



Hope Ignited Annual Report

Third Edition | November 2025



sacré cœur

by hope ignited

Dear Hope Igniters,

As I reflect on this past year, I am struck by a single, unshakable image: the laying of bricks. Each child cared for, each act of generosity, each step toward reconciliation, each moment of prayer has been another brick placed carefully, intentionally, into the foundation of a much greater work—a generational cathedral of hope.

We know that cathedrals are not built in a single lifetime. They are projects of trust and vision, born out of the conviction that future generations will find shelter, beauty, and belonging in their towering arches. In the same way, what we are building together through Hope Ignited reaches beyond our present moment. The work of 2025 has not only borne fruit in the lives we have touched this year; it has also laid groundwork for the flourishing of generations yet to come.

This cathedral of hope is taking root in the space we call Sacré Coeur. More than a name, it is a living sign of what we long for—a heart consecrated to hope and healing, a place where the gospel is not only proclaimed but embodied. Here, the story of Jesus is finding resonance in the stories of our community. We are seeing lives transformed not by abstract words but by a lived narrative of love, service, and mercy that people are beginning to weave into their own daily lives. In the following pages, you will see stories that demonstrate the impact you had on the children of Guinea. Each of these stories is a brick—small in itself, yet together part of something vast and enduring.

As we look toward 2026 and beyond, we do so with gratitude and determination. The cathedral of hope is not yet finished. But stone by stone, story by story, we are shaping a dwelling place where our community can encounter Christ and find its true home in Him.

Thank you for your faithfulness, your prayers, your generosity, and your courage. Without you, there would be no bricks to lay. With you, we are building something that will outlast us all—a witness to hope for generations.

Thank you for daring to hope with us,



Adam V. Jamison
Executive Director, Hope Ignited



“The work of 2025 has not only borne fruit in the lives we have touched this year; it has also laid groundwork for the flourishing of generations yet to come.”

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"I am the father of Aly Badara Traore, who was born with a heart problem. As a child, he couldn't keep up with his friends—he tired quickly and often had to rest. That's when I knew something was wrong and took him to the hospital, where doctors confirmed his heart disease.

Thanks to the care he received at Sacré Coeur, Aly is now healthy and full of energy. I will never forget Dr. Rachel and the entire team who helped my son heal.

Sacré Coeur is a blessing for families like ours in Guinea. They gave everything so my child could smile again, and for that, I am forever grateful."

– Father of Aly, who had heart surgery in France

Hope Ignited Dare to Hope



Vision

To embody a new narrative of HOPE that tells and shows every citizen of Guinea they are seen by God and indispensable to the work of His Kingdom.

Mission

Reshape the imagination of the people of Guinea towards God's coming Kingdom through gospel centered healthcare and capacity building programs.

Practical Embodiment



Show Up (Incarnation)

HOPE begins by showing others they have not been forgotten. We are committed to not just caring for, but being present with those we serve.



Press On (Crucifixion)

HOPE is lamenting the disappointments and difficulties of this world while courageously enduring. We will not give up until HOPE wins.



Anticipate (Resurrection)

HOPE, standing on resurrection ground, anticipates the world to come by working to align the present with God's coming future.



Turn Over (Ascension)

Sustainable transformation can only happen when locals take ownership of their own future. We are committed to providing a spark, but then stepping back and letting HOPE spread.



“Since we brought Moise to Sacré Coeur, I’ve seen amazing changes. Before, he couldn’t eat well and was so weak a breeze could knock him over. He used to cry out several times a night from seizures, but now he is calm and strong. I thank his doctors for letting God work through them to help children like Moise. Thanks be to God, and to everyone who supports this organization for bringing skilled professionals to Guinea to change children’s lives. I am deeply impressed by what I see here.”

– Uncle of Moise, who lives with epilepsy



Dear Hope Igniters,

It is always humbling to pause and remember the goodness of God and the ways He is moving through Sacré Coeur Pediatric Center. While there have been many moments of fatigue and frustration in fighting against a broken system in a very difficult place, God is gracious to show me on a regular basis His small (and big) miracles—restored health, smiling mothers, children playing again after illness, gratitude from families, grace offered by our staff to grieving parents, families being blessed by the generosity fund so that their children receive life-giving care, and our local staff thriving in deepening independence.

“...we know that we will be ready now for whatever God calls our team to next.”

Over the last year, our objective has been to solidify knowledge, perfect processes, create stability and depth in our local staff, and find an effective, but still excellent rhythm in patient care. This meant we took a small break from adding new programs and instead focused on ensuring the programs we already have are capable of not only delivering excellent care, but doing so through our local staff—in short, we wanted our core value of turning over to be front and center this year, and our local staff has certainly risen to the challenge. We are now scheduling turn over days—entire days where our local staff runs the clinic with little to no input from our international team—at least 2-3 times per month with occasional bursts of 3 days in one week to increase stamina. After intensive training opportunities, we have local physicians helping to lead all three specialty clinics (cardiology, neurology and sickle cell). Our nursing staff is highly capable of leading their various departments, ensuring safe and high quality patient care while also training nursing interns rotating through our center. And our lab and pharmacy continue to thrive and grow, providing valuable insight into how we care for our patients and guiding decision making for our team.

This year brought new learning opportunities not only for our staff but also for local medical personnel from the larger Conakry area. We sent two of our physicians for intensive training—one in neurology and one in sickle cell—to strengthen their competency and increase their confidence in caring for complex patients. We also hosted our first Sacré Coeur Medical Conference where physicians and nurses from all over Guinea came to learn



and improve their skillsets in taking care of critically ill children. Throughout the year, we had visiting medical teams from the U.S. and Europe come to Guinea with the purpose of training our team and pushing us forward in excellent pediatric care. It was certainly a year of growth and learning.

Through our intentionality in building capacity this year, we have seen huge leaps in independence and maturity amongst our staff. They are becoming capable of providing truly competent care to the kids of their community in a way that embodies the love and compassion of Christ, and we are so incredibly proud of them. Our focus on turning over is paying off and we know that we will be ready now for whatever God calls our team to next.

I pray as you read the stories and quotes in the pages that follow that you too would be encouraged by what God is doing through you and your support, and that you would continue daring to hope with us so that every citizen of Guinea might know they are seen by God and freed to be an indispensable part of His kingdom.

In hope,

Dr. Rachel Jamison

Chief Medical Officer



"I first came to Sacré Coeur with Jacqueline, who was born with a heart problem. Later we brought her big sister Angeline when she had a stroke due to her sickle cell disease. Jacqueline was finally able to get heart surgery, and Angeline is starting to walk again, and I am so content. Because of you, I can smile today. Before, I couldn't smile, but today I am happy."

– Mom of Angeline (L)

Angeline and Mariames' Stories

Chronic illness is present in every country in the world—Guinea is no exception. However, the lack of infrastructure and fragmentation of pediatric care here creates massive obstacles for families trying to care for children with chronic disease and often leaves mothers grieving over the death of their child. In the U.S., a baby born with critical congenital heart disease is often diagnosed prenatally and has a specialized team waiting on them in the delivery room to begin life-saving treatments. In Guinea, the same child will either die shortly after birth or suffer for months to years while waiting on a correct diagnosis and treatment plan. Children in well-resourced countries are diagnosed with sickle cell through standardized screening programs shortly after birth, making early treatment possible to prevent complications. We routinely diagnose children with sickle cell for the first time during adolescence or late childhood, often already with severe complications that leave them unable to walk without pain. Most children with epilepsy begin treatment after 1 or 2 seizures, allowing

them to lead relatively normal lives. In Guinea, we see so many children who are ostracized from their communities due to seizures, unable to attend school, or with neurological deficits due to prolonged seizures that go untreated.

Many of the families we serve have spent years going from clinic to clinic, spending all of their money on exams and treatments, only to find that their children continue to suffer from the same problems. While we still have a LONG way to go in providing all that is needed, Sacré Coeur is starting to fill this void for families with children suffering from chronic illnesses. We hold specialty clinics every Wednesday to ensure families can come for regular visits, have routine blood work drawn, and have a chance to not only ask their questions, but also receive feedback on how to care for their kids well. Our cardiology program has now sent over 60 children to Europe for life-saving heart surgery and follows hundreds of children with heart disease to ensure we are providing appropriate

medical management even when surgery is not possible. Our sickle cell program has over 200 children enrolled in regular follow-up visits and we have been able to start a treatment program with a medication that has been proven to minimize complications and improve longevity. Patients living with epilepsy and cerebral palsy have found a medical home through our neurology clinic where they can be treated with expert guidance through our partnerships with programs in England and the U.S.

Of course, we cannot effectively treat everyone that arrives in our clinic with chronic illness—there remain huge obstacles and challenges in Guinea. But what we can do every single time is ensure patients and their families are seen, treated with compassion, and can understand clearly the diagnosis and realistic prognosis for their condition. Sometimes, the honesty we share in love provides more relief for families than expected—the burden of fighting a winless battle is lifted and they are freed to simply enjoy their children for as long as they might have with them. It is just one way we are embodying the life of Jesus here in Guinea.



"Since she was two years old, Mariame suffered a lot because of her seizures. We looked for treatment everywhere, even with traditional healers. I sold almost everything I had to pay for treatments, but nothing stopped the seizures. My neighbors told me that my daughter was being controlled by the devil and she was outcast. But one day, one of the staff who worked at Sacré Coeur encouraged me to bring my daughter in for an exam. I came to Sacré Coeur with almost no money. The chaplain met with me, prayed for Mariame, and told me that the church would cover the cost of her EEG. After we did the EEG, they confirmed the diagnosis of epilepsy. They prescribed medication and since that time, thanks to God and to the work of Sacré Coeur, my daughter is so much better. Before we came here, I had to pull Mariame out of school because of the seizures. But today, Mariame is doing so well. She has started learning to be a seamstress. I am so happy, because she is freed. All I can do is say thank you."

– Mom of Mariame (R)





Training Opportunity Creates Future Leader

Dr. Barry has been with us at Sacré Coeur from the very beginning. He has always shown a particular interest in children suffering from sickle cell anemia—an inherited blood disorder that can cause significant morbidity and even mortality, especially in a place like Guinea where access to good care is limited. Through your support, he was able to participate in an intensive two-week training in Dakar, Senegal organized by the University of France-Senegal in collaboration with the University of Paris-Cité. Dr. Barry passed his training with honors and was invited to join an international team for regular online meetings to discuss patient cases and treatment guidelines. We hope this is only the beginning of an international collaboration with specialists in sickle cell disease all over west Africa.

“This inter-university training has allowed me to learn from great experts all over the world and I am now able to advise other doctors in their care for sickle cell patients. I want to thank everyone who made it possible for me to participate in this unique learning opportunity,” says Dr. Barry.

The number of families traveling to Sacré Coeur from near and far continues to increase as people hear about our sickle cell program and the care provided by our team. Through the sickle cell clinic, we provide regular check-ups and blood work, organize patient education sessions to teach families about the illness and how to care for their children at home, and monitor for and treat acute complications when needed. We have access to an international team of specialists that are available to give us advice on complicated cases and guidance as we expand our services. Dr. Barry is taking on more and more responsibility for this program as he grows in his own knowledge and leadership abilities—a beautiful example of how we are striving to turn over to our local colleagues.



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– Dr. Issiaga Barry



Liora's Story

Liora is a spunky 4 year old who developed an autoimmune disease called myasthenia gravis when she was two years old. With the help of neuromuscular specialists from the U.S. and Europe, our doctors at Sacré Coeur have been able to come alongside her family. We asked her parents to share her story.

Tell us about your journey with myasthenia gravis and how you ended up at Sacré Coeur.

From Liora's mom, Jeannette:

Liora's illness began in 2024. We visited every clinic in Guinea that treated eye problems, but no one could find a solution. After months of worry, we decided to seek help abroad.

Liora and her dad traveled to Senegal, and on January 1, we finally had an answer—myasthenia gravis. Doctors prescribed a month-long trial of medication, but it didn't help. They told us that was all they could offer and that we would need a neurologist.

Liora's condition worsened quickly. She struggled to speak, drooled constantly, and couldn't control her bladder. Her eyelids drooped so heavily that she had to hold them open with her fingers just to see. Watching our daughter suffer was heartbreaking. We prayed constantly, trusting that God would intervene.

Then one day, someone told us about a center in Dubreka called Sacré Coeur. That's how we met Dr. Courtney and began treatment there. What happened next felt like a miracle. The treatment worked, and little by little, our daughter began to recover. Today, she can see again. When I look at her eyes open and bright, I can't help but cry tears of joy.

What impact has Sacré Coeur had in your lives?

From Liora's dad, David:

Liora's name means "my light" in Hebrew—and when she lost her sight, it felt as though our world had gone dark. Yet we knew the Lord would not abandon us.

Sacré Coeur gave us more than medical care; they gave us hope. After each visit, we would pray together with the team. Knowing that they shared our faith and were praying with us strengthened us deeply.

I often tell my colleagues, "At this center, I feel like they love my daughter even more than I do." Their compassion has touched us profoundly. Whenever someone tells me they don't know what to do for their sick child, I say without hesitation, "Go to Sacré Coeur."

May the Lord bless this center, its doctors, and every donor who makes this healing work possible.



"I have a passion for caring for children. It is with great emotion that I share my gratitude for the training I have received this year through visiting specialists at Sacré Coeur.

The apprenticeship in pediatric neurology, in particular, has been an opportunity for me to learn the basic practical concepts in the field, which allow me to recognize the various needs and coordinate the care of children with disabilities. A big thank you to the entire team."

– Dr. Malo Nicephore Lamah



Yelikha's Story

When We Work Together

When Yelikha came to Sacré Coeur for the first time, it was difficult even for our team to hold on to hope. She couldn't open her mouth to speak, and had already spent more than ten years squeezing soft food through the cracks between teeth which sat frozen together because of her TMJ ankylosis (fusion of the jaw joints). We know that kids needing surgery in Guinea are up against huge odds, and Yelikha was no exception.

The reasons for Yelikha's longstanding problem were myriad. It all started with a serious car accident; she was admitted to one of the major university hospitals in Conakry, but ultimately her family had to take her home without the recommended jaw immobilization and treatment because they didn't have enough money. The problem worsened as her jaw healed incorrectly, and while her family sought treatment multiple times over the years, she required more complex treatment, and even those doctors that were willing to attempt treatment charged too high a price to make it possible for Yelikha's family.

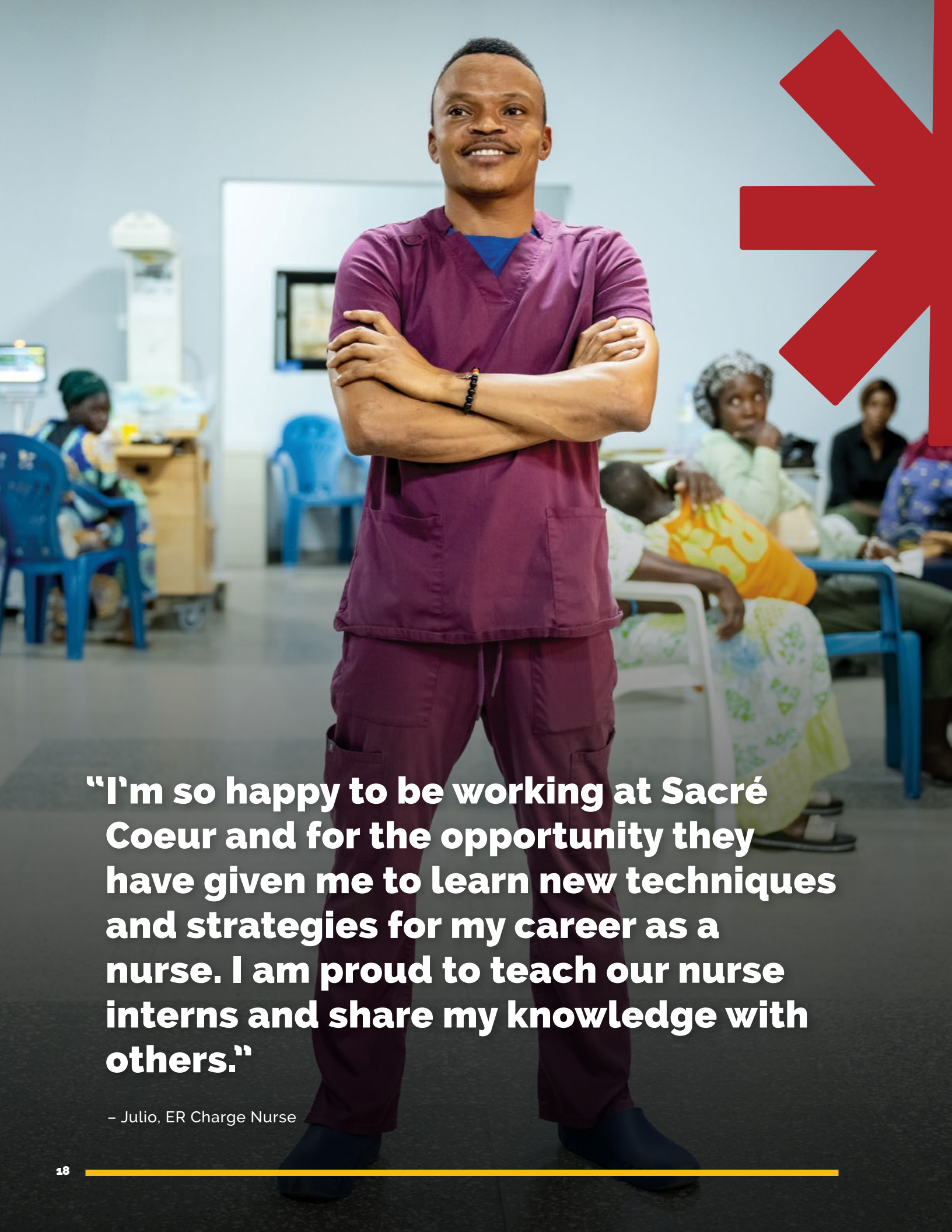
Dr. Courtney was moved by Yelikha's father's plea for help and completed an application for logistical and financial assistance through a small but wonderful international charity called Willing & Abel that sponsors travel and surgery related costs for patients in need.

Fast forward a couple months, and Yelikha was on her way to get surgery and rehabilitation at the other end of Guinea. Her successful treatment over the past year has been a beautiful story of the hope that is ignited when the body of Christ works together. Six organizations contributed their resources and expertise to make it possible for Yelikha to open her mouth to speak and eat again.

Through Hope Ignited, Yelikha and her family found an advocate for her health, treatment for her malnutrition, and coordination for her complex surgery. At Mercy Ships' dental clinic in Conakry, she was able to get the specialized x-rays needed, and Dr. Ugai provided guidance regarding the complexity of treatment needed. Willing & Abel identified a skilled maxillofacial surgeon who could do the surgery while visiting Guinea, and paid for all of Yelikha's expenses. Mission Aviation Fellowship provided subsidized flights for Yelikha and her mother from Conakry to N'zerekore, turning a grueling two-day trip in taxis into a two-hour flight. The team at Hope Medical Center, a mission hospital in the N'zerekore area, hosted Dr. Tony Giles and cared for Yelikha throughout her surgery and post-op stay. Finally, her care came full circle when she returned to Sacré Coeur for crucial follow up to ensure she was doing her jaw exercises consistently and monitor for any complications.

Because many different teams worked together to make the impossible happen, Yelikha can open her mouth to chew, talk, and even laugh today! It is easy, in the darkness, to lose sight of the flame of hope when it gets small and dim. But when we all fan the flame together, it grows bigger and brighter.





**“I’m so happy to be working at Sacré
Coeur and for the opportunity they
have given me to learn new techniques
and strategies for my career as a
nurse. I am proud to teach our nurse
interns and share my knowledge with
others.”**

– Julio, ER Charge Nurse

Becoming Teachers

“Give a person a fish, and we feed him for a day. Teach a person to fish, and we feed him for a lifetime. Share with a person the joy of helping others learn to fish, and we enable him to participate in a goodness that transcends any particular lifetime.”

- Richard B. Gunderman

The nurses at Sacré Coeur have demonstrated incredible personal and professional growth in our time together over the last three years. However, what was particularly special about this year was the growth of our nurse intern program. Internships are an important part of learning how to practice medicine with excellence, providing hands-on practice and bedside learning. At Sacré Coeur, our nurse interns have always had clear learning objectives and attainable skills for each stage of learning that guide them toward high quality care of the patient. But this year, our charge nurses took the responsibility for each new intern in order to teach and mentor them through their first months in our center.

With this additional responsibility of preceptorship, our nurse leaders have learned about supervision not only in a one-on-one setting, but also how to plan and prepare group sessions to teach other nurses a particular subject or skill. As a result, we have seen improved onboarding and knowledge sharing within our team and beyond. Skills and understanding in our new interns and nurses have developed faster since there are more teachers with a shared language, education, and work history in Guinea available for training.

But beyond the functional work of teaching, our nursing team has seen the fruits of our shared hope and hard work. In the first months of Sacré Coeur, our nurses sometimes felt discouraged by what they did not know. There was so much taught at our new pediatric center that they had never done before. But they clung to hope that they could learn even though they had never seen nurses working at this level on an interdisciplinary team.

Over the last three years, in pursuit of that hope, our nurses at Sacré Coeur have become the example. Now we see that our new nurse interns do not wrestle with the same discouragement that our team did at the start. New nurses start wide-eyed, excited, and motivated because they want to be just like our incredible nurse leaders. They don't have to imagine what is possible. They can see it!



Erin Grim, RN
Nursing Director



First Annual Sacré Coeur Medical Conference

It has always been our desire that Sacré Coeur be not only a space of hope and healing for the children of Guinea, but a place where imaginations are ignited for the entire country—a place that invites people to look beyond the challenges they see before them and dare to HOPE in a better tomorrow. This is why education, professional training, and turning over responsibility are at the heart of everything we do.

In keeping with this spirit, Sacré Coeur hosted its very FIRST medical conference this year with financial support from the World Health Organization. The conference was a huge success! We hosted 95 participants who came from every large hospital in our area including heads of departments from the two main government hospitals in Conakry and the head of pediatrics at the regional hospital in Dubreka. The theme of the conference was “Recognition and Treatment of Shock in Pediatric Patients” and we were so blessed to have a team of faculty from UT Southwestern Medical School

join us from Texas to participate in teaching sessions and lead simulation activities. Over the span of three days, we led didactic sessions, hands-on activities for learning medical procedures, and simulation sessions to put new knowledge into practice.

We are confident this is only the beginning. Huge doors were swung open between us and the public hospitals around us to allow for future collaboration and growth. Since the conference, we have seen our slide show presentations being shared amongst physician groups to encourage further learning, received videos of participants putting into practice skills they learned at the conference, and added over 30 physicians and nurses to our education group on WhatsApp to ensure we can extend our invitation for weekly medical education at Sacré Coeur. We are already gearing up for next year's conference and are excited to see how God will use this endeavor to strengthen pediatric care throughout Guinea.



New Knowledge Gained Through Research

As our local staff continue to grow in their independence, it has opened the door to other activities in the center including research. Through partnerships with international institutions, we have engaged in several research studies over the last year. It has been a great experience for our staff on all levels; they have learned about research protocols, informed consent, data collection, and analysis of results.

Dr. Joel Mortensen, head of microbiology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, has been training our laboratory staff since fall 2021. Last year, he felt the timing was right to start his first study at our center. "The laboratory team investigated the prevalence of intestinal parasites in pediatric patients at Sacré Coeur during the rainy and dry season. Stool samples were analyzed revealing that as many as 30% of children with diarrhea tested positive for protozoa, showing the burden of parasitic infections in this region." Dr. Mortensen was able to present the study at the American Society for Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. "The dream is to continue research in our laboratory and give an opportunity to our hard working staff to present future work before an international audience."

We also collaborated this year with Pasteur Institute, a prestigious international laboratory based in Paris. Samples are provided from our patients so they can perform high technology testing in their research laboratory here in Conakry, contributing to their ongoing measles and polio vaccine research projects. It has been an exceptional learning experience to work together with a renowned international research institute.

There has also been interest amongst public health and sociology experts to partner with our center for research projects. Aisata Balde, for example, studying at the Gillings School of Global Public Health, North Carolina, has been performing qualitative research in the nutrition department to identify knowledge gaps and create context-specific nutrition education. "I had a highly meaningful experience. I valued the community's culture of closeness and reciprocity, which granted deep engagement with the Sacré Coeur team and families." We also received students from Hope College in Michigan and University of Texas Southwestern who performed community outreach interviews to investigate the knowledge and common practices regarding malaria and other frequent pediatric diseases in this region. Understanding the different perceptions of disease in our community will help us create applicable strategies for prevention of malaria, typhoid fever, and malnutrition.

Lily Putgenat, medical student at University of Texas Southwestern, completed a research project in which she evaluated our radiology program over the past 2 years. It revealed the need for sustainable radiology support in this setting, which can contribute to improved quality of care for our patients and faster turnaround time for imaging studies.

Each of these research projects contributed something new to the existing data in our center and in Guinea. We hope our continued efforts and enhanced understanding will improve not only the care provided through Sacré Coeur, but also centers throughout the country.



“The dream is to continue research in our laboratory and give an opportunity to our hard working staff to present future work before an international audience.”

- Dr. Joel Mortenson



Pharmacy in Action

For the pharmacy team at Sacré Coeur, 2025 has been marked by skill and knowledge development and strategizing plans to expand our pharmacy services. We have experienced God's generosity in many practical ways, one being the provision of visiting pharmacists to Guinea. Our team's ability to expand our teaching capacity and build lasting partnerships with pharmacy personnel both in Guinea and the U.S. is a direct result of our visitors' willingness to jump into our daily workflow, freely share their knowledge and experiences, and encourage our team on the ground. They were "all in" from the moment they arrived in Guinea, and we asked them to share about their experience at Sacré Coeur.

“We were most impressed to see the interprofessional, culturally sensitive care model—a major part of the vision of Sacré Coeur.”

- Meghan Roddy Sorondo, PharmD, MPH, BCPPS
& Dayna Rommel, PharmD, BCPPS



Sara Choi, PharmD, BCPPS: My first visit to Sacré Coeur in 2023 started off as a “simple” visit to see and encourage one of my friends, Ashleigh. Little did I know that this trip would turn into a deeper care for the Guinean people, the clinic, the team at Sacré Coeur, and God’s work that was being done in Guinea. During my second visit in 2025, I was able to see the rapid developments that had occurred over the past year, especially in the pharmacy, such as their order process, medication stock, and the training of a new Guinean pharmacist and technician. The journey to Africa from the U.S. is not easy, but the things that I learn and experience every time is worth so much more. I feel that I am the one more encouraged, and I desire to share my experiences and the work being done in Guinea with my own community in hopes that Sacré Coeur can reach far more people. Onwards to my third trip!

Meghan Roddy Sorondo, PharmD, MPH, BCPPS and Dayna Rommel, PharmD, BCPPS: Visiting Sacré Coeur was an absolute dream come true for us, and we are continuously in awe of the work happening through the pediatric

center! For Meghan, there has been a call for many years to serve in Africa using the knowledge and skills gained as a pharmacist, but that never felt like a real possibility until now. She is amazed at the exceptional care being provided by the pharmacy team! For Dayna, she was most impressed to see the interprofessional, culturally sensitive care model, which we learned is a major part of the vision of Sacré Coeur. We have learned so much about what it takes to run a pharmacy in a developing nation—managing pharmacy inventory, providing education for the pharmacy and medical team, providing families with the medications and education they need, all while assisting the medical staff with emergent situations. We are greatly looking forward to returning to Guinea and continuing to develop relationships with the pharmacy team at Sacré Coeur and the community.

We can’t do this work alone and we thank God as he continues to use our supporters and the global church to bring HOPE and HEALING to Guinea and its people.

Turn Over Days

Show up. Press On. Anticipate. **TURN OVER.** For the last year, we have been turning over the clinic to our Guinean staff. Just as Jesus left the work of His kingdom in the hands of His church, we strive to give our staff opportunities to take responsibility for running the clinic from start to finish. Each month, the staff take the reins for 1-3 days—everything from registration to logistics, evaluation and treatment of patients, finance and maintenance, and filling of prescriptions is handled by our Guinean colleagues. Though we are available for guidance if needed, they have proven to be proficient at handling even the busiest days on their own.

“It’s a good feeling to be left in charge. It’s a good thing to do.”

- Dr. Malo

If you know and/or love a healthcare worker, you’ve probably heard the phrase, “See one. Do one. Teach one.” We have spent the past few years modeling the “how to” of healthcare and working alongside our Guinean colleagues as we demonstrate point-of-care proficiency. But this has not just been an opportunity for teaching; it’s become a learning opportunity for us too. While we model evidence-based best practices, we have learned from our staff what works in this challenging context and what needs re-working. We are a team at Sacré Coeur, and we value the strengths that our Guinean staff bring to the table. Now, during turn over days, we see their strengths shine as they become the leader and teacher themselves.

“Turn over days give us independence and confidence in our roles.”

- Emma, Charge Nurse

We’re still learning in this process, still growing together. As we move forward in giving our staff independence to be healthcare providers and leaders in their domain, we are also seeing areas of need and improvement—areas that we can “re-work” together, so that we can continue to grow as a team and ultimately fulfill our shared desire to provide excellent healthcare to children throughout Guinea as an embodiment of the hope we have in Christ.



Healthy Smiles, Holistic Approach

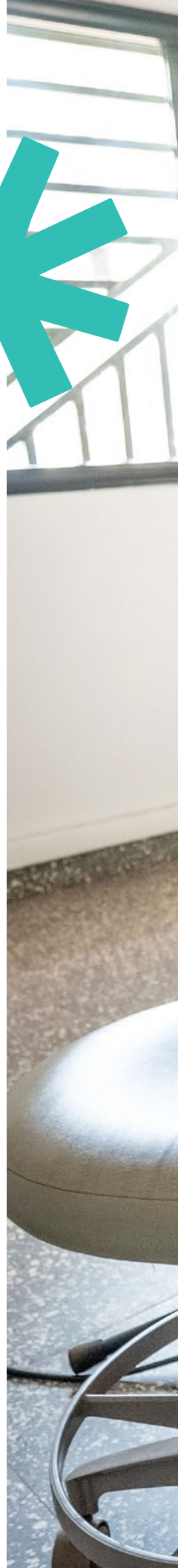
It has always been our desire to have a safe and high quality pediatric dental clinic as part of Sacré Coeur so as to offer a holistic approach to pediatric care. We have seen firsthand the effects of poor dental hygiene that lead to dental infections, cavities and tooth decay, and even malnutrition resulting from a child's refusal to eat due to severe tooth pain.

Through collaboration with Improve Foundation and Mercy Ships, we received funding and equipment to open a 3-chair dental clinic complete with X-ray and sterilization. We have now hired 3 dentists who completed a post-graduate training program created by Mercy Ships at the University of Gamal in Conakry. Our relationship with these two organizations has proven to be fruitful, but we found ourselves in need of an established Sacré Coeur teammate to assist in coordinating our joint efforts for a successful launch of the dental clinic.

Faveur initially started with our nursing team at Sacré Coeur. Through training and her own drive to learn, she demonstrated excellent patient assessment skills and a passion for improving infection control and sterilization processes. She was also key in launching the initiative of "triage at the gate" last year. These qualities and capabilities made her an excellent fit to be the bridge for Sacré Coeur and the needs of our new dental clinic. In preparation for opening the clinic, Faveur worked with the team at the Mercy Ships dental training program for several months to learn their processes in sterilization and clinical practice. She then returned to our center and helped prepare our facilities to provide a more seamless transition for our new dentists.

Having safe dental care available on campus for our clinically fragile patients is an important addition to our services at Sacré Coeur. Children with heart disease often need special care during dental procedures to prevent complications and prior to heart surgery. In the past, it was not safe to refer these patients to outside facilities as they lacked expertise or equipment to properly monitor the child during the procedure. Other patients treated in our center have chronic and complex medical conditions such as sickle cell disease that make them more vulnerable to severe infection in the absence of appropriate dental care.

It takes a team to offer care with excellence. Now the dental clinic is an integrated part of our services at Sacré Coeur Pediatric Center. Our dentists currently serve an average of 90 patients per month and this capacity continues to grow as we learn together how to provide more holistic care to our patients.





Season of Joy

This year has been a remarkable season in our ministry—a season shaped by joy. Worship is not only a matter of belief but of formation; it shapes our desires and trains our hearts. In this light, the joy we've experienced is not abstract—it is cultivated through the rhythms, practices, and communal life of our congregation.

A key expression of this formation has been the strengthening of our core planting team. Each member has been entrusted with a vital role: nurturing the choir, leading outreach, guiding audio and technical support, and shepherding Sunday School for children. Through these embodied practices, each person has been equipped to participate in shaping the spiritual habits of our community. The choir now lifts our voices in a more resonant praise, outreach initiatives draw more neighbors into the rhythms of God's kingdom, the technical team ensures worship flows seamlessly, and Sunday School forms the next generation in joy-filled discipleship. In these practices, we see how God's work in formation bears tangible fruit.

Sunday gatherings are now drawing 75–100 worshippers, a tangible foretaste of the great banquet to come. Liberians, Senegalese, Malians, Cameroonians, Sierra Leoneans, and representatives of each of the main ethnic tribes of Guinea come together in praise, embodying the hope we find in Christ—a vision of reconciliation, unity, and God's future breaking into the present. Each lifted hand, each song, and each passing of the peace is a rehearsal of the coming kingdom, a joyful anticipation of God's ultimate redemption through Jesus Christ.

In August, we had the privilege of being the host for an annual Bible camp that brought together over 200 youth around the theme, "For we will serve the Lord..." (Joshua 24:21). The camp encouraged youth to serve God with vitality, grow in faith, and develop biblical values. Adolescents showed leadership and active participation, while younger children displayed joyful learning, culminating in presentations to our congregation.

It has been a joy and a privilege to watch this young church grow and to extend the hope and healing of Christ beyond the walls of the hospital to the youth of our community and beyond. As we look ahead, we do so with hearts energized by hope and attuned to God's faithful presence. Pray with us that as we continue to gather, pray, and serve our small community, we will continue to bear witness to the God who delivers and redeems through His Son, Jesus Christ.



Year in Review



New Central Warehouse & Pharmacy Stock

Our new warehouse was built to help us better manage our inventory—from medical consumables to administrative supplies. This warehouse, paired with our inventory management system, allows us to know exactly what we have in stock, and informs us of what needs to be ordered and when. This allows us to properly steward the gifts from amazing donors like you.



Served More Children than Ever Before

This year we have seen **11,857 patients** as of September, putting us on track to see **over 15,000 patients** in 2025.



Hosted our First Youth Camp

The first annual Ignite youth camp was hosted on site, welcoming over **200 kids ages 9-18** to spend a week learning, worshiping and volunteering with the sick.



Generosity Fund

The church, through the generosity fund that you help provide, was able to come alongside **2,695 families** to provide care despite the families' inability to pay. This serves as a tangible expression of the gospel in that despite our ability to pay our own spiritual debts, God in Christ paid them on our behalf.



Constructed Isolation Rooms

Isolation rooms were completed and help us serve and care for patients with communicable disease without putting our other patients or staff at risk.



“When Alpha was 9 months old, he was hospitalized for three weeks at Donka, but his weight kept going up and down. The doctors recommended another stay, but that day someone told me about Sacré Coeur.

At first, his weight still wouldn’t increase, and I felt discouraged. But the doctors encouraged me to keep faith, pray, and continue treatment—reminding me that while they cared for him, God would bring full healing. I followed their advice, and today Alpha is healthy and thriving.

I am so grateful to the team at Sacré Coeur. My family is amazed when they see how well Alpha is doing. Now, whenever I meet someone with a sick child, I tell them to go to Sacré Coeur — it’s the place I trust most.”

– Mother of Alpha, who had a rare vitamin deficiency

New Guesthouse: Ready for Volunteers!



Over the last year, we have had 78 visitors from Europe and the U.S. who sacrificed time and resources to come to Guinea to participate in what God is doing through Sacré Coeur. They have worked alongside us to care for patients, shared their knowledge and skillsets to improve capacity amongst our local staff, helped improve processes throughout the center, and provided much needed encouragement to our international and local team. We are so grateful for each of them and the impact they have had on our work—we would not have seen such steady growth without the continual input from visiting experts and teams over the last year. And we believe that their time in Guinea, participating in God's kingdom work through Sacré Coeur, has also impacted them in return.

With our new guesthouse nearing completion, we are so excited to see how God will multiply the efforts of our visitors who come to Guinea in the future—perhaps He is calling you next!

Quotes from Visitors

"Traveling to Sacré Coeur was truly a pilgrimage. I went hoping to serve a community, yet found myself the recipient of countless blessings. The hope and healing poured out on the children were also poured onto me. I learned patience, understanding, and witnessed compassion in a way I never had before. Though my time there has ended, my witness continues—to share the story, the love, and the blessings I received."

- Dr. Alice Philips, Pediatrician

"I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Sacré Coeur. It was amazing to see how far the team had come in such a relatively short amount of time, both in terms of the facilities as well as organization in the clinic and acute care area. I love that the staff is so focused on teaching the locals and was impressed by the level of care they (the locals) are providing...Sacré Coeur is such a blessing to the community. It's definitely worth a visit!"

- Dr. Deb Schutte, Pediatric Cardiologist

"To say that [going to Sacré Coeur] was life-changing would be an understatement. Professionally, it's so satisfying, seeing the way that the staff comes alongside the families and does everything they can with their limited resources to make the children's lives better & healthier. Also, it gives a great perspective about life, the coexistence of both beauty and suffering, and all that I have to be thankful for."

- Dr. Gracie Packwood, Pediatrician

"Serving at Sacré Coeur Pediatric Center of Excellence offers a unique opportunity to equip local physicians and transform the health of Guinean children. It is a humbling expression of Christ's love in a region where faith is seldom embraced, revealing our shared humanity and the sacredness of every child's life. Partnering with missionary physicians skilled in tropical medicine makes this a profound mission where challenges and blessings unite all who serve. Sacré Coeur stands as a beacon of hope and healing."

— Dr. Sara Garza, Pediatrician



“Hope Ignited, through Sacré Coeur, is not just changing lives. They are changing a community and will ultimately change the country as they serve with bold, Christ centered love.”

- Dr. Eric Packwood, Pediatric Ophthalmologist



“A year ago, we went from hospital to hospital searching for help, but no one could find a solution for my daughter. A friend told me about Sacré Coeur, so we came here. The doctor quickly diagnosed her ear infection and prescribed the right treatment. Since then, she has been healthy, strong, and full of life. She used to get sick two or three times a month, but now she hardly ever does.

I now bring all my children to Sacré Coeur. The care here is excellent, compassionate, and affordable. I am truly grateful to the entire team for what they do for families like mine. May God continue to bless their work and guide all they do.”

– Mother of Fifi



Teacher Update

For families serving with Hope Ignited, working in Guinea full-time often comes with joys, challenges, and a few unanswered questions—like how to provide their children with a quality education far from home. That's where dedicated teachers step in, bringing both academic excellence and a sense of stability to families living out God's call.

This year, we were overjoyed to welcome Mr. Ethan, who stepped out in faith to serve as the teacher for our community in Dubreka. At our International Schools of West Africa campus here in Dubreka, he is guiding the education of five children under the leadership of our Director of Education, Dr. Aaron Baldrige. Ethan's presence has been a tremendous gift, bringing stability, creativity, and joy to both the students and their families.

Though Ethan's arrival has been an incredible answer to prayer, we know that he will eventually move on to the next chapter of his journey, and so the need for teachers continues. Each year, providing exceptional education in a co-op setting requires adaptability, heart, and vision, and that's why we are always seeking new teachers who feel called to step into this unique and life-giving role. Is God calling you or someone you know to teach abroad, experience a new culture, and directly impact the kingdom work happening in Guinea?

If you are interested in learning more, or know someone who might be a good candidate, please contact Aaron at aaron@hopeignited.org.



"I thank God and everyone at Sacré Coeur. My son was very sick, but today, thanks to your care, he is healed.

It began when he had malaria. After receiving injections at another hospital, his leg swelled badly. We went from clinic to clinic with no solution, until someone told us about Sacré Coeur. We came to Dubreka, and from the moment we arrived, I knew we had found the right place.

Sacré Coeur helped us in every way—even when we had no money, they never turned us away. They always put the patient first. I am deeply grateful to the entire team and pray that God continues to bless your work."

– Father of Abass

Ways to Give

By giving monthly to Sacré Coeur, you help us fulfill our mission of creating a pediatric center that provides the highest quality care accessible to the poorest of the poor.



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www.hopeignited.org



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