33,614</b>   | <b>23,542</b>     | <b>64.88%</b> | <b>21,652</b>       | <b>27,011</b>                   |



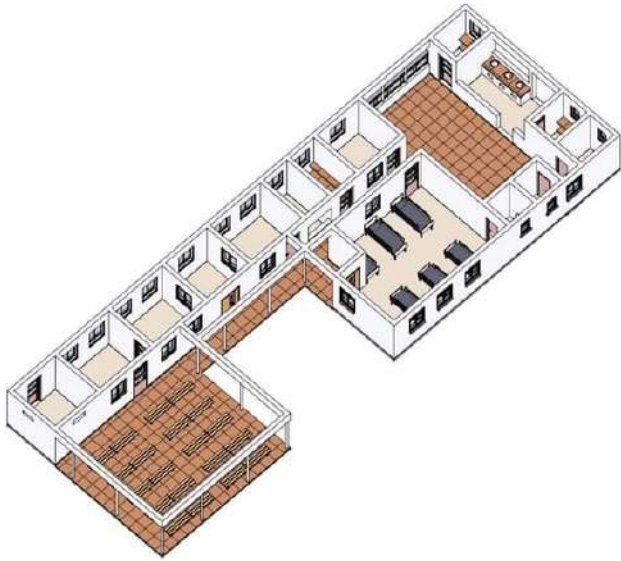
## A LOOK AHEAD TO 2021

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic construction on Malaria Center II was no able to begin in late 2020 as planned. With reduced restrictions from the Government revolving around COVI 19, construction planning is moving forward. The new Center will be located within the Jinja District. Malaria Center II will be located near the Nile River within a more densely populated area. This will allow Healing Faith to reach an underserved and larger population. This will not only benefit the at-risk community but will provide jobs for Ugandan National both during the construction process and the long-term operation of the Center itself.



*Land Purchased for Malaria Center II 1*

# Malaria Center II



HEALING FAITH UGANDA IN ACTION



Healing Faith Uganda is dedicated in the fight against malaria one net, one family, one day at a time. Will proper education, prevention and feasible access to malaria testing and treatment, we as an organization believe there will be a day where families in Uganda will no longer lose family members to malaria.

2020 Annual Report  
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