

St. John Paul II MaterCare Maternity Hospital First Born turns 4!



In 2013, St. John Paul II MaterCare Maternity Hospital opened. Within 24 hours, Eric was born! Eric just turned 4 and returned to the hospital for a checkup. Eric's mother serves as a board member of the hospital.

Year in Numbers

The Kenyan government under President Uhuru Kenyatta, promised, in 2013, free maternity services for mothers. This was to be done through NHIF (National Health Insurance Fund), "Mama Linda" Program.

MaterCare applied for NHIF accreditation for the hospital in 2013, was inspected and was given an overwhelming endorsement. The hospital was accepted for the Mama Linda Program.

St. John Paul II Maternity Hospital Number of Deliveries

June 2017

Normal Deliveries	159
Caesarean Sections	37
Total	196

July 2017

Normal Deliveries	229
Caesarean Sections	31
Total	260



MaterCare International is an organization of Catholic health professionals dedicated to the care of mothers and babies, both born and unborn, through new initiatives of service, training, research, and advocacy, which are designed to reduce the tragically high rates of maternal mortality, morbidity, and abortion.

MaterCare's mission is to serve the Culture of Life where it is most at risk- in those crisis areas and 'hotspots' where mothers and their children are neglected or abandoned outright.

MCI is registered in Canada, Poland, the United States, and Australia.

MCI is the Obstetrical Arm of the World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations (FIAMC). MCI is an NGO with ECOSOC consultative status of the Department of Public Information of the United Nations (UN).

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"The sun should not rise or set twice on a labouring woman" —African proverb

Project Isiolo

MCI's Model of Rural Essential Obstetrics for Isiolo, Kenya



St. John Paul II Maternity Hospital

Updated August 2017

A PROJECT FOR ESSENTIAL MATERNITY CARE SERVICES IN ISIOLO, KENYA

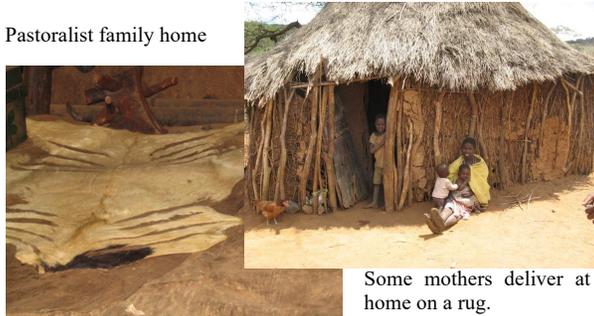
Background

The County of Isiolo is located in the centre of Kenya extending north and eastward towards the Ethiopian and Somali borders. The climate is hot and dry for most of the year, with a short rainy season. However, the rainfall is unreliable and crop growing is limited; thus, there are frequent famines and pronounced food



insecurity. The roads are poor and are sparsely populated between major towns. Merti and outlying villages have approximately 180,000 people with only 1 midwife serving the whole area. From the town of Isiolo, Merti is 178 kms but takes 5 hours in a reliable 4X4 truck.

Pastoralist family home



Some mothers deliver at home on a rug.

The Church provides 40% of healthcare in Kenya. The Vicariate of Isiolo covers the same area as the County of Isiolo, sub-divided into 12 parishes.

Each parish has a dispensary but they need renovations to bring them up to minimal standards. Neither the Church nor the Kenyan Ministry of Health

have the funds for the equipment, supplies, and much needed staff.



In 2005, MCI was approached by late Bishop Luigi Locati to assess the state of maternal health in Isiolo and see what it could do to help

save mother's lives. MCI developed a Rural Essential Maternity Care project to work in partnership with the Apostolic Vicariate.

Purpose: To provide level 2 obstetrical services, which will include normal care during pregnancy and delivery, and treatment of most obstetric and medical complications.

Situation: Maternal and infant mortality rates are extremely high. AIDS, severe anemia, malaria, haemorrhage and obstructed labour are the main causes of death. Most births take place in villages with untrained Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs).

Project Isiolo- Construction Update 2017

1. Construction of the laundry and kitchen was completed in 2017 and is fully operational.



2. The security wall around the entire hospital compound, which covers approximately 660 meters was completed in late 2016.



3. Continuing to train midwives and TBAs in basic maternal care and be able to identify high-risk pregnancies for early referral to the hospital where they can be closely monitored.



St. John Paul II MaterCare Maternity Hospital immediate needs

- Hospital salaries
\$200 000 USD/year
- Completion of the basement of laundry and kitchen which will include offices, stores and conference /training room
\$45 000 USD
- Outpatient/administration building
To free up space in hospital to convert offices into wards.
\$350 000 USD
- New 4X4 Landcruiser. A good reliable 4X4 for the rough roads=emergency life saving transport.
\$85,000 USD

Monsignor Luigi Locati summarized the Isiolo district as being "unique" because of its nomadic population, the severity of the climate, the poverty, poor roads, poor communication, and isolation. These have resulted in neglect on the part of the authorities and most non-governmental organizations. (NGOs)