



**Nursing by
the Seat
of your
Scrubs!**

**Sharon
Thomas, RN**

Objectives:

- ▣ **Understand the healthcare crisis of Third World Countries**
- ▣ **Recognize the healthcare needs of individuals living in Third World Countries**
- ▣ **Acknowledge what you can do to help impact this crisis**

Definition of Nursing

Nursing: 1) Profession concerned with the provision of services essential to the maintenance and restoration of health by attending the needs of sick persons.

More than 85% of Kenya's 20,000 nurses are trained at certificate level and do not have registered nurses' diploma, leaving them inadequately qualified to treat major diseases, such as HIV, TB and malaria. Classroom-based training for the registered nurses' diploma was limited, meaning only 100 of the 20,000 nurses could qualify each year. This has left Kenya with just one registered nurse per 27,000 people.

AMREF.ORG

African, Medical and Research Foundation

Many nurses who are overworked, underpaid and underappreciated in Kenya are finding better working conditions by entering Western markets, a phenomenon that is undermining Kenya's fight against HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB.

In Kenya, an average nurse's wage is less than \$275 a month, leaving many to rely on a spouse's wage or on loans. Some work a second job or take part in a small business. Others seek better prospects working in understaffed hospitals and nursing homes in Britain, the United States, Australia and New Zealand, where they can earn up to 10 times more than in Kenya.

- **Up to 20,000 highly qualified nurses and doctors are leaving Africa each year.**
- **In Kenya, 3,390 nurses have left for richer nations over the past five years.**
- **Many will pay fees equal to 10 months of wages to private recruitment firms in order to qualify and register to work abroad. (HIV dent.org)**

- **More than 85 percent of nurses in Kenya are not certified or trained to manage new and re-emerging diseases—especially HIV/AIDS and malaria.**
- **The average Kenyan child contracts malaria nearly *five times* every year and more than 3,000 children on the African continent die from the disease *every day*. (CDC.gov 2024)**

- **The average salary for a Registered Nurse (RN) in Belize is BZ\$38,000 (\$19,000 USD) in 2026.**
- **Madagascar - the average nurse earns about 1,010,083 Malagasy Ariary (MGA) per month, which is roughly USD \$220.**
- **In Kenya, registered nurses (RNs) earn an average of about KSh 400,000 (\$3,071.20 USD) per year (KSh 33,333/month (\$253.37 USD))**

Kenya Medical Mission Team, 2008





Indonesia Mission Trip Feb. 2009

MADAGASCAR MISSION

OCTOBER, 2009



Haiti Mission Team Mar 2010



Belize Mission Team



Oh the Places I have Slept!



Open air of the D.R.



Sleeping in Haiti



Lodging in Belize is “elevated”



Oh the Places I have Seen . . .

▣ Streets of Kibera



Life in the Slums of Kibera



Orphan Child of Kibera





Meat Market in Madagascar



Makeshift Shoes



“Modest” Dwellings



Home for family of 5 in Haiti



STREET KIDS OF HAITI



Shelter for Haitians



Kenya Orphans



A visit to the local orphanage in Haiti



you be my daddy?"



TRAVEL IN KENYA

So Many Roads, So Many Miles . . .



So many obstacles along the way





3rd World sights: Muddy water!



Sculpted Fields



Poinsettia Tree



Ancient Bridges and temples in Bali



Love the Lemurs



Child Labor



Craftsman



Hospital Laundry



Wash day



Hard Physical Labor





Clinic Days-

***Most prevalent diseases are still HIV, Malaria and TB along with parasites**



Importance of cultural diversity and implicit bias in the mission field

- To be successful you must partner with the community health providers. Build trust!
- Community Health Education (or CHE) equips communities to identify issues and mobilize resources to achieve positive, sustainable change.
- You **MUST** establish a relationship and earn the trust of the people you are serving.
- Identify community learners that will be able to identify the problems the community face.

Go in search of your people. Love them. Learn from them. Serve them. Begin with what they have. Build on what they know. But with the best of leaders, when the task is accomplished, the people all remark “We have done it ourselves!”

Handling Cultural Diversity

Nurse Beatrice
– One of many
interpreters and
assistants







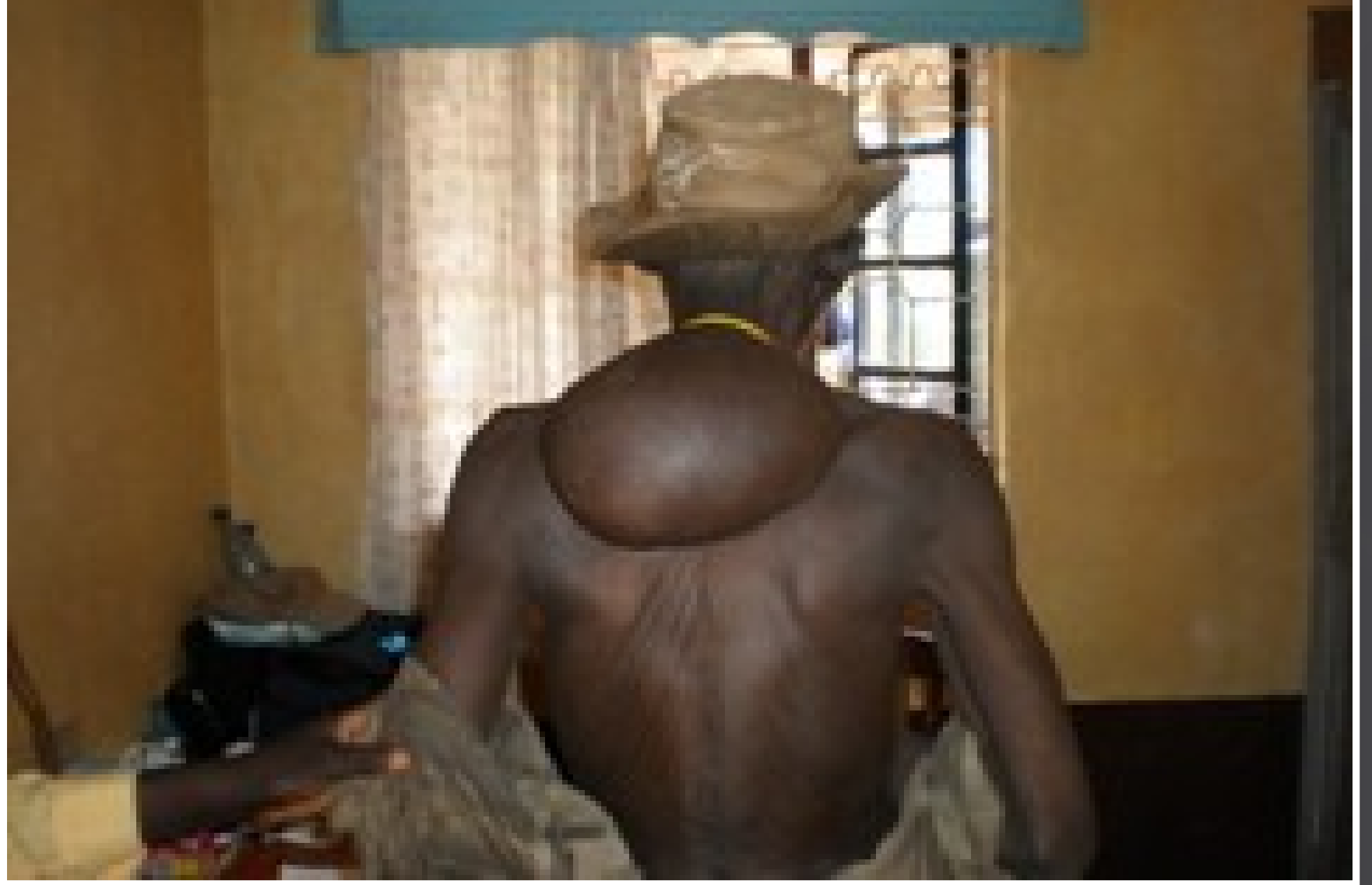
Pierre learning suturing and Sharon cleaning a machete injury



Swahili tribe member



Man with “back pain”



Skin Cancer









Meet Sabina, chronic leg wound



Bringing Hope to the Hopeless, Meet Joyce:



Goiter/fungal infections



“Oh-Oxygenase” – or H2O2 Hearing loss from wax build up is common

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Medical Chart

Name _____
Address _____

Ragafianese Jacqueline

Age 45y 13

Chief Complaint _____

Flank pain, HA

P.E. _____

or dysuria,

Abd exam neg

parasites in stool

Dx _____

parasites in stool

HA

Rx _____

Albendazole gran

Admit per

Marasmus-the reality of starvation



Open Air Clinic in Banda Aceh





Pharmacy in a Box



Our infusion room



TOBY-home to the infirmed



**Mentally
ill and
drug addicts
kept in
chains in the
Toby along
with orphans**



Lack of Care for the Mentally ill







Andranomadio Hospital

meaning
"Living Water"
in Malagasy
striving to
make changes
in their
country.





10/26/2009 02:09

Newborn Nursery



Janet Saves a Life



10/26/2009 09:24

Janet's Baby suffers burns



“open air clinic in Haiti”



Too frightened to be inside



Caring for child on ground



The UN provided tents



“Post-op” laundry room



Venetta



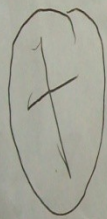
Post-op Ward





CYRIL LEON

11 YRS



NO FAMILY OR
CARE-TAKER

HEAD LESIONS + STITCHES

⊗ SEVERE WOUND @ LOW LEG

Cleaned + Debrided (John...)

LESIONS RT LOW ABDOMEN
RT BACK - (over and over)

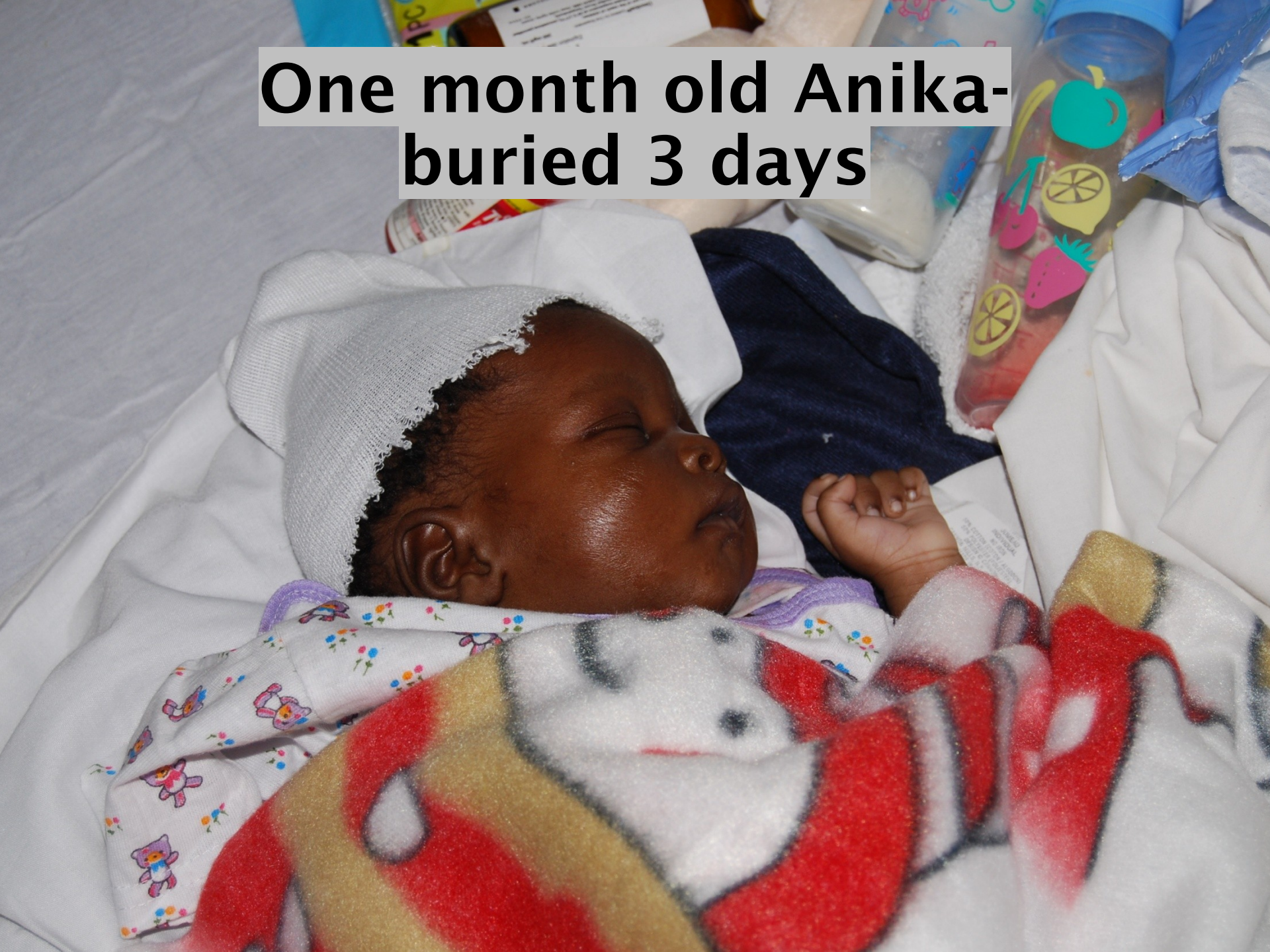
1/18 1730 RT
dress



**Buried
48
hours**



**One month old Anika-
buried 3 days**



Reunited with her Baby



DENISE 26
Sele

Pasillo 3

Martha





Dehydrated Baby





**Faith in spite of
Devastation**

15 yr old raising siblings



Scabies Treatments



**Why education focused missions?
Understanding Community Health Education -www.limm.org**



Health Education Classes



Help for Belize- realizing a vision by partnering with the villagers



What is Your Mission?

**Fulfilling work life? Happy family life?
Building a Career? Serving others?**



**Don't Let the Sun Set on
Finding Your Mission In Life!**





Thank You!

**Sharon
Thomas
RN**