



CPFI Missions Committee Report May 27, 2023

Committee members: Christine Birnie, Anne Clay, Jeff Copeland, Marjorie Hayes, Ron Herman, Barbara Hoagland, Paul Kabanga Kapuya, Andrea Mezentsef, Gary Smith, Bob Watt, and Keith Allhands (chair)

Short term mission projects:

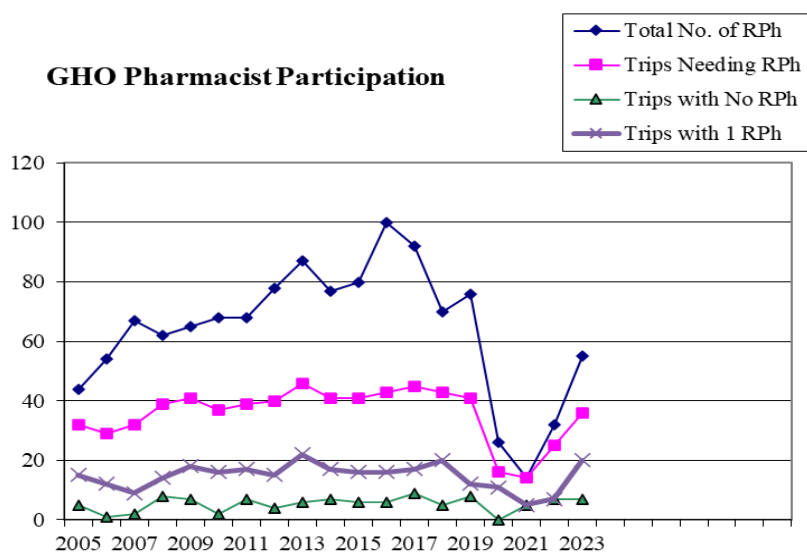
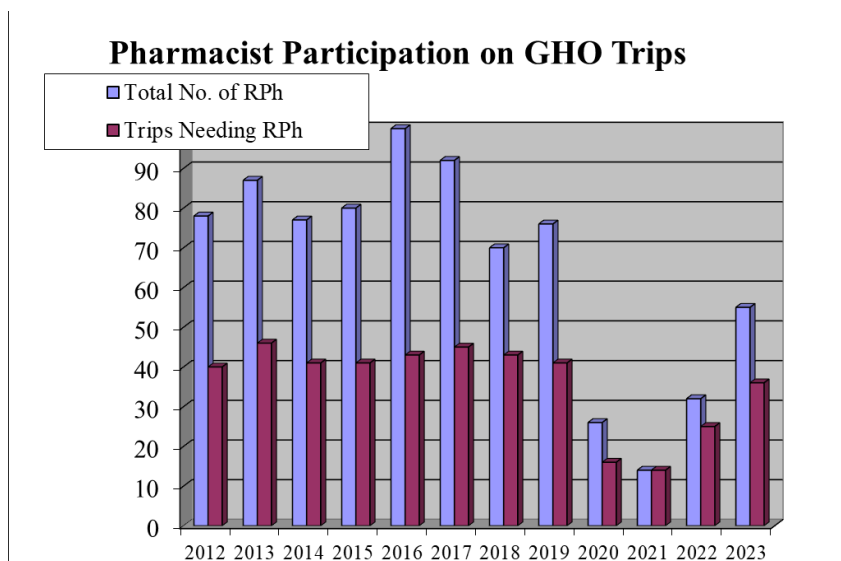
Praise God the GHO short term mission schedule is getting back to normal! There are forty brigades planned for this year, however one trip has been canceled. This compares with twenty-seven trips completed last year. Student activity has increased as universities and colleges have dropped COVID travel restrictions. (See the table and graphs on the last page of this report.)

The journal, newsletter, and webpage promote future GHO opportunities. The Mission Committee does offer scholarships for pharmacists and students who desire to participate in short-term outreach projects. While we made these funds known to those gathered during our National Student Retreat meeting this past June and have promoted this opportunity while meeting with students at Campbell University, we have had one applicant to date this year for our scholarships.

The goal is to have 2 pharmacists participate on every GHO team that goes out to the field.

This 10-year window shows that for the first 6 years we had 70 to 100 pharmacists, students or techs going on the 40 plus trips that needed a pharmacist. The two COVID years, there were a few windows that teams went out. For the past two years we have started to resume a pre-COVID schedule of teams. So far this year we have 40 pharmacists and 15 students that have or are scheduled on teams this calendar year. There are 19 trips still to go out this calendar year, 4 of these do not have a pharmacist and 9 have only 1, so there are still plenty of opportunities to sign up. So, if God is tugging at your heart, there are still opportunities to answer that call!

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total No. of RPh	77	80	100	92	70	76	26	14	32	55
Trips Needing RPh	41	41	43	45	43	41	16	14	25	36
Trips with No RPh	7	6	6	9	5	5	0	5	7	7



Outreach resources:

The *Pharmacist Handbook for Short Term Mission Projects*, the *Best Practices* paper, prescription labels for copying, *Guidelines for Labeling*, a sample formulary, and *Acquisition of Medication for Short Term Medical Mission Trips* are all available on the CPFI website.

Some people after reading our website page that lists our beliefs might want to know more about how they can have a relationship with God. As a result, there is a link to a page that helps seekers have their questions answered, and then tries to help them come to Christ (www.everystudent.com).

Support for our African Outreach:

Bob Watt reports he is glad for continuing involvement with Everyday Publications Inc. (EPI) and their publication and distribution of Christian literature in Swahili. Currently he is finishing up proofreading of the last chapter of William MacDonald's *Believer's Bible Commentary, Vol. 3*, prior to its publishing

in 2023. He hopes to be working with the DRC translation team for additional commentaries to be undertaken in 2023. Regular Zoom meetings with them and others in Assembly leadership are most valuable and helpful. Glenda is grateful to be involved with the Student Program of Bible Study Fellowship (BSF). They all are appreciating learning more about these “minor” prophets—all pointing to the King of Kings!

There seems to have been little forward progress in pharmacy for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This has been particularly frustrating for Bob’s colleague of many years, Paul Kabana Kapuya. CPFI-DRC is going ahead as well as can be expected. The pharmacy projects that Paul has been helping to promote for the public health of the DRC are in limbo because of the ongoing corruption at all levels of the government and turmoil caused by years of rebel activities in the northeastern part of the DRC where many of the pharmacy projects are planned to be implemented to help the needy people.

Paul Kabanga Kapuya adds: There is a conflict for several of the delegation hoping to come to the USA with Paul. The International Pharmaceutical Federation is having a conference in Dakar, Senegal June 1-4. CPFI-DRC is led now by Josy Kongo, head of the Pharmaceutical Society of Kinshasa. Their activities were greatly tested because of Covid-19 and problems throughout all of DRC, including the martial law and the military conflicts with Rwandan and Ugandan rebel groups particularly in the eastern part of the DRC where we worked together for many years.

The members who are most active are at the University of Kinshasa Faculty of Pharmacy where they have prayer meetings each trimester, in conjunction with Campus Crusade for Christ for evangelistic outreach. Overall, in the DRC, their activities are like those described in Isa. 42:3 *"A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not snuff out."*

The big project that CPFI-DRC is working on is a partnership with the Pharmaceutical Society and the Minister of Public Health in a plan for Universal Health Coverage in the DRC. Paul has been a consultant for them to plant 145 official pharmacies and health centers in the DRC. Paul can provide further details about this effort as well, but any project in collaboration with the government is fraught with delays and corruption, including the efforts to open the Hope Pharmacy Ituri in Bunia (to be one of the pharmacies involved in this project).

He adds that the preparation of the young Christian pharmacists is following the same path as Elijah preparing Elisha to be his replacement. He names the five "pillars" of CPFI-DRC that he is working with to continue the ministries and replace him eventually, and compares them to the pillars of CPFI who faithfully continue the legacy begun by CPFI USA.

Paul and Bob are both fighting the dual challenges of age and decreasing physical strength and health. Time is ticking, the needs are even greater than before, and we continue to do what we can to support the Lord's work through pharmacy and the local churches until He comes for us! Much prayer is needed by our brothers and sisters in CPFI for all these matters.

Equipping pharmacists for outreach:

How often do you prescribe specific and appropriate doses of grace that may bring your patients a step closer to a right relationship with God? Many of us in healthcare struggle with guilt and inadequacy in this area. But there is hope.

Grace Prescriptions is designed to teach you to share your faith with patients in ways that safeguard the important ethical principles of respect, sensitivity, and permission. Originally taught in the popular *Saline Solution* course, these concepts are proven to be effective as thousands of lives have been transformed. *Grace Prescriptions* builds on this legacy. It is taught by co-authors Walt Larimore, MD, and William C. Peel, ThM. The program comes as an eight-DVD (fourteen-Modules) with an instructor's manual and participant's manuals for small group presentations. Further information may be obtained from the CPFI or CMDA websites. If anyone has interest and would like help with a plan to keep the issue of personal outreach before each of us, please let myself or someone on the Mission Committee know.

Respectfully submitted, *Keith Allhands*, chair