



SOLIDARITY with South Sudan



TRAINING NURSES AND MIDWIVES

The Catholic Health Training Institute (CHTI) is a Republic of South Sudan (RSS) recognized institute for the training of diploma level nurses and midwives according to the curricula developed by the Ministry of Health and Higher Education in the Republic of South Sudan. The Institute is owned by the Sudan Catholic Bishops' Conference and was reopened and run by Solidarity with South Sudan (*Solidarity*) at their request. The first intake of nursing students from the Catholic Dioceses of the then Sudan was in February 2010.

Current Status

The program first offered at the CHTI was a Registered Nursing curriculum, and this was significant in that it was the first RN certified program in the history of the country. The program requires 3½ years of academic training and clinical rotations. In addition to the SRN program the first group of midwifery students began the state certified program in January 2012. This program was set up because of the critical need for these services in South Sudan.



CHTI students in 2012

CHTI Courses 2012	Female Students	Male Students	Total Students
Registered Nursing	12	40	52
Registered Midwifery	10	11	21
Total CHTI Students	22	51	73

These 22 women and 51 men are from 8 of the 10 states and different tribes in the Republic of South Sudan and from Abyei and Nuba Mountains. CHTI is actively seeking to enroll a greater number of women. Solidarity with South Sudan is working with local communities and schools to offer pre-service training for women in order to encourage them to study registered nursing and midwifery at CHTI.



One of the goals of *Solidarity* is to **improve educational opportunity for women and girls**. In 2012, we began some special **affirmative action** programs to create greater opportunity for women and girls in education. This program is creating a new dynamic and alerting young women to possible careers in teaching.

FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION:

An abandoned property in Wau, Western Bahr al Ghazal was offered to Solidarity with South Sudan by the Sudan Catholic Bishops' Conference for the establishment of the CHTI and in 2010 the renovation of the facility was completed. Sr. Dorothy Dickson RNDM is Director of the CHTI and assisted by a well-functioning administration and faculty.

The main instructional building has been totally refurbished, dormitories cleaned and repaired and a central service area for food and other services is fully operational. The classrooms have been repaired and refurbished. Work on the adjacent wing which houses administrative offices has also been finished. Staff quarters have been refurbished and the *Solidarity* staff house is completed.



- In residence, these are five nurse/midwife tutors and one doctor who work with the students in class and clinical settings. All of these tutors are also responsible for other administrative and pastoral duties within the Institute.



Although not officially part of the project, *Solidarity* support is being given to the renovation of the Catholic Hospital in Wau. Thanks to an MOU between the new Catholic hospital and the CHTI, our nursing students are currently receiving appropriate clinical rotations and high quality instruction.

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