

'...helping to bring hope to the people of the democratic republic of congo.'



friends of cme trust

charity number: 1104119

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August 2023

Dear friends,

Thank you for your support and interest in the work of Centre Medical Evangelique (CME) in the DRC. It is much appreciated.

Medical work:

The 3 CME hospitals cared for 80,000 patients in 2022, with 31,000 consultations, 11,000 hospitalisations, and 30,000 receiving primary health care. 9,400 people were operated upon. CME provides 403 beds in total over the 3 sites shown below: Bunia 117, Beni/Sose 114 and Nyankunde 172.



The pictures below show the corridor between the wards at Nyankunde, the children's ward and two children in that ward. We send funds to CME to help pay the medical costs of the poorest of the patients to try to ensure CME maintains its goal of not turning anyone away. With our support, 136 patients at Nyankunde and 110 at Beni/Sose received financial help across all ages and sexes. Sadly, due to increased terrorist attacks in the Beni area, the hospital at Sose, located in a village outside Beni, is currently closed and CME has been forced to move its work into Beni town centre. On the other hand, improved security at Nyankunde has meant many more people, staff and patients returning.



Elections and insecurity:

As mentioned last letter, the north-eastern part of the DRC, where CME functions, is still very insecure through the activities of the terrorist group, ADF. A recent attack on a Ugandan school by the ADF hit UK news. On a national level, tensions are mounting as presidential elections are planned for Dec 2023. For those of you who pray, please remember these difficult challenges for the country and CME staff.



Children's work:

Nyankunde: We were able to support another 141 orphans at Nyankunde who took their final school exams recently at a cost of £2,000. This photo on the left shows some of children in class.

Beni and Oicha: We are really pleased that we have been able to fund the full £42,000 cost of providing the schooling and food for 317 orphaned children in the program. Thank you again to those of you who've been able to help with this. The schools have recently finished for the year and the payment of school fees and distribution of food has gone well (below right). We recently received a 5-minute video of the program that you can watch here (see July 2023: Orphan Project Update box):

<https://www.friendsofcme.org/index.php>



We are also delighted that a Christian Trust has agreed to continue their support of this work for the next school year by providing £20,000. This will be a great kick-start to the expected £41,000 costs. In addition, our dear friend, Dennis Tailor, is cycling over 700 miles to Paris and back to raise funds for this work. If you'd like to sponsor him, please use the details below:

ODELL PARIS
PARIS ODELL
Sept 2023

Dennis is fundraising!

A cycle journey of 714 miles from Odell to Paris and back.

Hey folks it's that time again! So after running around North Beds last year (7 marathons in 7 days) it's time to get the bike out again!

So this year's fundraising challenge is a cycle ride from Odell (Bedfordshire) to Paris (Saint-Denis/Notre-Dame) and back to Odell a journey of 714 miles along the Avenue Verte which begins at the London Eye.

My aim is to raise £10,000 for Friends of CME Trust and Rett UK I would be very grateful for any support you are able to give thank you.

Follow it live:
www.facebook.com/dennisfundraising

Donate via
www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/OdellParisOdell

All proceeds to:



Charity number 1104119



To help support another year of the orphan programme near Oicha, which has been running since 2018, this year we have 300+ children, who have had their school fees paid, their uniforms and materials provided, along with a daily family meal. They also receive trauma counselling to help with the loss of their parents, often murdered in front of them by militia.

One third of the proceeds will go to another UK charity, Rett UK, which supports children with a rare genetic neurological disability. Rett UK is the only charity that provides this kind of support.

Accounts to 31 March 2023:

Our latest accounts have been Independently Examined and are available on our website:

<https://www.friendsofcme.org/accounts.php>

We are very grateful to those who gave towards our total of just over £65,000 last year.

Thank you for your interest and support for the people of DRC. With our deep gratitude,

The Trustees,

Dr. Justin Burdon, Chris Heard, Hannah Morrell, Chris Almond, Dr.Remy Toko