



COLLEAGUES IN GLOBAL HEALTH  
NEWSLETTER

May 2024

Virtual Gallery: <https://projecthope.pastperfectonline.com/>

Website: <https://projecthope.org/>

*PROJECT HOPE SIERRA LEONE AND MALAWI NEONATAL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY CGH*

Written by Carolyn Kruger, PhD

Project HOPE has had long term relationships with Neonatal Education partners in Sierra Leone and Malawi to develop their capacity to provide quality health care to vulnerable newborns. Both countries have high neonatal mortality rates with few options for advanced nursing education. The focus of HOPE’s programs centers on development of advanced neonatal nursing education at the post-basic, baccalaureate and masters levels, which includes mentorship in curriculum development and faculty capacity to implement theory and clinical components. HOPE has included US-based University Neonatal Nurses Practitioner program experts to participate in curriculum development and faculty preparation programs including seminars, clinical hands-on training, theory and module preparation, and evaluation methods.

After a lengthy five years of on-site deployments and virtual seminars, the University of Sierra Leone, College of Medicine and Health Sciences (COMAHS) has developed and implemented a Pediatric /Neonatal Nursing combined B.Sc. degree and is currently implementing a M.Sc degree focusing on neonatal nursing for small and sick newborns. The University of Malawi, Kamuzu University of Health Sciences (KUHeS, is initiating its first year of the B.Sc in Neonatal Nursing Care. The Colleagues in Global Health (CGH) Alumni Group has been the major

funder for deployments to these programs and 80% of the HOPE Mentors have been HOPE volunteers. At this point in the development of their neonatal nursing capacity, both countries are ready to focus on evaluation of the theory and clinical capacity of their faculty to implement the programs in health care settings along the community to acute care continuum.

On left see two CGH Fellows Lily Kumbani and Mustapha Mahama in Denmark



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The Sierra Leone and Malawi Neonatal Nursing programs are included in the five existing university-based neonatal nursing advanced programs across Africa, and they have become models for advancing neonatal care programs in other countries. Faculty members have become leaders for regional program development and recently were invited to present their clinical quality improvement activities at the Council of International Neonatal Nurses (COINN) 2024 International Conference in Denmark.

The purpose of the HOPE 2024 proposed CGH deployments is to guide the implementation of the newly developed programs and ensure standards are integrated, as well as quality control measures- all of which ensure sustainability of the programs. All deployment Fellows (2022-2024) have been funded by CGH. Based on the evaluation of the extent of program quality, the programs should be sustainable and ready to turn over to country partners, the Ministries of Health, and Universities in Sierra Leone and Malawi.

### *NEONATAL NURSING DEPLOYMENTS 2024 (Funded by CGH)*

**Sierra Leone:** Deployments (2) to the Ola Daring Children’s Hospital (ODCH) SCBU Preceptor Program and the University of Sierra Leone College of Medicine and Health Sciences (COMAHS) Neonatal Advanced Nursing Education Programs to: 1) Review progress made in the quality of neonatal and family care primarily in the Special Care Baby Units (SCBU) and including the Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) Unit and labor and delivery immediate care areas, and 2) Review progress made in the implementation of the Neonatal Nursing M.Sc Program.

**Malawi:** Deployments (2) to the University of Malawi, Kamuzu University of Health Sciences (KUHeS) to: 1) Support Faculty Development in Clinical Care of Small and Sick Newborns, 2) Implement COINN’s 12 Module Neonatal Care Training Program, and 3) Evaluate faculty capacity to teach neonatal skills at all levels of the B.Sc curriculum.

## FOUND IN THE ARCHIVES!!! Used on the Facebook Page “HOPE You Remember...”



If you would like to see more pictures like these and the stories that go with them, please click on:

[\(15\) HOPE You Remember ... | Facebook](#)

We continue working on the Archives weekly. If you have questions, please contact Debbie Reister at: [dreister@projecthope.org](mailto:dreister@projecthope.org) Please visit: **Virtual Gallery:** <https://projecthope.pastperfectonline.com/>

## ***HOPE REMEMBERS***

**By Irene Machado**

### ***Elizabeth (Betty) Ahern PHN, NP***

**1932-2023**

Betty Ahern passed away on November 25, 2023, in Arlington, VA. She was a Public Health Nurse and Nurse Practitioner. She served with Project HOPE in Indonesia, Vietnam, and Guinea.

### ***Stanley Bohrer MD, MPH, FACR***

**1934-2022**

Stanley Bohrer, MD, passed away on September 18, 2022, in Winston Salem, NC. He trained to be a Radiologist in Boston. His love of international work led him to Project HOPE, where he was program director in Cartagena, Colombia and Guatemala. He also served in Jamaica and Grenada.

### ***Mary “Judy” (Johnson) Gapp, R.N.***

**1938-2023**

Judy Johnson, as she was known to friends and family, served as a Registered Nurse onboard the Hospital Ship HOPE. Her tour of duty began in 1971 in Jamaica, with Voyage IX and ended in December 1972 upon completion of Voyage X to Natal, Brazil. After a lifetime of dedicated nursing service, Judy passed away on Jan. 18, 2023, in Anoka, Minnesota.

### ***Earsei Hinoki***

**1932-2023**

Earsei Hinoki passed away September 2023, while in Africa seeing the migration of wildebeests—which was on his bucket list! He lived in San Francisco, CA. He was a pharmacist and served with Project HOPE in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and Colombia.

### ***Rosalie Merz Jacob***

**2023**

Rosalie Merz Jacob passed away May 29, 2023. She served with Project HOPE in Colombia and Nicaragua.

### ***Valerie Restifo, RN***

**1943-2023**

Valerie Restifo passed away on November 25, 2023, in Annapolis, MD. She was a Registered Nurse. She served with Project HOPE in Tunisia, Natal and Maceio, Brazil.

### ***Henry Soloway, MD***

**1936-2024**

Longtime Las Vegas resident Henry Soloway, M.D. passed away on January 6, 2024. After medical school he trained to be a pathologist at various New York City Hospitals. Henry was dedicated to making a positive impact on the lives of others. He volunteered with Project HOPE in Brazil.

## PROJECT HOPE WEBSITE

This month the Project HOPE website <https://www.projecthope.org/> was updated which included the CGH page, to see it please follow this link:

<https://www.projecthope.org/take-action/volunteer/colleagues-in-global-health/>

We are in the process of changing some of the sections, if you see something to change, please let me know: [dreister@projecthope.org](mailto:dreister@projecthope.org)

## Message from CGH President – Debra Reister

As I enter the final year of my presidency, I have been thinking about our work and member participation. I spend a couple of hours each day on activities for Project HOPE including meetings and messages with HOPE staff, people asking questions from the virtual gallery, archiving, Facebook “HOPE You Remember...” page and speaking with board members, especially Carolyn Kruger about programs implemented by CGH. The officers of the CGH Board are only President and Vice President and does not include a Secretary or Treasurer. The Secretary position was taken over by me and Treasurer is now in cooperation with the Finance Department at the HOPE offices.

I know how many of you have given years of your lives to Project HOPE and appreciate your ongoing support especially those of you who are past presidents and understand very well how much time being president takes. I am planning a trip to the DC HOPE offices in June to further discuss CGH and archiving procedures for the future.

As our group gets smaller and new volunteers are not becoming members, I anticipate we will not have many more years. I would like to hear from you how you feel the CGH should continue and if you are willing to be on the CGH Board, considering the funding has been diminishing into our funds. The only ongoing fund is the William B. Walsh Endowment which is now about \$30,000 each year as determined by the Project HOPE Board.

## GIVE TO CONTINUE THE WORK OF PROJECT HOPE CGH:

**Join CGH alumni by giving a monthly donation or an amount you would like to the CGH fund to continue educational programs and archiving activities.**

**Please remember if you send a check, mark your checks with CGH fund on the memo line.  
Thank you for your continued support!**