



Uganda Cancer Trust UK

Trustees' Annual Report
Year ending 30 April 2019

Registered charity: 1131235
37 St Mary Street, Chippenham, Wilts, SN15 3JW
ugandacancer.org.uk



Overview

During 2018/19, we continued to support the work of our Ugandan partner, the Mulago and Makerere Palliative Care Unit (MMPCU) in Kampala. Funds were provided for their volunteer programme and the post of Information Nurse. They have been training both the volunteers, to extend their skill sets and also through a Link Nurse training scheme, raising awareness of palliative care across the general nursing cohort. The new volunteer teams are now well established and embedded within the local church community, proving this to be a robust and effective model, with many benefits to patients.

MMPCU celebrated their 10th anniversary in 2018, and marked this with an international conference on the theme of 'Building momentum for Palliative Care'. Liz and Mike Minton were visiting Kampala again at the same time, and were delighted to accept a certificate on behalf of UCTUK thanking us for our contribution to the work of MMPCU.

During this year, we have developed links with Uganda Cancer Society, aimed at supporting their objective of providing a Patient Sanctuary in Kampala; a place for patients and carers to find help and information, someone to talk through their problems with, or just sit and be quiet for a while. This is an ambitious project that will be our main focus for the next year.

The Oxford Blackfriars Overseas Aid Trust have been particularly generous in supporting the funding of Liz Nabirye as Information Nurse. But as always many different people and organisations have also supported us, so I hope this report will give a flavour of the work we are trying to do and the use we are making of your generous help. It is now 10 years since we established UCTUK, and many individuals have benefited because of this, so another big thank you to everyone; please do keep on supporting us.

Christine Whitehouse
Chair

Uganda Cancer Trust UK
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Objectives and Activities

Uganda Cancer Trust UK is a UK based charity raising money to support cancer treatment, education and care in Uganda. More than 60% of cancer deaths occur in developing countries, but only 5% of cancer spending.

The money we raise goes towards:

- Supporting individuals suffering from cancer in Uganda, where the treatment needed far exceeds their ability to pay.
- Supporting Ugandan organisations who are trying to improve cancer treatment, care or education
- Raising awareness of the growing problem of cancer in Uganda

Cancer is a huge global problem, but by working with local partners in Uganda and others already engaged in these issues we are sure we can make a difference.

Achievements 2018-19

Our work to date with Makerere / Mulago Palliative Care Unit





Support for cancer patients

We responded to three funding requests from Advantage Africa for individual treatment costs. Bashir, who had his initial treatment for eye treatment in 2017, required further surgery and this was carried out in August 2018. Unfortunately, the cancer returned and he died in March 2019, though he lived long enough to see the birth of his son, also named Bashir as pictured below.



Another request was for further funding for Moses and we also contributed to a treatment fund set up to cover a number of individuals identified from the skin cancer clinics being run by Advantage Africa. Many people attending these clinics can be treated on the day, but the sad fact is that for some the tumours are well advanced and require significant surgery, and for some like Bashir, and Tony (aged 10), even with surgery, it proves to be too late altogether.

Support for survivors

Many of you may remember our friend, Lydia, whose story was the start of UCTUK. Ten years on, Lydia is not just surviving but thriving and still proving an inspiration to many around her. She has recently set up her own charity, Wangula, a Lugandan word meaning Hope, specifically to provide a support network for young people facing cancer like she did, and helping them with skills, information and support they need to survive. One such issue is how to cope with a young family at such a time; how do you help the children to make sense of what the parent is going through?

It is early days for Wangula, but we maintain close links and provide practical support where we can.

There are also many stories to tell from the volunteers at Makerere Palliative Care Unit, but all have an important message of hope: the fact that someone takes time to visit, to meet and talk with them, and to understand their needs, is enormously valued by the patients and their families. The Mintons have visited the unit again this August and were able to provide support and mentoring to the volunteers and nurses and to see the work being done on improving the provision of information to patients.



Financial Summary

Receipts

Receipts were from individual fundraising activities, and a donation from Blackfriars Overseas Aids Trust, a church based charity in Oxford, specifically to continue funding the information nurse project and the volunteers. Gift aid is collected on all money raised in the UK and is an important supplement to our receipts.

Payments

We continue to make payments to Makerere Palliative Care Unit for the volunteer program, and for the information nurse project as part of an agreed programme. Payments were made by request to Advantage Africa to assist with the treatment costs of the individuals with albinism mentioned previously in the report. The only expenses incurred by the charity were the monthly JustGiving fees, and a membership fee for Uganda Cancer Society.

Reserves

At the end of the year, the net reserves of the charity were £5,307, with no ongoing commitments.

Administration

Trustees

Jenny Aranha, Treasurer
Cathryn Hannah, Secretary
Christine Whitehouse, Chairperson
Dr Michael Minton, Palliative Care Consultant
Elizabeth Minton, Patient Care Support

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