



Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care and Viagenco Integrated Comprehensive Care

Our Partnership

Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care is partnered with Viagenco Integrated Comprehensive Care in Mbita, Kenya, operating under the auspices of the Foundation for Hospices in Sub-Saharan Africa. Viagenco is a non-profit home health and palliative care agency, started in 2002, which serves a poor rural population. The area has the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS in Kenya, affecting 33% of the population. Malarial infections, typhoid and amoebic dysentery are also prevalent.

Over the course of the past several years, VNHC has supported Viagenco to develop a permanent, well-staffed outpatient clinic, a 12 bed in-patient facility, a home based palliative care program, and an HIV outreach program for testing and counseling. VNHC also supports over 150 orphaned children to attend school and to connect with caring families in our community.

The needs of the Mbita community are overwhelming. Many people in the area earn less than \$1 a day so they are unable to pay a fee for medical services. VNHC is seeking assistance to provide financial support for the Viagenco programs. You can help in the following ways:

1. A general donation to the Viagenco palliative care program will ensure that excellent health care will continue to be a priority in Mbita. VNHC is paying salaries for the clinical officer, lab technician, pharmacy technician, and nurses at the facility. There are also monthly pharmaceutical and lab costs. Donations are wired quarterly to sustain the facility.



Visiting Nurse
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2. An individual sponsorship enables a partially or totally orphaned child to attend school. For \$55 a year, a primary student will receive a school uniform, shoes, underwear, and school supplies. For \$400 a year, a secondary school student's boarding school fees will be paid. Sponsors are encouraged to communicate with letters and small gifts throughout the year. Sponsors will receive the child's name, age and when possible, a photograph.
3. A general donation to the orphan fund allows VNHC to provide extra gifts for children in the community. This might include chickens or goats to enhance a family's income, mosquito nets to prevent the transmission of malaria, books for Viagenco's fledgling library, soccer balls, or food for a family's table. It provides a safety net for a child whose family is struggling.
4. A micro-finance program empowers women in the community to start and maintain small businesses. A \$50 donation to this program will provide a loan which could help a woman to have a regular income for her family.

Donations can be directed to any of the programs listed above. Checks can be made to VNHC, specifying Viagenco medical fund, Viagenco orphan fund, or Viagenco business program. If you wish to sponsor an individual child, please contact us at (805) 690-6279 for more information. Thank you for helping us to reach out globally in our mission to provide compassionate comfort and care to all who need it, including those unable to pay.

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