

WESTPORT ROTARY CLUB

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October 6, 2024 Equipping the Bwindi Hospital Dental -Vision Clinics GG2350983



Problem: The 280,000 population of Kanungu, Uganda, including 3,500 Batwa indigenous conservation refugees evicted from the Impenetrable National Forest to protect the Mountain Gorilla in rural southwest Uganda lack access to dental and vision care. The only source of medical care is the Bwindi Community Hospital which over the last 20 years has grown to include many basic services, but nowhere in the greater region serving 3 million people can patients receive dental care, dental surgery, eye exams, ophthalmic care, cataract surgery, optometrist care, or eyeglasses. Outside optical teams have visited Bwindi since 2017 to run short optical camps, with long waiting lines, and the only dental care offered is extraction. There is no permanent facility nor dedicated trained professionals to offer dental or vision care on an ongoing basis. Community Needs Assessments in 2020 and 2024 identified the area's greatest needs as emergency medical care and medical intensive care. With the help of Westport Rotary, these needs have been met. The next most significant need is for permanent dental and vision care housed in its own facility with year-round staffing by trained local professionals to serve the region's 3 million population. The gift of vision and oral health will allow so many more to have productive lives.

Solution: Westport Rotarians have been involved in Bwindi since 2019 and led 2 global grants in 2022-2023 which increased the capacity of the hospital to 155 beds with 4 isolation beds and 4 ICU beds. A new Dental and Vision building with dental exam/surgical suites, a dental x-ray room, 3 eye exam rooms, optical surgery suites, an eye glasses lab, classrooms and professional training spaces has been designed and funded to be built by 1Q 2025. But no furniture or medical equipment has yet to be provided. GG2350983 with Westport as International Partner and Rotary Club of Kihhi, Uganda as host partner is seeking funding of up to \$300,000 to obtain and ship furniture, dental and vision equipment to equip the new facility. Providing additional equipment such as neonatal ventilators for the hospital's trauma center, incubators for the pediatric ward, and virology test lab equipment is also a goal of this grant.

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Background: The Bwindi Community Hospital (www.bwindihospital.com) was founded by Rotarian Dr. Scott Kellermann from CA in 2003. The hospital is located next to the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest where habituated gorillas are protected. The Uganda Nursing School Bwindi was founded in 2013 to provide skilled nursing training and reduce the challenge of human resources for healthcare in the region as well job opportunities for local students. The hospital has been recognized as one of the top 10 medical facilities in Uganda for several years. Rotary has provided many grants to help fund the growth of services and the Kellermann Foundation from Richardson (Dallas), TX has been a substantial long-term funding partner. PDG Rick has been to Bwindi 3 times in the last 5 years and Lyla has gone the last two times – we understand the good work being done here and the need for this project. Vision partners from The Hope Alliance in Park City, Utah and 2 dentist partners from California and Missouri have provided the necessary equipment lists. Westport Rotary and its partners will source the equipment and manage the logistics to ship it there; now all we need are financial partners – Rotary Clubs, District DDF, and other foundations to make it happen.

Current Status: Rotarians from CA, Isle of Mann UK, and the Kellermann Foundation in TX have raised funds outside this Global Grant to fund construction of the new Dental Vision building and to fund a shipment of equipment from Project C.U.R. E. Some donated vision equipment is being stockpiled in CT for shipment with pharmaceutical supplies from Catholic Charities in NYC. We need to finish equipping the building by March, 2025 as a large vision team from Park City, Utah, is visiting to commission the building in April, 2025. Dental and vision professionals are currently being trained in Uganda and are under contract to start working at this new facility.

Our budget, depending on pending equipment donations is \$292,400. During the “quiet” phase of fundraising we have commitments for \$119,501 – so there is plenty of room for more partners. Attached are the building floor plans, our financials to date, and a brochure about the grant. This is the largest global grant D7980 has done and it will impact the most people – up to 3 million. Club pledges can either be paid now or when the GG is approved.

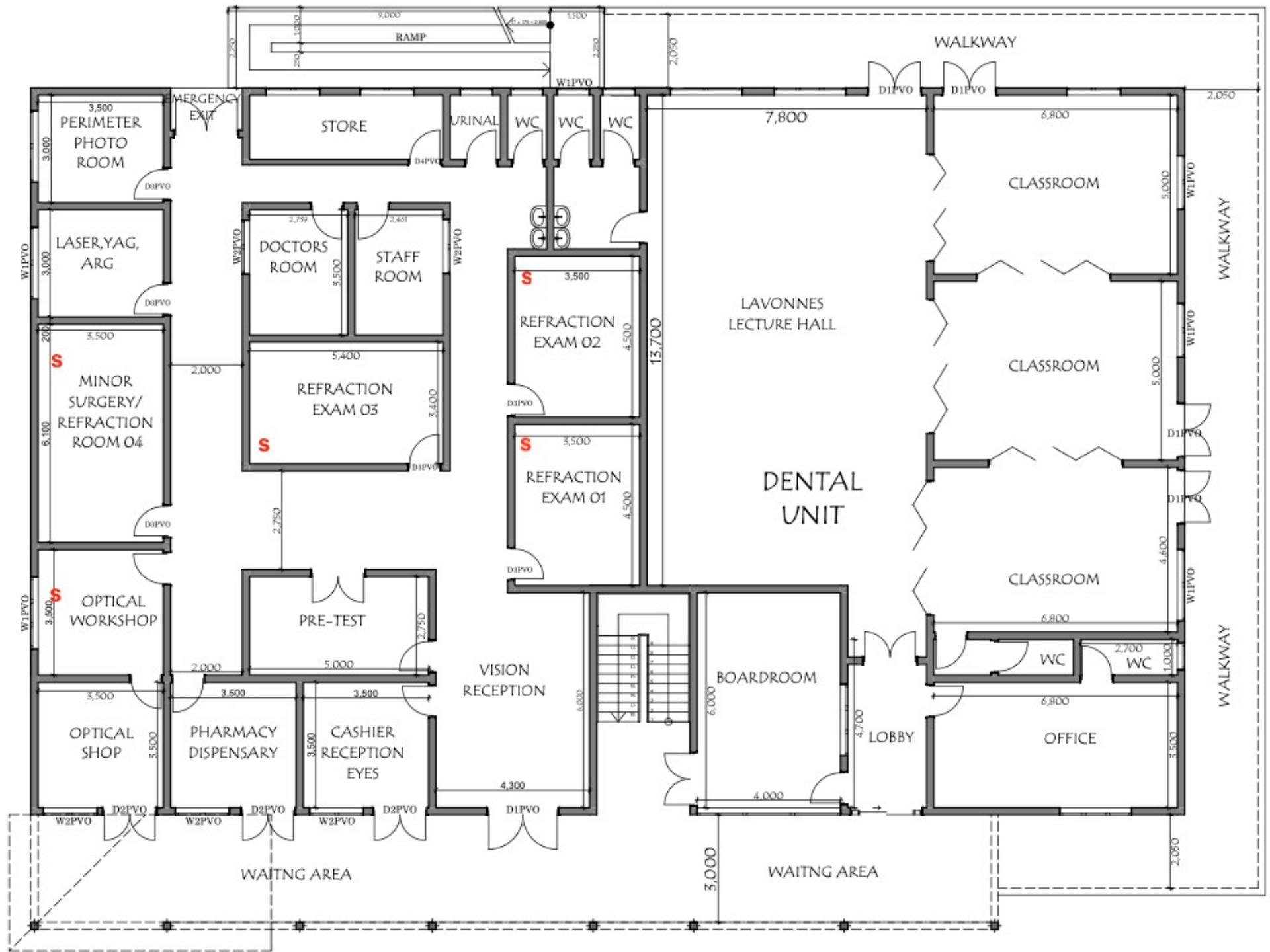
Please contact us for additional information or to pledge your support

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FIRST FLOOR PLAN
DENTAL AND EYE FACILITY

Budget – GG2350983 10/6/24

District Number	9214 & 7980			
Grant Number	GG2350983	Equippng Bwindi Dental - Vision Clinics		
Category	Description	Supplier	Local cost	Cost in USD
Operations	Shipping Costs	Catholic Charities	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
Equipment	Dental Equip Purchased	various	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Equipment	Vision Equipent Purchased	various	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00
Supplies	D-V Consumables	JMS Kampala	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Equipment	2 Infant Ventilators	Gradian	\$ 19,900.00	\$ 19,900.00
Signage	Update GG Signage	various	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Operations	contingency 10%	various	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Travel	Radiologist	various	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Equipment	Keep shipping Containers-2	various	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Equipment	Furniture, Desks, chairs	various	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Total Budget:			\$292,400.00	\$292,400.00

Financing

#	Source	Details	Amount (USD)	Support*	Total
1	District Designated Fund ...	7980	16,667.00	0.00	16,667.00
2	District Designated Fund ...	5190	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
3	Cash from Club	Westport [Rotary Club]	10,000.00	500.00	10,500.00
4	Cash from Club	Reno [Rotary Club]	10,000.00	500.00	10,500.00
5	Cash from Club	Carson City [Rotary Club]	500.00	25.00	525.00
6	Cash from Club	Nevada City 49er Bre... [Rotary Club]	7,500.00	375.00	7,875.00
7	District Designated Fund ...	5420	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
8	Cash from Club	Park City Sunrise [Rotary Club]	10,000.00	500.00	10,500.00
9	Cash from Club	Park City [Rotary Club]	1,000.00	50.00	1,050.00
10	District Designated Fund ...	6060	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
11	Cash from Club	Washington [Rotary Club]	5,000.00	250.00	5,250.00
12	Cash from Club	Kihihi [Rotary Club]	500.00	25.00	525.00

DDF contributions: 41,667.00

Cash contributions: 44,500.00

World Fund: 33,334.00

Total funding: 119,501.00

Total budget: 292,400.00