



# THE KADI HEARTBEAT

PROVIDING SUSTAINABLE HEALTH CARE TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH SUDAN

## A TRIBUTE TO FLORENCE DAA



With the unexpected and heart-wrenching preventable death of Florence Daa, age 27, on June 14, 2021, our Healing Kadi Foundation clinical team lost (and heaven gained) a vital member. Florence was one of our four HKF nurses.

Our team recognized her desire to be a nurse so we directly supported her through nursing school. She then returned to work for us for several years.

Florence was a vivacious, fun-loving, and funny gal. She was hardworking and had a compassionate soul. She was brave often being the one to ask if doctors could see just one more person at the end of the day. She lived at our Ugandan refugee camp and many times cared for patients that came during the night. Florence loved everyone, and she loved to share her South Sudanese culture including music and dating customs.

We believe her death to be preventable as she died from complications of pregnancy that are treatable. The context around her early death: Due to Covid-19, the president of Uganda issued an executive order that shut down travel between districts except for military, police, and ambulance vehicles. This executive order not only stopped our HKF mission team from traveling this year, but directly contributed to Florence's death. As she suffered prolonged bleeding from a miscarriage, it took an ambulance several days to arrive at her location. Then due to travel restrictions, she was taken to the local hospital where she died a few days later because they did not have adequate resources to care for her. A well-known statistic in this African region is that one in seven women die during pregnancy or childbirth. But when it occurred to Florence, a beloved valuable coworker, it was heartbreaking.

In our overwhelming grief, we have renewed our passion to prevent and change this outcome for others in the future. We believe that having adequate accessible medical care like our hospital planned in Kajo Keji and an ambulance that could transport critical patients are desperately needed.

Please continue to pray for Florence's family and friends, her co-workers, and our local HKF board.

As our clinic team plans to move back to South Sudan, Lord willing, by February 2022 to reopen the Marilyn Miller Memorial Clinic and continue construction on the new hospital, we also invite you to pray and support us to prevent another vibrant mother from dying too early.

In humble service for the Lord,

Dr. Debbie Tomek

**Vice President, The Healing Kadi Foundation**



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## CONTINUING TO SERVE REFUGEES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Dear Friends,

The COVID-19 pandemic has indeed reshaped how organizations operate. We are not immune from those effects. During the pandemic, despite a decrease in donations, we continue to see an increasing number of people seeking care in the Uganda refugee clinic and our South Sudan clinic facility. We have not stopped caring for them and as resources allow, we do as much as we can. It is painful to say, “Sorry we don’t have the medicine you need,” but a few times, we had to say it.



While COVID-19 is ravaging the world, there has been a glimmer of hope that relative peace is returning to South Sudan. In March 2021, I visited our clinic facility in Kajo Keji, South Sudan and was thrilled to find that the local people had cleaned the compound. They have been waiting more than four years for HKF to return. Before I came back to the states, our clinic in South Sudan was open to patients three days a week.

The South Sudan clinic was still lacking necessary amenities. As a result, we started significant renovation in July 2021 and will most likely continue until February 2022. Our goal is that the facility will be able to provide full services seven days a week by February 2022. Most of the previous buildings have been renovated, and power has

been restored. We are in the process of repairing the water system. We are thankful to our donors who provided the funds to make this happen.

One of the most challenging things to get in South Sudan is the availability of quality medications. We are thankful to Direct Relief that has been providing us with much-needed medicines. They have been generous enough to ship the medication directly to Juba for our staff to pick up. Direct Relief has also provided us with a grant to renovate the existing buildings and support our team who have been working hard amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

More than ten years ago, when we began this journey in South Sudan, we told the people that we would not abandon them. We followed them to the refugee camp, and now that some of them are returning home, we feel it is our responsibility to go along with them and provide necessary medical services. Even though the warring parties are still working on the long-awaited permanent peace, we are confident that they will deliver. The road to prosperity begins with peace in the land.

As the holiday season draws near, remember The Healing Kadi Foundation in your giving. We also now accept stocks and mutual funds as donations. Let us know and we will send the form to complete. HKF started an Endowment Fund for the long-term needs of the Foundation. If you would like to donate to the endowment, please specify accordingly.

If you feel called to help us with your talents, we welcome them. If you can volunteer time or resources, we appreciate it. But above all, thank you for praying for our board, staff, and the thousands of people whose lives have changed and/or been saved because of your generosity.

Blessings,

Dr. Joseph Dumba

President, The Healing Kadi Foundation



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## SOLAR AND QUALITY HEALTHCARE



CLINIC WAITING ROOM

Living in America, we often do not connect the availability of electricity to the delivery of quality healthcare especially where laboratory testing is needed for a diagnosis or equipment is used for patient recovery. The Healing Kadi Foundation's outpatient clinic in South Sudan daily faces the challenge of having access to sustainable electricity to deliver modern healthcare in Kajo Keji where utilities do not exist. In 2015, The Healing Kadi Foundation shared this challenge with you and you saw an opportunity to save lives by raising funds to purchase a solar system. It was installed at the outpatient clinic in 2016 which expanded services to provide quality healthcare to approximately 200 patients a day.



CLINIC RENOVATION

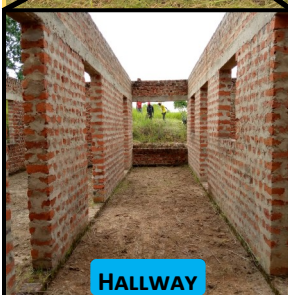
During the South Sudan Civil War in 2017, the solar system was uninstalled by The Healing Kadi staff and moved to Uganda to secure it from vandalism and theft. With relative peace returning to South Sudan now, the refugees are returning home from camps in Uganda. As a result, there is a dire need for modern health services comparable to the pre-civil war days.

As HKF transitions to re-open its outpatient clinic in Kajo Keji, South Sudan, it is working to make the facility operational by restoring power, repairing structures, and updating the water system. Your generosity has been instrumental in this milestone that not only restores delivery of quality health services, but also allows timely completion of ongoing structural repairs. Additionally, the access to reliable solar power will enhance HKF's ability to complete construction of the pediatric hospital in the future.



PEDIATRIC HOSPITAL

The transition process of restoring the existing infrastructure has been challenging because it requires not only financial resources but also innovation. Constructing in an environment where a hardware store is not available requires a creative and cohesive team to overcome challenges such as purchasing a construction tool or nails which requires traveling across an international border. If you are interested in joining our team, we are looking for your construction talents. Through the multiple Healing Kadi projects, you will find adventure and gain humbling technical work experiences. Your talents will greatly enhance the ability of our hardworking construction team in Kajo Keji.



HALLWAY

Thank you for your unwavering support to HKF so we can deliver medical services to the people of South Sudan.

Pendo Duku

Board Member, The Healing Kadi Foundation

## CONTACTS

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*So the poor have hope...*

*Job 5:16*

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