

Friends of CME Trust

registered charity number: 1104119

www.friendsofcme.org

Introduction to CME, the Christian Medical Centre, in the North-Eastern Province of DR Congo:

40 years of work was seriously disrupted in 2002 when the Christian Medical Centre ('CME') in Nyankunde was caught up in a long-running war (which has claimed 4.5 million lives) and was attacked. Following dispersion to Beni and Bunia, CME is seeking to rebuild, on not just the original one but now three sites

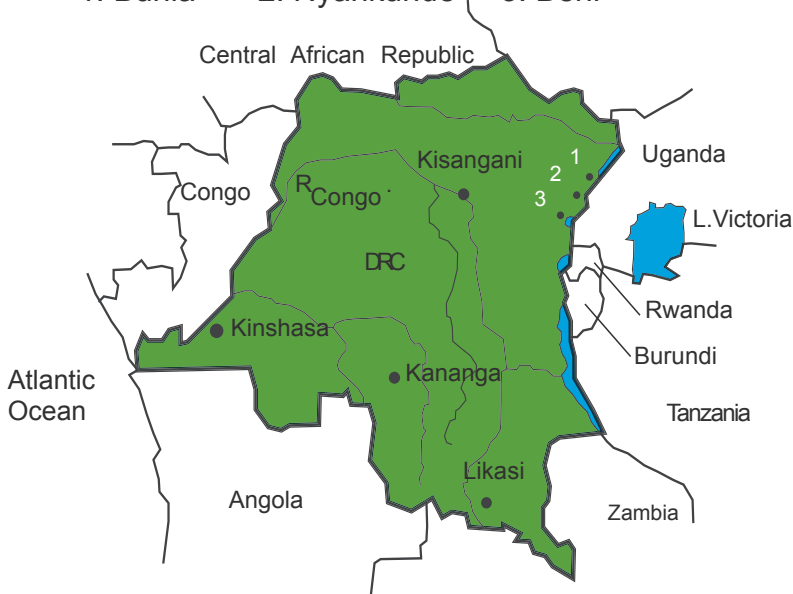
Established in June 2004, the UK based charity, **Friends of CME Trust**, focuses its support on the medical and educational work of CME.

The needs are vast, the resources are few, yet comparatively little can have a significant impact on the lives of many, and can help relieve sickness and poverty in this north-eastern region of the Democratic Republic of Congo

The latest venture to join the list of services provided by CME is the setting up of **Physiotherapy Departments** at both Nyankunde (Chris Phillips) and Bunia (Wendy McAlistair).

Location of Bunia, Nyankunde, and Beni

1. Bunia
2. Nyankunde
3. Beni



DRC location in Africa

40 Years of Medical Care

In the centre of Africa, sits Nyankunde, a small village near the eastern border of the DRC (formerly Zaire). In 1966, CME (*Centre Médical Évangélique* or the *Christian Medical Centre*) was set up in Nyankunde by five local churches. For nearly 40 years, CME served an immediate population of 150,000 and supported medical services (a medical training school, a pharmacy, and specialist hospital treatment) in an area the size of France, with an estimated population of 8 million!

By 2002 CME employed 350 staff, had 250 hospital beds, saw 2000 outpatients a month, performed 250 operations a month, distributed medicines to numerous outlying dispensaries and, further still, ran a nursing school with 120 students and a university with 100 students.

Conflict and Destruction

In 1996, war started in the north-east of the country and since that time, much fighting and bloodshed has taken place. Over 10 African countries have been involved and old tribal conflicts have been inflamed. Most estimates put the number of deaths resulting directly and indirectly from the war in excess of 4.5 million. 2.5 million people were displaced. Since 2003, United Nations troops have been deployed in various towns to try to bring peace and stability.

Massacre

On September 5th 2002, CME, which for the most part had been un-touched directly by the wars, was attacked. Within half an hour, 1000 people were murdered including patients, hospital staff and villagers. After days being held hostage at Nyankunde, the remaining patients and staff fled on foot. Most travelled south, walking for two weeks through the rain forest with nothing but the clothes that they were wearing. Mercifully, no more died and 4 babies were born en route! Nyankunde became a 'ghost-town' and the medical centre was looted and largely destroyed.



University students at
Bunia in 2008



Derelict Pharmacy at CME
Nyankunde in 2002

Rebuilding CME

Most of the people eventually settled in the town of Beni, 150 km south of Nyankunde.

Other CME staff eventually settled in Bunia to the east, where a hospital has been established in a new building, and is now well staffed with Doctors and Nurses.

At Nyankunde there are now 65 beds and there were over 15,000 outpatient consultations in 2006. Approximately 240 operations are being performed each month.

The Nursing School has restarted in Beni and Nyankunde, with 105 students enrolled. The facilities are basic and student accommodation is poor. In addition, 238 University level students were enrolled at Bunia in 2006.

New Venture: The Physio Project at CME



Chris Phillips
going to Nyankunde

In autumn 2008 Chris Phillips (UK) and Wendy McAlister (Canada) hope to help set up Physio Departments at both Nyankunde and Bunia, and also to help to teach about Physiotherapy in the Medical and Nursing Schools at CME. Chris also has a particular interest in Leprosy work and hopes to help people affected by Leprosy in the more remote areas.



Wendy McAlister
going to Bunia

Chris has mostly worked as a Physio in UK, but has also worked in Africa with The Leprosy Mission, most recently in 2007 at Bukavu DR Congo. Wendy comes from Canada and has also worked as a Physio in Congo, and in West Africa with Mercy Ships. They met briefly in 2005 in Congo, but neither thought then that they would be returning to work at CME in the future. They will both need to teach in French, and talk to patients in Swahili.

----- ✂
If you would like to support the work and running costs of the Physio Project at CME, please carefully read the slip below and overleaf, filling in, deleting, and ticking where appropriate.

I would like to support the work of Friends of CME Trust by;

- * 1. Giving a donation of £_____ to be used in the setting up of the Physio Departments.
- * 2. Giving a single / monthly donation towards the support of
 - * a. Chris at Nyankunde and / or
 - * b. Wendy at Bunia
- * 3. I enclose a cheque for £_____ made payable to "Friends of CME Trust"
- * 4. I have made a bank transfer to "Friends of CME Trust" on this date ____/____/____
- * 5. I wish to give regularly, please send me / I have completed a Standing Order Form

* Delete where not applicable.

Four steps on how to make a donation to 'Friends of CME Trust'

Step 1.

Pay by cheque to "Friends of CME Trust", or by bank transfer to: "Friends of CME Trust", National Westminster Bank plc, Account No : 34512004, Sort Code : 60-12-45

Step 2.

Can you supplement your gift by Gift Aid? We can recover tax on your gift if you pay UK tax which increases the gift's value by 28%.

Step 3.

If you would like your donation to be counted as a gift towards the work or support of either Chris or Wendy please tick box 2 overleaf.

Step 4.

Please read the note below and sign the Gift Aid declaration. Send the reply slip to:

Chris Almond at 295 Hillgrounds Rd, Kempston, Bedfordshire, MK42 8TH, UK.

NOTE: For us to claim Gift Aid you must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year. (currently 28p for every £1 that you give).

You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the charity. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax that the charity reclaims you can cancel your declaration. If you pay tax at the higher rate, you can claim further tax relief in your self assessment tax return. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for gift aid tax relief, ask the charity or ask your local tax office for leaflet IR 65.

Please notify the Charity if you change your name or address.

The Charity has no operating costs so ALL your gift will go to the Physio Project at CME



GIFT AID DECLARATION

Friends of CME Trust, Charity no: 1104119 Inland Revenue reference: XR79313

www.friendsofcme.org

Title.....Forename.....Surname.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode.....

I want the charity to treat as Gift Aid Donations (* delete where not applicable):

* The enclosed donation of £ _____

* All donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise

Signed..... Date...../...../.....