



## Saving Lives at Birth



### The Bamalete Lutheran Hospital

The Bamalete Lutheran Hospital (BLH) is a 139 bed hospital located in Ramotswa, a village about 35 km from Botswana's capital Gaborone, in need of medical equipment.

The Rotary Club The Hague Metropolitan (RCTHM) Project, in accordance with "service above self" (Rotary's motto) will provide, through raising money, medical equipment for the maternity unit and the locations/departments that support the maternity service (see below for details).

The hospital was originally established as a Lutheran mission hospital in 1934. It receives and treats a large number of patients each year (about 111.000 patients in 2012).

The hospital deals with various medical and surgical conditions, trauma cases, pediatrics, communicable diseases especially HIV and TB as well as a rising number of non-communicable diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, and asthma. However, BLH faces financial challenges.

BLH is also known for its respected **maternity, maternal and child care**, and ear, nose, and throat (ENT) programs. In addition, BLH operates a school of **nursing training** that graduates approximately 50 midwives each semester.

BLH focuses on **providing comprehensive healthcare for the less privileged section of the population.**

Despite its long years of operation and relatively good reputation, the hospital is experiencing challenges that can be best addressed through significant infrastructure upgrades. The priority areas of the hospital for improvement include the maternity unit that requires more space and equipment, the three operating theatres (where the air-conditioning systems have failed), and the central sterile supply department that requires modern autoclaves and sterilization equipment.

This equipment is necessary to maintain and even improve the quality of maternity services provided to the community. Very old and outdated equipment is still in use, and obsolete or malfunctioning equipment will be replaced as part of this project. RCTHM will ensure that the new equipment that is supplied still has very good operational efficiency and is easy to maintain with readily available supplies of spare parts.



## The partners

The **Gaborone Rotary Club** is starting a big project to raise funds to procure Medical Equipment to the hospital. This big project is being funded up to **\$70.000**.



The **RCTHM** has also committed to participate in this project, raising a minimum of **€6.000** to buy hospital trolleys that will be used in the maternity unit as well as in other services of the hospital. Additional funds will be used for either further equipment or training support.

The **RCTHM** is one of the four English speaking Rotary Clubs in the Netherlands and was founded in 1990. The club contributes regularly to **international projects**, makes donations to the **ShelterBox Program** (providing emergency shelter and vital supplies around the world in response to disasters and humanitarian crisis) and is also involved in **local projects** (such as organising outings for elderly people from The Hague and for children with learning and behavioural problems from a shelter near Rotterdam).

## The fund-raising event: a Gala dinner on June 11<sup>th</sup>

On June 11<sup>th</sup>, RCTHM will host a Gala dinner at the Crowne Plaza Hotel (Van Stolkweg 1, 2585 JL The Hague).

During that **festive evening**, the introductory speech will be given by the Ambassador of the Republic of Botswana. The Botswana traditional dance (borankana) and music will be presented. A raffle and an auction will also take place. **Professor Rijk van Dijk** from the African Studies Centre of Leiden University will give a talk after dinner.

This fund-raising event is organised with the **full support of the Botswana Embassy** in Brussels. The gala will be attended by Rotarians, diplomats and businessmen.

## Sponsorship levels

**Become a sponsor.** You can support this project by becoming a sponsor.

**Platinum sponsor** (€1.000: 4 tickets for the Gala dinner, citation during the introductory speech, possibility to advertise at the dinner, logo).

**Gold sponsor** (€500: 2 tickets for the Gala dinner, possibility to advertise at the dinner, logo).

**Silver sponsor** (€250: 1 ticket for the Gala dinner, logo).

Provide us with **suitable items** for the raffle and the auction (such as flight tickets, dinner vouchers, art pieces, African artefacts...).

**Register for the Gala dinner** (€70/person) ([www.rcthm.org](http://www.rcthm.org))

**For more information**, please contact us at [ic2016@rcthm.org](mailto:ic2016@rcthm.org)