

# **MURAHO MUSINGS**

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## **RUN FOR THE ONE**

On Saturday, May 21st, 10 HHOA dental team members and 23 friends and community members gathered for the 2nd annual Run for the One. They ran almost the entire 10 km (6.2 miles) route together, steps in sync and shouting Rwandan running chants to encourage one another. Over 75 community members were waiting to greet and cheer them on at the finish line.

Thank you to everyone who participated and donated towards the Run for the One! With your support, HHOA not only met our fundraising goal of \$50k, but we exceeded it with a final total of \$57,236! God is faithful - He has generously provided more than we could have ever imagined!

**RECAP VIDEO** 

One of the ways God provided this year was through one of our sponsors Belle and Joshua Park. God multiplied their faithfulness and generosity, and through those efforts, helped HHOA exceed our fundraising goal. But don't take it from us, listen to this wonderful story from Belle and Joshua themselves!



"At first, I wasn't sure if I wanted to share about our donation, but I prayed about it and saw how God multiplied what we gave as He did with the little boy's two fishes and five loaves of bread. It's the "Prime the Pump" effect. Last month it was very difficult for my business to spare a big amount of money. When the Board Secretary, Caroline, called me about giving toward the Run for the One, I said I needed more time. However, Caroline mentioned I could write a check for a later date. After receiving a few calls, I thought it was a sign from God, and I wrote a check with faith that it would be filled. Like the woman who broke the jewel jar, I closed my one personal bank account.

After two weeks passed, someone gave my husband a check for the same amount of money as my donation to HHOA. It was a sign to me that God wanted to bless HHOA because their ministry was good and pleasing to Him. We shared the Run for the One with this person and asked him to write a check to HHOA instead. Joshua and I were so happy that more people could be involved in sowing the seed of this ministry.

I was thinking.....I should've waited. Money was coming.....BUT, No! It was the "Prime the Pump" effect God wanted us to see. In the old days in Korea, there were pumps in every house, and water would not come until you poured a jar of water through the pump. By sacrificing some water, endless water would come and fill the place. Our God is the God who multiplies! He wants to see our little sacrifice and double the work!

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to experience the joy of giving and be part of the sowing. Joshua and I can't wait to visit Rwanda and see how God multiplies the harvest."

Joshua and Belle Park (Etude Salon)



# DR. TOM'S CORNER

## Greetings!

I spent a day at my first continuing education seminar in Rwanda. Even after 32 years of practice, I feel there is much more for me to learn.

A team from the US came to speak on "Essential Principles for Management of Facial Injuries." This was a great session as I see many more patients at our clinic who need treatment for facial trauma, mostly from motorcycle and bicycle accidents. This is because many here depend on these modes of transportation.





Dr. Alex and I went together, and it was another fine first for HHOA.

I continue to work three days (M, W, TH) at the clinic, training the dental team. Teaching these young dental surgeons and seeing them grow before my eyes has been an amazing and gratifying experience.

As I seek to create sustainability in the clinic, I've faced many challenges which at times have been discouraging. As inspirational speaker Simon Sinek says: "Creating something new is easy. Creating something that can last is the challenge." Yes, creating something that can last is a challenge, and when I become discouraged, God speaks His words which fill up my heavy heart and encourages me.

- "...start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in." Hebrews 12:2-3 (Message)
- "...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

  Phillippians 1:6

Thank you again for your prayer, commitment, and support which also encourage us daily. Lita and I are forever grateful.

In Him, Thomas

#### **OUTREACH TO THE COMMUNITY**



The Nyamata dental team performed oral screening for the children at Vineyard Christian School on March 11th celebrating World Oral Health Day. Our team returned to the clinic on Saturday, March 19th to tend to some of the children who had an urgent need for treatment.

The team treated 49 children with 31 fillings and 41 extractions. We played games with the children while they waited. It was our first outreach, and we were blessed as richly as the children we served.







# **HHOA RWANDA TEAM MEETING**

On April 2nd we held a team meeting with every member participating. We have five dental surgeons and one dental student only a few weeks away from finishing his final year. In addition, we have a dental assistant and receptionist. This was the first meeting in nearly 10 months (COVID restrictions, travel to the US, etc.). The entire day we discussed HHOA – it's past, present, and future were exciting topics as we outlined what we envision for HHOA in the next few years. An important priority was to clearly define what these professionals are signing up for when they join HHOA's dental team.





We spoke of expectations and responsibilities and the blessings of HHOA such as training, job opportunities, going on missions, and networking with dentists from around the world.





# FIRST ANNUAL HHOA RWANDA TEAM RETREAT

We had our first team retreat at a retreat center on the shore of Lake Kivu from April 29-May 1. The theme of the treat was "Transformation." Our entire team spent a weekend together to strengthen our unity, share the vision and mission of HHOA, pray and dream together and train for the upcoming Run For the One. These are truly exciting times!



We are finally able to gather together with the improving COVID situation here in Rwanda. We are seeing our team grow in unity and purpose and witnessing the fruits of all our work and prayers.



#### A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is an honor to serve as the Chairman of the Board of His Hands on Africa. Thank you for your support of Tom and Lita and the Mission of HHOA. It is a privilege to be a part of helping others in Rwanda, and our efforts would not be possible without each one of you.

This coming October, I will be celebrating my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, and more than ever, I am focused on wanting my life to make a difference. We have a unique opportunity to present the Gospel while meeting the very tangible need for dental care. We are offering not only an oral solution to infection and decay but a spiritual one as well. Scripture says, "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself." Please be assured that the goal of HHOA is to reach as many people as possible with the Hope of the Gospel. And oh, how our world needs the love of God to manage the difficulties of our day!

I think we all share in the admiration of Tom and Lita, and I want you to know that the Board will do everything we can to ensure that every gift will be used carefully and responsibly to aid them in this God-given calling. It's an exciting privilege to partner with the two of them. They truly have made an amazing sacrifice and are examples to all of us. Thank you for your generosity and friendship. We are making a difference in people's lives, and it's very obvious that God is in this in an amazing way.

Sincerely,

Ron Regenstreif

Chairman

His Hands on Africa

