The visiting team from Chain of Hope returned to Uganda to provide training and skills transfer to the Ugandan pediatric cardiac surgical and aftercare team. Chain of Hope has been mentoring the Ugandan medical team for the past two years.

A big THANK YOU to Gift of Life Rotary District 7490 for sponsoring this training visit to save these precious lives.
The Gift of Life program of Rotary District 7490 partnered for the second year in a row with Chain of Hope to conduct a training visit to the Uganda Heart Institute (UHI). This training visit provided surgery to 12 children while at the same time continued the ongoing empowerment program administered by Gift of Life International.

Over the past 2 years, 17 such training visits have taken place. These visits have enabled the Ugandan team to obtain essential skills while continuously improving their ability to care for their own children. The Gift of Life 7490 has become an essential partner in the efforts to develop a sustainable pediatric cardiac surgery and aftercare program at UHI. Their efforts in Uganda are an extension of the important work they have been doing for years in countries such as Ecuador, Honduras and Vietnam. Not only has the Gift of Life 7490 sponsored medical missions to emerging countries but they have sponsored surgeries for hundreds of children in the United States. The Gift of Life 7490 is one of the pre-eminent Gift of Life programs in the world.
Chain of Hope is a gift of Life International Global Strategic Partner and one of the most highly-respected organizations in the world that provides care to children suffering from congenital heart defects. Over the years they have developed experienced training teams to support their efforts to create sustainable pediatric cardiac surgery programs in Mozambique, Jamaica and Aswan. Chain of Hope has now partnered with Gift of Life International in Uganda since 2012.

Led by Professor Vibeke Hjortdal, Chain of Hope joins the team of caring organizations that have worked in Uganda for the past 2 years to ensure that the Ugandan surgical and aftercare teams have the training, equipment and supplies necessary to reliably and sustainably treat their children. Over the past 2 years, Chain of Hope has partnered with Rotary International, Gift of Life 7490, Gift of Life 6560, Riley Hospital for Children, Children’s National Medical Center, Dr. Craig Sable, Gift of Life 5340, numerous Rotary Clubs in Uganda, Rotary District 9200, Gift of Life Uganda and Gift of Life International to develop a world-class pediatric cardiac surgery and aftercare program at UHI.
This life-saving surgical mission would not have been possible without the kindness, generosity and dedication of many individuals and organizations from Uganda and the United States.

A special thank you to The Chain of Hope Team for providing training to the Ugandan team and for donating supplies. We thank you for sharing your knowledge and for helping to enhance the skills of the Ugandan team. A heartfelt thanks to team leaders Dr. Vibeke Hjortdal and Executive Director Emma Scanlan for all your efforts in coordinating logistics for your team and helping to make this training visit a success. Thank you to Mission Coordinator Irene E. Toledo for her efforts to ensure a smooth and efficient training visit.

We extend another big thank you to Gift of Life Rotary District 7490 for sponsoring this medical training visit. Your commitment to the development of a sustainable pediatric cardiac surgery and aftercare program in Uganda is greatly appreciated and is a wonderful example of how the global network of Gift of Life and Rotary work together to save children’s lives and empower healthcare professionals around the world to care for their own children.

A very special thank you to Grace Agwaru of Gift of Life International and the Kampala North Rotary Club for ensuring the logistics of the mission were coordinated. Your dedication to Uganda and your support for the ‘Our Hearts are in Uganda’ program have been greatly appreciated.

Gift of Life International would like to give thanks to the entire nursing staff, residents, social workers, technical staff and everyone at the Uganda Heart Institute for their assistance in making this mission a success.
Thank you Chain of Hope for giving of your time and sharing your skills with the pediatric cardiac surgery and aftercare team at the Uganda Heart Institute. We appreciate your commitment over the past two years to empower Ugandans to care for Ugandans and to provide them with the training to enhance their skills which is now enabling them to care for the children in their own country afflicted with heart disease. Furthermore, the supplies, medications and equipment you have donated have not only saved the lives of many children but have also given the Ugandan pediatric cardiac team the opportunity to operate on a reliable basis.
The Chain of Hope visiting pediatric cardiac medical team:

Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgeon: Professor Vibeke Hjortdal  
Anesthetist: Dr. Gaving Wright  
Perfusionist: Inderaj Bilkho  
Intensivist: Dr. Intikhab Zafurallah  
Scrub Nurse: Jackie O'Neill  
ICU Nurses: Katie Smith, Jo Petheram, Georgios Georgovasilis, Habiba Desai, Hafsa Desai, Jessica Thomas  
Executive Director: Emma Scanlan  
Mission Coordinator: Irene E. Toledo

The Uganda Heart Institute pediatric cardiac medical team from Mulago Hospital:

Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgeons: Dr. John Omagino (Director), Dr. Tom Mwambu, Dr. Michael Oketcho  
Pediatric Cardiologists: Dr. Peter Lwabi, Dr. Sulaiman Lubega, Dr. Aliku Twalibu (resident)  
Adult Cardiologists: Dr. Nyakoojo-Abwoli, Dr. Sebatta Elias, Dr. Okello Emmy (resident)  
Perfusionists: Dr. Muraa Pascalina  
Anesthesiologist: Dr. Cephas Mijumbi, Dr. Ejoku Joseph  
ICT Technician: Enoch Kibalizi  
Scrub Nurses: Munduru Gertrude, Obwin John, Oyang Ben  
ICU Nursing Team: Among Grace, Arach Joyce, Ayikoru Leila, Ayaa Kate, Komugabe Penninah, Musoke Leticia, Mwima Rachael, Nakisige Monica, Namanda Cissy, Munduru Jane F., Nabulya Edith, Nalubega Madina, Nalule Grace, Berna Namayanja, Namuli Flavia, Namukwaya Harriet, Nawakonyi Susan, Nyakakye Catherine, Byabakama Margaret, Samalie Kitoleeko, Ann Oketayote, Sendege Aley  
Physiotherapist: Egwayu Nancy  
Procurement Officer: Okwaro Edward  
Secretary/Assistant Coordinator: Anne Bukenya  
Biomedical: Milad Nashat (engineer), Robert Malungu (technician)  
Pharmacy: Afidra Philip  
Head of Laboratory: Kebba John  
Records Officer: Jaika Patrick  
Stores: Ngobi Bob, Birungi Suzan

As in every training visit, the UHI professional staff was matched with members of the visiting team to enable the transfer of skills. All health care professionals participating as the local team were UHI staff.
UGANDANS CARING FOR UGANDANS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>DIAGNOSIS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noel</td>
<td>1 year old</td>
<td>VSD Closure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorcus</td>
<td>11 years old</td>
<td>VSD Closure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papius</td>
<td>12 years old</td>
<td>Tetrology of Fallot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aisha</td>
<td>7 years old</td>
<td>VSD Closure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immaculate</td>
<td>3 years old</td>
<td>VSD Closure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julian</td>
<td>4 years old</td>
<td>VSD Closure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret</td>
<td>3 years old</td>
<td>Tetrology of Fallot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elvis</td>
<td>13 years old</td>
<td>VSD Closure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melisa</td>
<td>1 year old</td>
<td>VSD Closure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cindy</td>
<td>3 years old</td>
<td>PDA Ligation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloria</td>
<td>1 year old</td>
<td>PDA Ligation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missa</td>
<td>24 years old</td>
<td>VSD Closure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We are deeply saddened by the loss of Noel. Our prayers are with his family as they mourn the loss of their precious child.

CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE

In Loving Memory

Margaret

Cindy

Julian

Gloria

Aisha

Melisa

Papius

Elvis

Immaculate

Missa

Noel
On behalf of these happy parents and healthy children, we wish to thank Gift of Life Rotary District 7490, Chain of Hope and all the wonderful staff and medical professionals at the Uganda Heart Institute for turning despair to hope. Thank you for giving these children a second chance at life and for relieving the parent’s stress of the daily fight to save their child’s life before it is too late.
Since its inception in 1986, the Gift of Life program in Rotary District 7490 has established a tradition of helping children from emerging countries that suffer from congenital heart defects. Over the past 3 decades, Gift of Life 7490 has provided help to nearly 1,000 children from countries as diverse as the Philippines, Uganda, El Salvador, the Ukraine, Bolivia, Jamaica, Kosova and Ecuador.

Two of Gift of Life 7490’s leaders are Ray Hough (District 7490 GOL Program Committee Chairman) and Joe Laureni (Rotary District 7490 GOL Foundation Chairman). Joe and Ray have helped to make Gift of Life 7490 one of the most successful and well-respected programs in the Gift of Life global network. Their strategy of bringing children to New Jersey for treatment and also sponsoring medical missions to developing countries has provided a great example to other programs of what the possibilities are for the future of Gift of Life. Due to the increasing lack of hospitals in the United States willing to accept children from abroad, the concept of sponsoring medical missions to countries where there are existing pediatric cardiac programs has rejuvenated the ability for Gift of Life programs to bring care to the maximum number of children per year.

Gift of Life 7490 has sponsored medical missions to Honduras, Ecuador, Vietnam and Uganda. Ray and Joe have been part of these missions, ensuring that the children and parents are provided the highest quality of care and that all their concerns are addressed. Gift of Life International is proud to have Ray and Joe and the Gift of Life 7490 as a partner in the development of a sustainable pediatric cardiac surgery and aftercare program in Uganda and we thank you for your partnership and dedication.
WWW.GIFTOFLIFEINTERNATIONAL.ORG

TURNING DESPAIR TO HOPE...
ONE HEART AT A TIME

REDEFINING CHARITY
IN UGANDA

Gift of Life is a project of founding Rotary District 7250 and participating Rotary Clubs and Districts worldwide.