

CURE Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida Celebrates 10,000 Surgery Milestone

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New Cumberland, PA-December 19, 2017-As the year comes to an end, CURE Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida (CHSB) celebrates a significant milestone: as of November 2017, CHSB partner treatment locations have performed more than 10,000 surgeries since the program's launch in 2011.

CHSB trains and equips neurosurgeons from low- and middle-income countries to perform life-saving surgeries while partnering with their home institutions to build capacity and provide additional support. The program works with other global partners and experts to ensure that children with HSB globally have access to the most optimal care and solutions possible.

Pictured above: At the CURE Hydrocephalus & Spina Bifida Training Center at CURE Uganda, Dr. Ssenyonga, left, performs surgery with Dr. My, a CHSB fellow from Vietnam

While serving as Medical Director at [CURE Uganda](#), Dr. Benjamin Warf pioneered a “shunt-less” hydrocephalus treatment known as ETV/CPC, a surgery that avoids the risk and ongoing maintenance of shunt dependency and has transformed global practice in the treatment of infant hydrocephalus. Training has been a centerpiece of the CHSB program, which to date has equipped 32 surgeons from 19 different countries to perform this life-changing operation.

Charles Howard, the program's Operations Director, says that the life-changing stories that come out of the CHSB program are possible thanks to the training center at CURE Uganda, our partner treatment locations, and the support of the other global partners such as: [International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus](#), [Child-Help International](#), [Karl Storz](#), and many others. We also recognize the invaluable contributions of our CHSB Advisory board.

Dr. Femi Bankole, CHSB's first fellow, showcases the program's success and impact by giving children in Nigeria the opportunity for a shunt-free life, training others to increase access to care, and publishing his results in leading global journals. As a member of our advisory board, he has been active in many site visits and has served as a trainer and mentor to others. Dr. Bankole's work epitomizes the collaboration that has developed throughout our partner treatment locations.

The CURE Hydrocephalus & Spina Bifida program and its network of partner treatment locations plan to continue providing physical and spiritual care to children with HSB and their families by diversifying and increasing their number of global partners. CHSB hopes that this will result in the next 10,000 life-saving surgeries happening in even less time. Learn more about CHSB at cure.org/hydrocephalus.

About CURE International

CURE International is a Christian health care network that operates charitable hospitals and programs in 29 countries worldwide where patients experience the life-changing message of God's love for them, receiving surgical treatment regardless of gender, religion, or ethnicity.

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