



L to R: Pauline Rappold. Michaela, Elizabeth, and Madeline Novack. Brooke, Rachel, Luke, Kayleen, and Jackson Snyder. Paul N.

MOM Update - Summer Mission Trip 2017

We thank God for the safe return of all our team members from our mission trip to Nigeria. We are grateful for the many who gave and prayed to make this trip possible. Thank you.

What follows is a brief report of our trip.

Our first stop was the Lokoja branch MOM orphanage where approximately 50 kids and their caregivers reside. We conducted a VBS for the 22 school age children. We had only prepared crafts for that group, but soon the younger kids were asking when they would get their turn, so we gave them song time, verse memorization, and of course, snacks.

On the same campus the newly opened MoM Medical Centre offers free maternity care to those who cannot otherwise afford it. During our stay two women were delivered by C-section who would have died without the free care offered. On the right is a photo of one of those women, with her happy husband and their healthy twin girls.



Detail of murals in children's ward.

Kayleen spearheaded the painting of a beautiful colorful mural in the children's ward of the Medical Centre. When not painting or doing VBS, we played with the children and held motherless babies.

The Honorable Justice Ibrahim Shaibu and his family graciously hosted us in Lokoja, providing beds, food, and air conditioning. We were privileged to join their family for devotions each morning, for Sunday worship, and for a meeting with several pastors and elders. These leaders testified about the impact that Pauline's grandparents and other early missionaries had on the Igala people. And they were deeply grateful for our visit.

Our next stop was the remote village of Otutulu, the larger branch of MoM where about 250 kids live with their caregivers. Here we gave 24/7 care to twin preemies, played with the children, talked with the caregivers, and visited the school.

One day we conducted a "free yard sale". Pauline organized the many donated items that we had brought from the States. Each "Auntie" with her children came as a family group and were given items that fit their needs. If there was nothing suitable for any individual, we gave a bag of M&Ms instead.



The twin girls delivered by C-Section. Three lives were saved at MoM Medical Centre that day.

We were overwhelmed to see firsthand the extent to which these children and their caregivers have almost nothing. Babies are left in soggy diapers because diapers are so expensive and can't be "wasted". Each "family" lives in one or two rooms which are furnished with a mattress and maybe a table. They store their few belongings in bags. They rely on donations of food, diapers, and clothing.

While they were grateful for the many things we gave them, many people repeatedly expressed appreciation for our presence. We let them know that it was because many people supported us so generously that we all were able to go.



Michaela fits a child with a dress.

They and we send our heartfelt thanks and blessings to each of you for your prayers and donations.

For more details about our trip, visit <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofMOM/>

If this link doesn't work, search for "Friends of MOM Nigeria" on facebook. You will find photos and video of our trip as recorded by Paul Novack.

There are several ways to contribute financially to MoM Orphanage. All gifts are tax-deductible.

1. Write a check to Partners in Joy, Inc. and send it to PO Box 3761, Pueblo CO 81005. Add a note "for orphanage".

2. Order Bill Pay from your bank account using the same information.
3. Visit <http://www.partners-in-joy.org/> Select Ministry of Mercy from "Our Ministries" in the green ribbon near the top of the page and donate using PayPal or a credit or debit card.
4. Select "Orphanage Grocery Store" from the same green ribbon and "shop" there for specific supplies. We will wire the donation to MOM, and they will use it to buy those supplies.

God bless you!

"This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"



"Free garage sale" of loads of donated items.



Peter and Paul, motherless, premature twins who weighed 2.8 and 5.3 lbs upon arrival were one of our assignments.