

Global Health Administration Partners



Program Overview

I arrived at Ilula Lutheran Hospital on August 12, 2006, excited to meet Alam, the administrator. I was going to spend the whole day with him, getting a first hand view of the challenges of being an administrator in a small, rural, mission hospital in Tanzania.

I was met at the hospital compound gate by Faith, the head nurse.

“So sorry, Alam is not here.

Last night, Dr. Sabo performed an emergency c-section. We used a suture you brought yesterday but we were without a foley catheter for the patient. So I am sending Alam to Dar es Salaam to procure that one. Today, if you please, you conduct the inventory of supplies you brought. And there is a c-section for you to observe this morning.”

What is Global Health Administration Partners?

Global Health Administration Partners (GHAP) is a program of Global Health Ministries. Global Health Ministries (GHM) provides a gift of life, through Lutheran health care work across the world by providing project financial support, locating and shipping urgently needed medical supplies, recruiting health care personnel, and funding the training of health care givers.

What is GHAP's purpose and vision?

GHAP's purpose is to partner with faith-based health facilities across the world to create effective administration at those facilities.

GHAP's vision is to build a worldwide network of health administrators dedicated to creating, supporting and maintaining sustainable faith-based health facilities. GHAP intends to establish or enhance long-term relationships with faith-based health facilities to improve those facilities' long-term ability to provide health care to their communities.

Disappointed, I set to work with 4 Minnesota nurses unpacking and inventorying the remaining supplies we had brought.

Why was GHAP formed?

Faith-based health facilities provide much needed health care to medically underserved areas of the world. In many such situations, physicians, nurses and church officials are expected to perform the health administration functions—without the benefit of health administration training or supporting infrastructure. These facilities often struggle financially; their chance of survival will be enhanced by implementing professional health management and leadership practices. A well-run health facility increases the ability to provide excellent health care services.



Mid-morning, Faith ran into the store room, “Hurry, the c-section is ready. Dr. Sabo is quick.” When we arrived, the doctor was putting on his

What does GHAP provide?

GHAP will assess the current state of administration and provide appropriate infrastructure development, tools and training for the client health facilities. Assistance will be in areas such as the following: governance, leadership and leadership development, strategic planning, efficiency, process improvement, tools (including paper and computer), and programmatic development for enhanced financial viability.

How do potential clients work with GHAP?

In keeping with GHM's policy, GHAP will work by invitation only from the leaders of overseas health care programs and will focus services in the areas defined by them. A request for assistance is sent to Cindy Wilke, Director of GHAP, at cindy.GHAP@yahoo.com. Either a hospital (Client) or Church leadership may inquire about assistance. That request is the first step in a five-stage process: initial inquiry, initial information gathering, on-site assessment, consulting

gown and gloves while the naked, frightened young woman stared at us. We could see the scar from a previous c-section bulging across her belly.



The doctor began the surgery and quickly cut his way to the baby. He handed a limp, quiet boy to a nurse who put him in a bassinets. Back home, he would have been rushed to NICU.

I did get 30 minutes with Alam on Monday. He did what he could—he was not trained as a hospital administrator. What if Alam could get formal training? What if there could be an accurate inventory count? These were administrative questions and there were many more.

Later that day, we presented the emergency c-section mother with a newborn hat and t-shirt. The baby boy we had watched being born was fine.

Stories like this are repeated every day in thousands of small, rural hospitals around the world. To bring health care administration expertise to these situations, Global Health Ministries

and evaluation. At each stage, the Client, Church and GHAP must agree, in writing, to proceed to the next stage. Participating in one stage does not obligate any organization to continue to the next stage.

Throughout GHAP's work with the Client, one person (Partner) will be dedicated to each Client. The Partner will communicate regularly with both the Client and GHAP and will accompany all on-site work.

How can I help?

GHAP is looking for many types of volunteers. Feel free to contact GHAP to learn about these opportunities and to suggest other opportunities.

1. Prayer Sustainer. Prayer Sustainers will be matched with a Client. Prayer Sustainers will be provided updates on the status of their Client and asked to pray for that Client and its leaders.

2. Health Administrator. General and subject-matter experts will serve on the Assessment and Consulting Teams. In these roles, the health

*has launched a new program—
Global Health Administration Partners.
We will work with each hospital to
solve its administrative challenges*

administrator will participate with the Partner and other Team members to assess the Client's needs and priorities, develop recommendations, and implement them as appropriate and agreed upon with the Client. On-site involvement will likely be in the range of 2-4 weeks over a 6 to 12 month time period. Culture-specific training will be provided to the recruits.

3. Specialist Volunteer. Some Specialist Volunteer positions have been identified: grant writers; writers and graphic artists to develop marketing and other materials; and database developers and maintenance specialists. If you have a specialty that you think we could use, please contact us.

4. Financial Supporter. Financial Supporters provide funds for general administration, short-term travel to the Client and implementing specific recommendations (e.g., \$4,000 to send local administrator to graduate school for an advanced degree, \$1,000 to purchase and install hardware and software for an electronic inventory system, etc.).

by training local administrators, suggesting new ways for the hospitals to make money and recommending more effective leadership models.

5. Partner. A Partner will establish and maintain a long-term (3-5 year) relationship with the Client, Client's Church and GHAP. This will involve periodic Client site visits, e-mail and/or phone support as needed with the Client and the Client's Church; prayer support; cultural guidance to the consultant team during the assessment and implementation stages; and periodic communication with GHAP.

Moreover, we will ensure that no one will have to take an all-day bus ride to get a foley catheter for an emergency c-section.



How do I contact GHAP?

Cindy Wilke

Director of GHAP

cindy.GHAP@yahoo.com

Read updates and more stories at

www.GHAPartners.org

For more information on GHM visit

www.ghm.org

Global Health Ministries

7831 Hickory Street NE

Minneapolis, MN 55432-2500



Brochure sponsored by

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Maple Grove, Minnesota

Design services provided by Benson Design, Inc.

Printing services provided by Visions, Inc.

*Photographs courtesy of Lord of Life Spiritual Safari
and World Servants, Inc.*