

TOO MANY CHILDREN DIE OF UNCURED MALFORMATIONS IN DR CONGO: NGO CHAÎNE DE L'ESPOIR GETS MOBILIZED



NGO Chaîne de l'Espoir, Belgium:

- Has been working with developing countries since 1997;
- Aims at treating children affected by malformations that cannot be treated in their country of origin.

Twofold strategy:

- => Treat the affected children in Europe;
- => Train and assist local medical teams to carry out operations autonomously (through medico-surgical missions, provision of equipment and refitting of infrastructures).

The association functions with voluntary doctors and paramedical teams as well as administrative volunteers, who are assisted by a full-time coordinator.

Nearly half a million children aged less than 5 years die each year in DRC.

25.000 deaths are directly caused by congenital malformations. A great majority of them could however be cured with appropriate medical acts or surgery.

In Kinshasa, 7.500 new-borns are affected by malformations, including 2.500 cardiac.

Hardly 5% of them consult a doctor, who won't be equipped to provide adequate treatment.

In many cases, these malformations also cause disabilities leading to social, educational and professional exclusion, as well as permanent financial expenses for the families.

How to treat these malformations?

- o These malformations require specific and complex medico surgical operations;
- o The same applies to postnatal malformations caused by traumatism and infections.

Today, malformations cannot be looked after in DR Congo for several reasons: - lack of 'appropriate' health care infrastructures;
- not considered as a priority in current health programmes.



NGO Chaîne de l'Espoir, Belgium commits to help these children.

NGO Chaîne de l'Espoir joins forces with ABEO Foundation.

Together, they are developing a global and durable programme in order to treat malformations.

- In partnership with local partners:
 - Chaîne de l'Espoir, DR Congo (medical NGO)
 - Espoir de Vie, Lisanga Iya Elykia (civil NGO)
- In partnership with Ngaliema Clinic and with the support of the University Clinics of Kinshasa (public hospitals);
- Involving several Health Centers in Kinshasa (diagnosis, sensitizing);
- In synergy with other NGOs whose actions are complementary to the programme objectives.



Our needs:

Cost of the project: € 2.500.000

Support from institutional financial backers (Belgian Cooperation and European Union) with the obligation to constitute private contribution of 20%.

Current projects:

- ◇ Yearly medico-surgical missions since 2003 in Ngaliema Clinic, in partnership with local teams;
- ◇ Refitting of a pavilion including 1 operating rooms, a catheterization room and an intensive care unit;
- ◇ Development of a long term programme to create a center of paediatric surgery, in close collaboration with Congolese authorities
- ◇ Training of a Congolese paediatrician in cardiology during 2 years in Belgium (2005-2007)

Your donation will cover:

- part of the cost related to missions of voluntary medical teams;
 - purchase of medical equipment;
 - training of local teams;
 - financial costs of the children's operations;
 - refitting of a pavilion of the Ngaliema Clinic, Kinshasa.
- The next surgery mission will take place in early 2007; the refitting of the block is planned for 2007.

The lack of health care deserves as much interest, attention and financial support as other well known and widespread diseases (malaria, malnutrition...).

Thank you for helping NGO Chaîne de l'Espoir in this project.

Account number "Chaîne de l'Espoir Project in DR Congo": cpt CBC 732-0323232-79

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