

Dear friends,

Three weeks ago I (Katherine) was a warehouse receiving supervisor classifying 435 boxes of medical supplies by hospital. Then I became a “hard nosed” broker, negotiating the transport of those cartons to places so difficult to reach few truckers dare to go. Last week I personally accompanied an 800 lb air freight load to a mission because no trucks would go there. Over the last three weeks I’ve been processing greatly needed White Cross medical supplies for our 11 Baptist hospitals in Congo; your gifts and handiwork that bring an enormous blessing to some of the world’s neediest people.

White Cross, (for our new readers), is medical supplies, generously donated by American Baptist Women through International Ministries. This year the supplies arrived in a twelve-ton container packed with boxes of bed sheets, sterile gloves, cotton, gauze, plastic sheeting, nursing uniforms, operating gowns, baby blankets, infant shirts, and rolled bandages destined to hospitals scattered over an area the size of Pennsylvania and New York States. My job is seeing they get there.



In the maternity in Kintambo, a mother dresses her newborn with an infant shirt and swaddles him in a blanket.

Were these items donated or made by a woman in your church? You have touched the heart of Congo with love.

IM Missionary Wendy Bernhard, on a retreat circuit with a team of pastors and evangelists this summer, told of coming upon some young men pushing a bicycle “ambulance” through heavy sand.

Their passenger, a pregnant woman in shock after two days of bleeding. Her life hung in the balance. Their hope

was in the competence of the staff at the Sala hospital. God spared the woman’s life through Dr. Miché and White Cross, though God welcomed her child back to heaven that day. Thanks to supplies you sent, he and his staff had gloves, masks, operating gowns and other materials hard to buy when few patients can afford to pay.



The woman whose life was saved with your help.

I count it a privilege to arrange for the distribution of the White Cross supplies each year. You have the privilege of sending them. Dr. Bofili called after the delivery of their materials saying, “Please express sincere gratitude from the staff at the Hospital in Kipata Katika to all those who generously contribute to the gift of White Cross.” I also thank you.

In kindness and service, seen and unseen, God’s purposes are accomplished, and where God’s people work, nothing will be the same again.

Katherine Niles  
Democratic Republic of Congo  
September 2009



International Ministries, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851