



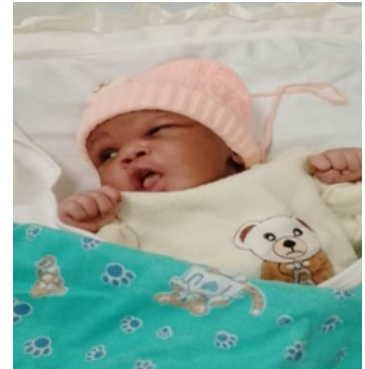
Better Health through Better Medical Treatment and Prevention for the Children of Mbarara, Uganda

Holy Innocents' Purpose: A Better World for the Children of Mbarara

Holy Innocents Children's Hospital started saving children's lives in Mbarara, Uganda over 14 years ago. Since then, over 58,000 children have been admitted for life-threatening diseases, while 285,000 children have been treated for minor illnesses. Over 2,500 children have undergone surgeries since our surgical center opened in 2019, and nearly 900 newborns have been treated in our new Infant Critical

Care Ward, which opened in Fall 2022.

In this newsletter, you will read stories of some of these children and their families, so you can see the faces behind the numbers, and get a feel for the real children who have received treatment and hope at Holy Innocents – all made possible by your caring and generosity through the years!



Read Baby Shalom's story on p. 2.



Left to right: i) Baby Mariam is brought in for evaluation. ii) She receives treatment in our Infant Critical Care Ward. iii) Days later she is doing well and is being discharged.

Baby Mariam Receives Loving Care from Holy Innocents

Baby Mariam was born without incident at a local maternity hospital, and she was healthy at delivery. However, just a day after birth, she developed a high-grade fever and respiratory difficulties, and her family took her to Holy Innocents. The medical staff promptly performed a series of

tests, and Mariam was diagnosed with early-onset neonatal sepsis. She was placed on oxygen and given antibiotics to eliminate the infection. Mariam responded well to treatment, and her condition quickly improved. The medical staff did an excellent job in managing Mariam's care, and she is

now healthy and thriving. We're thankful that the hospital has the trained staff, facilities, and medical equipment to diagnose and treat children like Mariam quickly and effectively. You have played a critical role in making all this possible – we're so grateful!

Baby Shalom and other Recent Happy Stories from Holy Innocents

Baby Shalom came to Holy Innocents in October, suffering from convulsions, 103° fever, difficulty breathing, and inability to breast-feed. He was quickly admitted to the Infant Critical Care Ward and was diagnosed with grade II Neonatal Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy. The medical team treated Baby Shalom with anticonvulsants, antibiotics to prevent infection, vitamin K to prevent bleeding, and high-flow oxygen via CPAP.



Baby Shalom and mother

After Day 3, Baby Shalom's convulsions were down. He began breastfeeding on Day 6, and by Day 10 he was able to be discharged, with a favorable prognosis. Staff reported that Baby Shalom's mother was overjoyed with the outcome.

Baby J was born on Sept. 29, 2023 in a small clinic in her local village. Within five days she was experiencing convulsions, high fever, jaundice, and difficulty feeding. Her family brought her to Holy Innocents, where she was diagnosed with Hemorrhagic disease with severe sepsis. Holy Innocents medical staff treated Baby J with oxygen, IV-based antibiotics and vitamin K, nasogastric feeding, and phototherapy. Thanks to the timely care provided by the medical team, Baby J improved significantly within a week, and she was able to be discharged on Oct. 10.



Baby J

Baby Josper was diagnosed with Hirschsprung's disease at eight months of age and underwent surgery of the large intestine at another

hospital. Four months later, Josper was admitted to Holy Innocents with complications from that



Baby Josper and mother

earlier surgery. Holy Innocents' surgeons performed corrective surgery the following day. Afterwards, our medical team monitored his condition and provided him with broad-spectrum antibiotics to counter infection, and antipyretics to manage fever and pain. Hospital staff taught his family how to maintain proper hygiene at the incision area. By Oct. 11, his condition had improved significantly, and he was discharged. Josper's parents expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the healthcare team for their exceptional work, and for saving Baby Josper's life.

Here's How You Can Help Holy Innocents Children's Hospital Now!

With hospital facilities largely built out, we're focusing on raising funds for medical equipment only—equipment with capabilities we don't currently have, new items replacing old, and additional quantities of key equipment. This year some of the medical equipment we'd like to fund includes five phototherapy machines, five vital signs monitors, two CPAP machines, and a fully automated blood chemistry analyzer. Many people are familiar with vital signs moni-

tors and CPAP machines. Phototherapy (also called light therapy) machines use ultraviolet light to safely treat infant jaundice. A fully automated blood chemistry analyzer automatically adds blood samples and has a greater capacity than semi-automatic analyzers. The cost of these devices is \$55,000. If you can help us raise that amount, we would be so grateful! Please use the enclosed envelope or the instructions below. Thank you for your caring!