



# NEWSLETTER

CHANGING LIVES, CHANGING COMMUNITIES

## Welcome to CCBRT

CCBRT is the largest indigenous provider of disability and rehabilitative services in Tanzania.

Through its disability hospital, community and outreach programmes in and around Dar es Salaam and Moshi, 120,000 people directly benefit from CCBRT's services each year.

[www.ccbtr.or.tz](http://www.ccbtr.or.tz)

[www.baobabhospital.or.tz](http://www.baobabhospital.or.tz)

## Quarterly Highlights

- CCBRT upgraded to 'super specialist' status
- Royal visit to CCBRT
- CCBRT assists other eye units with equipment
- Vodafone Foundation joins partners with funding for fistula and cleft
- Newly branded bus raises awareness about CCBRT
- New election report published by advocacy team
- Private clinic opens optical shop

## Belgium Royal Family Returns To CCBRT

In June, Princess Astrid from Belgium visited CCBRT along with her husband Archduke Lorenz of Austria-Este. It is the second time, the royal family from Belgium has been to CCBRT. Princess Astrid's sister-in-law Princess Mathilde visited CCBRT several years ago. At her request, Princess Astrid watched an eye operation taking place and

commented on the high quality of the services available at the hospital. During her tour of the hospital, the princess expressed particular interest in our fistula work.



Princess Astrid and Archduke Lorenz of Austria-Este admire Mabinti Center products at CCBRT

## CCBRT's Status Upgraded

CCBRT status as a regional designated hospital has been upgraded. Its official title is now CCBRT Super Specialist Hospital for the Eastern Zone. CCBRT shares this status with only one other hospital in the country, Lugalo Hospital. This means that CCBRT should now be eligible for

increased financial assistance from the government for salaries and equipment. CCBRT Disability Hospital and the future CCBRT Maternity Hospital together make up the Super Specialist Hospital for the Eastern Zone.

## Vodafone Foundation Grant For Fistula and Cleft Lip/ Palate

Our new partnership with the Vodafone Foundation has already borne fruit, with a radio campaign and joint outreach activities bringing more patients to CCBRT. The campaign provides an unprecedented capacity for reaching rural areas through Vodacom's



agents and its M-PESA Women's Empowerment Initiative (MWEMI). Through MWEMI, 1,000 women have already started to identify and refer patients. CCBRT has been using Vodafone M-PESA to send transport money to patients since late 2009, but the US \$70,000 will enable us to access those in remote areas and provide even more fistula and cleft patients with life changing treatment.

## Bus and Land Cruiser Branding Raises Awareness

One of CCBRT's buses and a Land Cruiser have been rebranded. The distinctive buses, used for transporting staff and patients in Dar es Salaam, have proved a useful tool in raising awareness about the extent of services offered at the hospital and on the community programme. The newly branding features the face of Tanzanian pop star, Lady Jay Dee, who

took up the fistula cause after visiting CCBRT last year. 180 fistula surgeries have already taken place at CCBRT this year. This puts CCBRT well on track to meet its target of 300 fistula surgeries in 2011.





Richard Meddings, Group Finance Director of Standard Chartered Bank and Chairman of the Seeing is Believing initiative, visited CCBRT on 24 June to see the bank's Seeing is Believing project in action. Three years ago, the bank gave CCBRT \$800,000 for eye treatment as part of its campaign to tackle avoidable blindness. Jeremy Awori, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania and Mrs. Blandina Nyoni, Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, were also present on the day.

CCBRT's use of mobile money in enabling patients to access treatment features in a high profile Technical Brief compiled by EngenderHealth.

[Read it here](#)

Did you know that you can follow us on Facebook? Add CCBRT Tanzania to your Friends list to find out what's happening, as it happens.



## Children in Crossfire and CCBRT Moshi to change 100 lives

A two year partnership between CCBRT and Children in Crossfire (CiC) Tanzania will focus on early identification and referral of children born with treatable impairments such as clubfoot and cleft lip in the Kilimanjaro region. CiC funds will build on CCBRT Moshi's work by supporting the training of health workers in 19 wards and incentivising

them to refer children to CCBRT's House of Hope in Moshi. Here, they will access treatment to either cure or significantly reduce their impairments. The partnership, also supported by the Lutheran and Catholic churches and the Government of Tanzania, provide around 100 children with life enhancing treatment.



## Zonal workshop ensures safe equipment in eastern zone

CCBRT's zonal workshop is training other hospitals to maintain and repair ophthalmic equipment. Focused on the planned preventive maintenance and repair of medical equipment, the workshop serves CCBRT Disability Hospital but is also responsible for equipment in around 10 hospitals in the eastern zone. During training in Switzerland in 2010, the head of the zonal workshop, Frank Meena, learnt how to maintain and repair ophthalmic equipment. The training, supported by CBM Kenya and Novartis, enabled him to ensure the correct functioning of slit lamps, tonometers, and other equipment used in the diagnosis and treatment of eye problems. Frank is now sharing this knowledge with others.

In May, the team worked with Mvumi Hospital where an inventory of equipment was recorded along with any faults found. Thanks to this process, vital pieces of equipment were fixed. Two members of the ophthalmic team at Mvumi were also given maintenance and repair training, building the hospital's capacity to look after its own equipment. "Our goal is to ensure that patients receive the treatment they need," says Frank. "This means that equipment must be working properly."



**Frank Meena, Head of Zonal Workshop at CCBRT**

## Optical Shop Opens At Private Clinic

Designer glasses and prescription sunglasses are now available at CCBRT thanks to the new optical shop that opened on 9 June. The shop, located at CCBRT's Private Clinic, offers superior customer service in a bright, modern setting and caters for those who prefer to spend more on their eye wear. The shop enables patients using the Private Clinic to purchase their glasses and contact lenses more quickly and to buy high quality international brands. In line with the objectives of the Private Clinic, the shop will serve as an important source of private

and sustainable income for CCBRT, helping us to treat the poorest of the poor and the most vulnerable people in Tanzania regardless of their income. The shop was officially opened by Johan Elsen, Director of Light for the World Belgium, which provided the funds for its construction, and President of CCBRT's Board Dr. Willibrod Slaa. The shop is estimated to generate sales of around TZSh 260 million



## Partner Forum Brings Praise to CCBRT

Representatives from ten of CCBRT's partner organisations met in Anna Abdallah hall on 9 June to discuss developments across CCBRT and to share ideas about its future. Participants were presented with our recent successes in all departments, particularly in the area of using mobile phone technology to increase patient numbers, and were shown revised plans for Baobab Maternity Hospital. President of the Board, Dr. Willibrod Slaa, praised CCBRT's achievements during his

closing speech. The partners, who included representatives from international, local and corporate organisations, made a commitment to addressing current reporting procedures with a view to simplifying their requirements. In addition, they discussed how funding could be better allocated "CCBRT gave a great overview of its activities and partners participated well in exercises and with question and answers." Jonathan Sutton, member of the Board of Directors of CCBRT.

CCBRT is delighted to have partnered with LIVIT Orthopaedics, a Dutch specialist orthopaedic aids company. An MoU, signed on 20 June, agreed three years of cooperation in which LIVIT will support CCBRT's sustainability in its prosthetic and orthotic services.



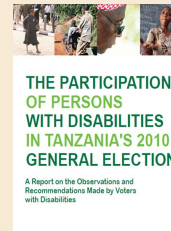
Hospital Matron Emelda Lwena leads CCBRT's nurses in a candlelit walk on International Nurses Day, 12 May



Mrs. Abbas, CCBRT's Nurse of the Year

## Voters With Disabilities Speak Up In Election Report

The findings of a survey looking into the participation of people with disabilities in Tanzania's 2010 general election have just been released. The survey, which was commissioned and coordinated by CCBRT's advocacy team, also highlighted the challenges which people with disabilities still face during the electoral process, namely access to information and access to polling stations. Of those surveyed, nearly 40 per cent said they were not directly involved in the election campaign and nearly 40 per cent said that sources of information about the election



were not adequate for their needs. However, overall the survey suggested that the level of participation was better than in previous years and that the National Electoral Commission had kept a degree of its pledges to make the electoral process more accessible for people with disabilities. Find the full report on the advocacy section of our [website](#).

## Children with disabilities enjoy a day of sport and fun

Around 300 children with disabilities, along with their mothers and caregivers, participated in a sports and fun day on 21 May. The event, organised by CCBRT's Community Programme, was the second of its kind so far this year and included children from three support units and two primary school deaf units. Activities on the day included a tug of war, dancing by children and mothers, and games of football. CCBRT's physiotherapists,

who work with many of these children, attended a four day training during which they developed their own team and professional skills before training 19 community programme staff. The focus of the training was on new approaches to



rehabilitation which involve greater participation of the child.

## International Nurses Day, 12 May

Nurses from CCBRT Disability Hospital held a candlelit ceremony to mark this year's International Nurses Day. This year's theme, 'Closing the gap: increasing access and equity', addressed the ongoing disparity between the healthcare services available to people living in different parts of the world. Remembering the selfless work of Florence Nightingale, a nurse in the Crimean War of 1853-1856, CCBRT's nursing staff presented

patients with gifts of toiletries. In return, thanking them for their commitment, CCBRT's management gave the nurses traditional African clothes. After sharing hygiene tips and discussing how to manage stress in the workplace, the nurses made a pledge to do their absolute best in the coming year. Finally, the award for the Nurse of the Year was announced and certificates and gifts given to the nurses in first, second and third place.

## Meet the Team: Mrs. Abbas

Mother of three, Mrs Abbas was born in Nigeria where she studied to be a nurse and midwife. At CCBRT since 2008, she is now in charge of the eye theatre. Mrs. Abbas, was responsible for ensuring that screening of patients as they queue was enforced. This led to minor cases being dealt with quickly and reduced waiting times. Leading by example, Mrs. Abbas is always the first nurse to arrive at the theatre in the mornings and usually the last to leave. She is proud to have developed

the nurses, saying: "My biggest challenge was getting staff to share knowledge. Only one or two could give an injection so we relied on them being available. I have built their confidence so staff are now well rounded and support each other." Hospital Matron, Emelda Lwena, says 'Mrs. Abbas is very committed and creative, sharing her many good ideas with others. She has also helped to develop the skills of the team This is why we chose her as CCBRT's Nurse of the Year. "