



Kelly Shupikai

The sounds of laughter and singing echoed through the walls of Parirenytwa Hospital on Friday, the very last day for surgeries on the February 2018 mission to Zimbabwe. We followed the singing into the pediatric Ward A.

The patients who had been operated on Wednesday and Thursday were preparing for discharge from the hospital. The team of surgeons and anesthetists were able to visit the pediatric ward for the first time all week. The mothers of the patients recognized the surgeons and gathered together to demonstrate their gratitude. Their laughter, joy and songs of thankfulness melted the hearts of the medical team. Several of them were very moved, and wiped tears from their eyes. Dr. Rajesh, one of the anesthesiologists from India said, “We are so honored to be here, please don’t say thank you to us. This is our honor to be asked to come.”

The doctors arrived on Saturday, February 10, 2018 into Harare, Zimbabwe. Dr. Le Trung Nghia and Dr. Bùi Quang Đại both are maxillofacial surgeons and operate on cleft lip and cleft palate patients on a daily basis in Vietnam.

Dr. Sathish and Dr. Mathew, both from India, have led the Zimbabwe missions in June 2017 and in February 2018 for LWR. Dr. Sathish, LWR’s medical team leader brought a team of anesthesiologists and pediatric intensivists who work with him in Bangalore, India. Dr Arun, Dr. Rajesh, Dr. Gaurang, Dr.



Upendra, and Dr. Chetan offered their talents and skills to ensure the safety of every patient admitted for surgery.

Volunteers from the U.S., India, Zimbabwe, and Kenya assisted in administration, data entry, photography, and counseling the patients and their families. Meals were provided for the medical and administration team on a daily basis by the local churches.

The full-fledged effort that used over 100 volunteers and 30 medical staff advised and examined 91 patients on screening day, Sunday, February 11, 2018. Due to the age and health of the patients, only 48 patients were cleared for surgery by the medical team during this medical camp.

From Monday, February 12 until Friday, February 16 the joy and laughter of many parents and many of the local medical staff was evident. One ward nurse said, "There can be no price put for what you have done for my people. You have given them hope again."

One of those parents were Mr. and Mrs. Shupikai who brought their daughter, Kelly, to the June 2017 medical mission in Harare. Kelly was three-years-old at the time, and was born with a cleft lip. At a recent visit to Dzivarasekwa, the village where Kelly was born, the LWR team had a chance to hear more of her story.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!!!

Love Without Reason gives special recognition to the following donors and organizations whose giving helped make the February 2018 Zimbabwe Mission successful.

Debbie & Randall Fowler

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Doctors had a fun time with all the patients after surgery

Mrs. Shupikai told us that her husband worked as a gas station attendant. Though they were excited with the birth of Kelly, they were also concerned. How could they get her the necessary help? Would she live forever with her face deformed? Mrs. Shupikai battled the shame and humiliation as neighbors would point at her daughter. "Some came to visit me, only to see my baby and comment on her deformed lip," she said.

Everything changed after Kelly's surgery in June 2017. "People were so shocked. They wanted to know what happened to my daughter. I am so thankful that Love Without Reason came to Zimbabwe. Kelly has a new life!"

Children like Kelly are vulnerable to human traffickers, who convince parents to sell their children to obtain a steady income when the child works. However, those parents will never hear from their child, and will never receive income from them. The motive of these traffickers is to exploit these children. Due to the lack of education, many of the parents do not suspect any ulterior motives.

During the February 2018 medical mission, we ensured that each of the 91 families that entered this screening camp, received information and education about the evil of human trafficking. They were given an international hotline number to call in the case of any suspicion of human trafficking. The more people educated on this evil will result in more awareness and more arrests of the perpetrators. We must protect our children.

Because Every Child Matters!

Susan Mathews
Co-Founder, Love Without Reason®

"Love Without Reason is active in the fight to end human trafficking. By performing these surgeries on vulnerable children, we will work to End It Before It Starts!" - Susan Mathews





LWR's Volunteers in Zimbabwe



Goal: One Million Dollars to perform 1,000 cleft surgeries

Love Without Reason has initiated an ambitious goal to raise One Million Dollars to perform 1,000 cleft surgeries in India, Zimbabwe, Kenya and other parts of the world. We invite you our donors, friends, supporters to join us in making this dream possible for every child waiting for surgery.

[GoFundMe.com/CleftSurgeries4Africa2018](https://www.gofundme.com/CleftSurgeries4Africa2018)



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Here is our gift to help
1,000 children with
cleft surgeries



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