

GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN MISSION

Project Proposal A Van for Saint Francis Hospital



Community medical outreach camp

**Kasarani, Nakuru
Kenya**

Overview

The Little Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi is an indigenous Congregation founded in 1932 by Irish missionary, Mother Mary Kevin. The Order was first started in Uganda, and has spread to Tanzania and Kenya, tending to the poor and the needy that they are called to love and serve, through apostolate ministry, such as education; healthcare, including managing hospitals and dispensaries; catechetical work; and social services, including caring for street children, single mothers, the aged, people with disabilities, and orphans.

In Kenya, **LSOSF**, now a population of over 700, is a blessing to the poor through the St. Francis Community Hospital, a Level 5 teaching and referral healthcare facility, located in Kasarani county.

The 150-bed hospital was established in 2009, and is the second largest faith-based healthcare facility in East Africa. On average, the hospital staff of **230** serves **106,555** patients annually from poor communities within the East Africa region.

The greatest challenge the hospital faces is the inability of patients to pay their medical bills, especially from cash payers, who account for 60% of the total number of patients served. Currently, the hospital is in arrears for \$US1,631,608 owed by patients who have been treated and have not been able to pay their medical bills.

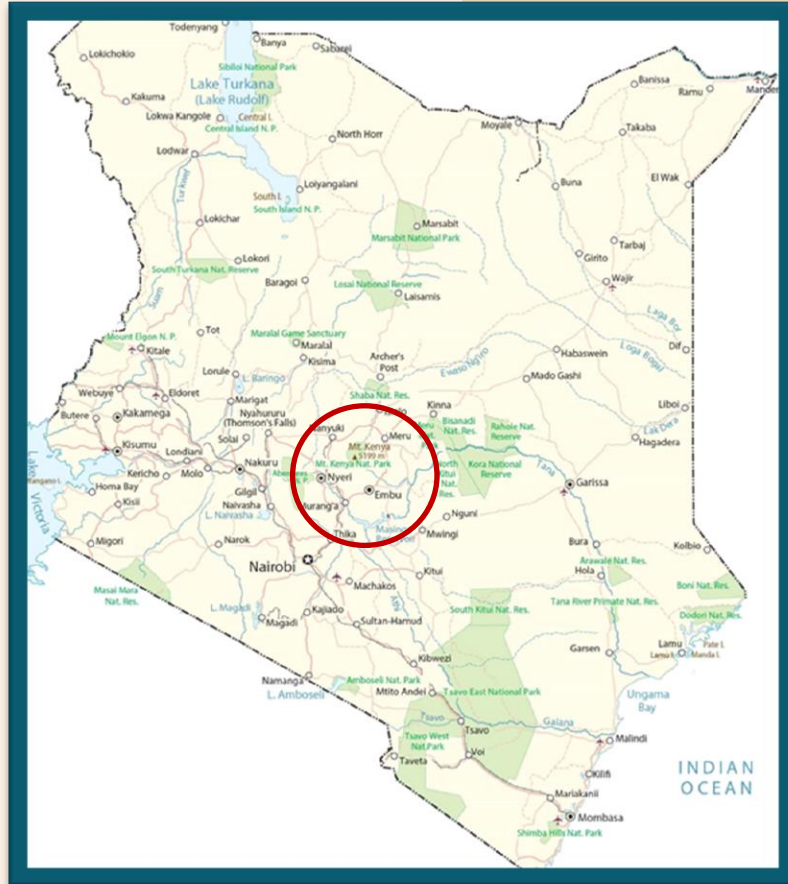
Under the government's social health insurance fund, the National health Insurance Fund, the hospital is entitled to compensation for these services; however, this has not been forthcoming, despite several appeals. St. Francis Hospital, a Catholic faith-based hospital, is driven by value for life and the less privileged members of society, and as such continues to treat every patient, regardless of their ability to pay for their medical services.

The **Little Sisters** are not confined to rendering service at St. Francis. Teams of 20 – 35 Sisters frequently go out into the rural and slum areas to provide social support initiatives. When necessary, they also have to purchase general supplies for use in the hospital, including drugs, food, stationery, and linen. On these occasions, they are often forced to rely on an ambulance, because the hospital van is old and spends many days in the shop for maintenance.

Every month, groups of 12 – 15 **Little Sisters** in the Convent follow the scriptures and attend recollection, prayers or retreat, and do not have reliable transportation for these events.

***“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”*** Matthew 11:28-30

Where They Are



Coordinates: 1.2254° S, 36.8976° E



Medical outreach camp during the nationwide doctors' strike

Project Snapshot

Global Humanitarian Mission, as a Christian organization, enacts the Corporal Works of Mercy to those we serve. As such, we recognize the enormous burden Little Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi are carrying in order to fulfill their charism of bringing newness and fullness of Christ's life in their corner of the world.

A Van For Saint Francis Hospital project is being established so that the **Little Sisters of Saint Francis** can properly serve the poor in the slums of Kenya.

The Sisters will use the van, such as the one pictured below, to reach those in dire need living in remote and underserved communities. The 18-seater will be used to comfortably transport medical staff and students to other facilities and medical outreach camps. It can also be adjusted to deliver lifesaving equipment and supplies, and conduct triage, which is critical.



TOTAL COST: \$57,399.60

*"May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us;
Establish the work of our hands for us - yes, establish the work of our hands" Psalm 90:17*

From Global Humanitarian Mission

*The sick from the slums of Kasarani, Kenya need you.
Little Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi need you!*

In this corner of the world, life is precarious for thousands. Residents are stuck without the basic necessities to survive, let alone medical supplies and services. They have come to rely on the regular visits of the Sisters to deliver anything from food, personal items, clothing and other donated household goods, to critical medical supplies, especially in times of crisis.

Together, we can help keep them safe as they reach the unreachable!



Outreach for flood victims in the Dandora slums

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