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THE  
WORKER



# THE WORKER JOURNAL



HEALTHCARE COMPLEX



Empowering Insights and Innovations in Healthcare.

IN GOD IS OUR HELP AND HEALTH

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# MEDIPRIME EXECUTIVES



**Medical Superintendent**

**Dr. Daniel Nii  
Armah Tetteh**



**Administrator**

**Mr. Cosmas Beyuo**



**Nurse Manager/Matron**

**Rev. Sr. Clothilda  
Nen-Nome**



**Accountant**

**Mr. Evans Nindor**



**Chaplain**

**Rev. Fr. Moses Sansa Mhe-mhe**

St. Joseph Hospital, situated in Jirapa, Upper West Region, is an affiliated Catholic Health Service Trust hospital. Our primary objective is to uphold Christ's healing ministry through modern healthcare delivery methods. Through a dedicated and motivated staff, we pursue excellence in clinical care, with the aim of serving highly satisfied clients. Our focus on innovation, productivity, and establishing a sustainable system plays a crucial role in achieving our goals.

When it comes to serving our clients, we take pride in achieving our lowest annual mortality rate in the past year, and maintaining a consistent rate of less than 2% over the last three years. Just as our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, embarked on a mission of doing good and healing the sick on earth, we too follow in his footsteps by striving to heal the sick through orthodox medicine, fulfilling our master's will.

## OUR MISSION

To provide high quality health care in the most efficient and innovative manner, specific to the needs of the communities we serve and at all times acknowledging the dignity of the patient.

## OUR VISION

To continue Christ's healing ministry in bringing healing to the greatest possible number of people and the provision of total quality patient care through healers with good ethical and moral standards; who are conscientious as well as professionally competent, motivated and united in their common respect of fundamental human values.



# CONTENTS

BRIEF HISTORY.....	4
EDITORIAL .....	5
MESSAGE FROM HMT.....	5
✓ INNOVATIONS.....	6-11
PROJECTS.....	12-15
CELEBRATIONS.....	16
VISITS.....	17-18
EVENTS/ACTIVITIES.....	19
DONATIONS.....	20-22
SAFECARE.....	23
HEALTH EDUCATION.....	24
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW.....	25
IN-SERVICE TRAINING.....	26-28
EQUIPMENT.....	29-30
AWARDS.....	32-35
GALLERY.....	36-40
ANNOUNCEMENTS.....	42

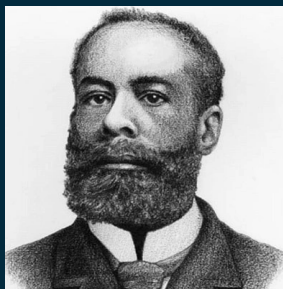


# BRIEF HISTORY

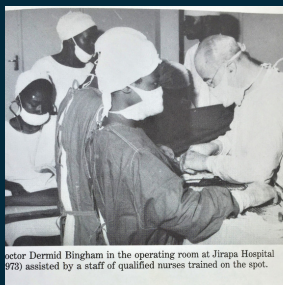
## ARRIVING IN JIRAPA IN NOVEMBER 1929

St. Joseph Hospital Jirapa was started in the convent of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary Congregation (FMM) in 1949 as a wound dressing centre for the people of Jirapa and its surrounding communities.

In 1953, the then Catholic Mission of Tamale adopted and converted the wound dressing centre into a hospital to provide basic services in General Medicine, Deliveries, Surgery and Paediatrics; with the sole aim of extending the healing ministry of Christ to the poor and marginalized.



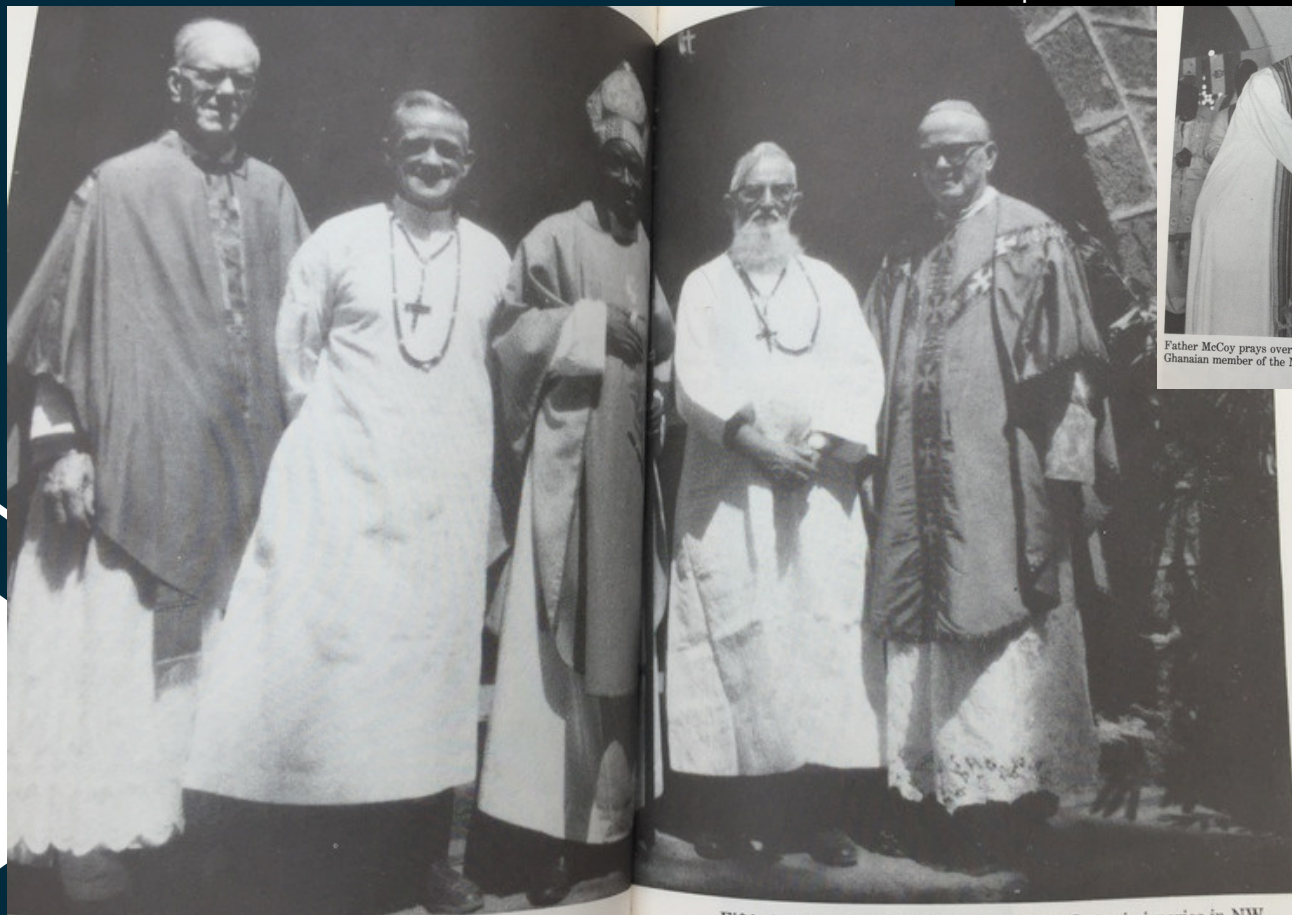
REV. FR. MCCOY



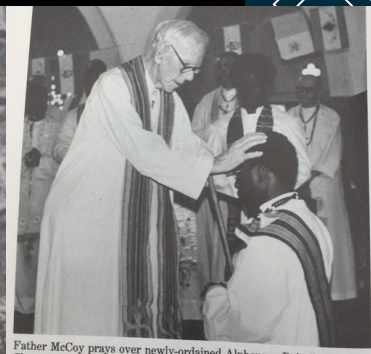
Peter Dermid Bingham in the operating room at Jirapa Hospital (1978) assisted by a staff of qualified nurses trained on the spot.

Aside the clinical service, the Hospital was also mandated to train pupil nurses and midwives to the required standards of the regulatory bodies (Ministry of Health). It was also moved to its present site and managed solely and purely as a mission institution by the Church.

Their critical staffs were mainly expatriates. In 1956, the Mission entered into an Agency Agreement with the government of the then Gold Coast, now Ghana, where the government was required to provide such infrastructure, as may be required, and the emoluments of the requisite staff engaged and employed by the Mission. The Agency Agreement in its original form has remained till date, but its operations have substantially changed over the period.



Fiftieth anniversary of the arrival of the first missionaries in NW Ghana (1979). L. to r.: Father McCoy, Brother John (Aidan) Ryan, Archbishop Dery, Brother Basilide Koot, and Bishop Bertrand.



Father McCoy prays over newly-ordained Alphonse Bakyl, first Ghanaian member of the Missionaries of Africa. (Jirapa, 13 July 1985)



# EDITORIAL

Larana, Inc

Hello esteemed readers! Welcome to the latest edition of St. Joseph THE WORKER, the quarterly news bulletin of St. Joseph Hospital, Jirapa. Thank you for your ongoing support. Our dedicated team has carefully crafted informative and engaging content, aiming to captivate your interest and offer insights into our hospital's latest developments. This edition covers a variety of topics, including innovations, health education, and updates from special medical teams' visits. We aim to provide a comprehensive overview of hospital activities. Your feedback is valued; please share your thoughts on our articles. We strive to enhance and deliver tailored content for your interests. Thank you once again for your continued readership. We hope you enjoy this bulletin!

## A MESSAGE FROM THE HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

On behalf of the hospital management team, we thank God for a successful year thus far. This year, the hospital is 70 years old. The year started with our end of year staff awards, which saw some departments and 16 staff winning awards for remarkable services.

The maiden edition of our annual leadership workshop took place on 20th July at the FMM convent conference hall. The first team of German Urologist arrived in February this year and the second team are expected to arrive in October 2023. Staff medical subsidy was expanded to include staff spouses. We have also started onsite banking and revenue collection with GCB.

This year, the hospital opened its pharmacy and laboratory annexes to reduce client stay time and offer a wider scope of services. Our mental ward and addiction rehabilitation services was started in July this year. The hospital received donations from our partners and well-wishers, including ultrasound machines, oxygen concentrators, suction machines, patient monitors etc.

LHIMS software has been introduced since the last three months. The software has proven to be very beneficial in improving service delivery, record keeping as well as the hospital's image. There was a peer visit to our sister facility, St. Theresa hospital, Nandom, by management and all heads of department to learn best practices.

Our annual Staff health screening took place in August this year. The inauguration of a website, [www.jirapasjh.com](http://www.jirapasjh.com), has made it easier for external stakeholders to be able access information on the hospital.

A big thank you to our strategic management team and committed staff who have worked through thick and thin for the realization of our vision.



**MATRON 360 TEAM WITH MATERNITY IN-CHARGE**

*In its pursuit of excellence, St. Joseph Hospital in Jirapa introduces "Matron 360" – an approach ensuring safe and effective healthcare delivery. A five-member committee, representing diverse healthcare fields, employs a checklist to evaluate wards, units, and departments. Performance rankings are assigned based on these assessments.*



**FIFTEEN (15) GSM WIRELESS TELEPHONES**

**FIFTEEN (15) GSM WIRELESS TELEPHONES**

Invariably, effective information communication and sharing in every establishment including the health system is extremely crucial and the benefits are enormous. To facilitate and promote effective information communication and sharing among wards, unit and departments, fifteen (15) GSM Wireless Telephones have been procured and distributed in July, 2022.





## PEER VISIT TO ST. THERESA HOSPITAL

### VISIT TO ST. THERESA HOSPITAL

*Hospital management together with heads of department undertook a visit to our sister facility in the region to fraternise as well as to learn best practices at their facility in order to improve upon our system. Findings from the visit were later discussed at our extended management level for possible implementation.*



### INFORMATION DESK

In every institution or organization, prioritizing client satisfaction is a topmost concern. To effectively monitor client concerns, views, and suggestions, the hospital management took measures to establish an information desk. This desk's mandate includes assessing clients and the visiting public, providing accurate information, and receiving complaints and concerns. Additionally, the unit is authorized to make daily announcements when necessary. This initiative was implemented in June 2022 based on a recommendation from the extended management body of St. Joseph Hospital. The information desk is conveniently located at the hospital's outpatient department.





St Joseph and St Theresa Hospital joint management team

### JOINT MANAGEMENT RETREAT

*Hospital management teams from both St Joseph and St Theresa Hospital had a joint management meeting where they discussed pertinent and practical issues concerning hospital management and shared experiences to improve service delivery in our facilities.*



COVID-19 ISOLATION UNIT

### COVID-19 ISOLATION UNIT

The COVID-19 Isolation Center is a vital pandemic response hub, offering infected individuals a secure setting for care and isolation. With controlled conditions that reduce transmission risks, it provides essential medical support while protecting the wider community. Staffed with experts and strict safety measures, the center plays a key role in halting infection spread and mitigating the virus' public health impact. The centre is equally designated to hold cases of diseases that can assume epidemic proportion





## THEATRE RECOVERY ROOM

### THEATRE RECOVERY ROOM

*Nestled within the compassionate corridors of St. Joseph Hospital in Jirapa lies a haven of healing. The theatre recovery room was started in August this year. It is a sanctuary where the magic of medicine and the art of care converge. This space plays a vital role in the holistic journey of every patient who undergoes surgery.*

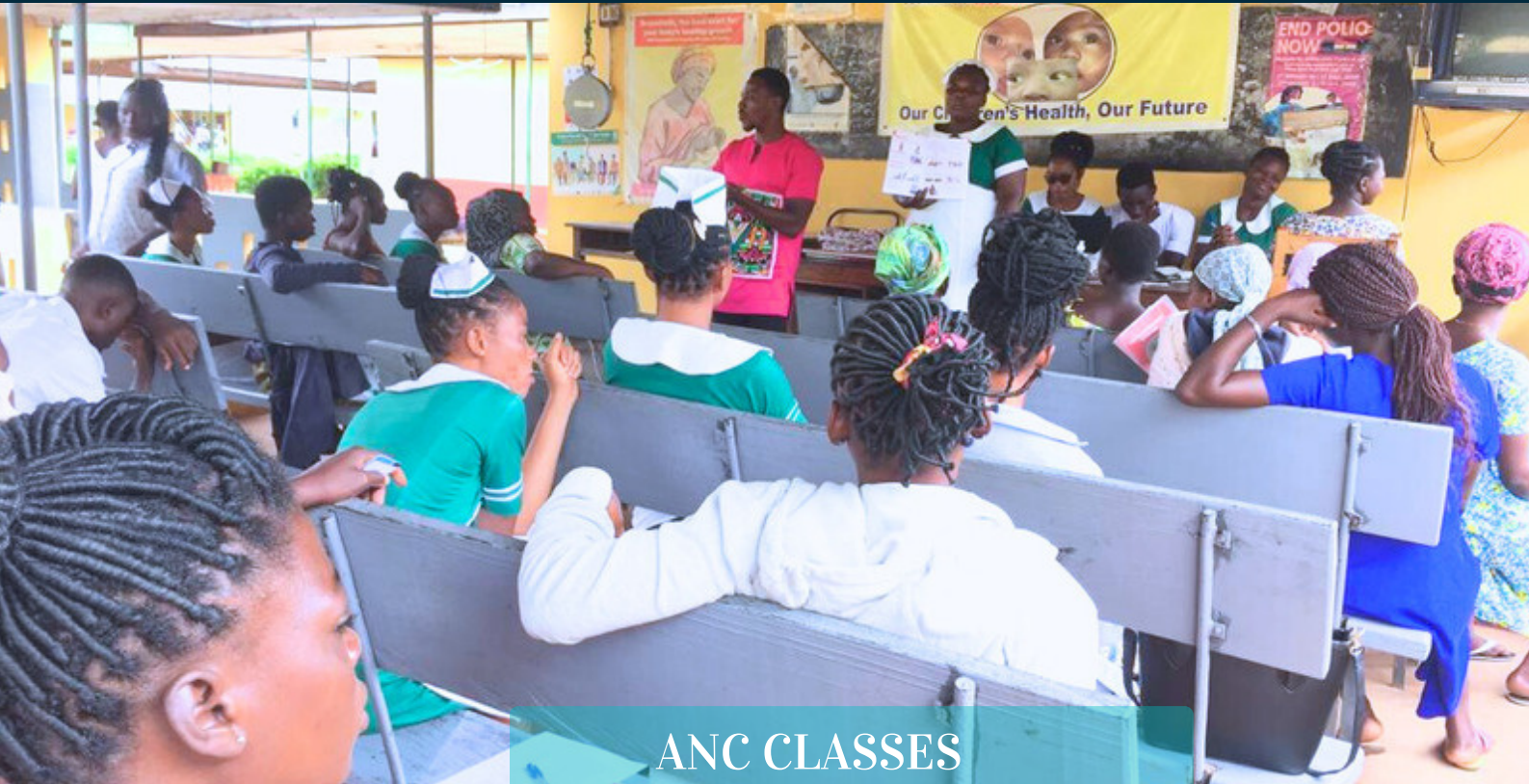


## PHARMACY ANNEX

### PHARMACY ANNEX

Initiated in July 2022, the Pharmacy Annex Project has been operational since November 2022, aiming to tackle the challenge of extended queues and prolonged wait times observed at the hospital pharmacy. Additionally, the project aimed to enhance the diversity of medications offered, prompting the establishment of distinct pharmacies for Outpatient Department (OPD) and Inpatient Department (IPD) services.





ANC CLASSES

**ANC CLASSES**

*In February, 2022, the Public Health Unit in collaboration with ANC of the St. Joseph Hospital carefully developed health education programs for pregnant and expectant mothers who access antenatal services in the facility. The idea received an overwhelming endorsement of the Hospital Management and has since been supporting every activity of the program. The overarching objective of the program is to bring together expectant mothers of the same gestational ages to educate them on important issues that are beneficial to ultimate outcomes to their pregnancies.*

**GHANA COMMERCIAL BANK ONSITE AND INTERNET BANKING**

Another innovative intervention that has been implemented in a bid to improve the hospital's revenue generation, by eliminating some loopholes which were adversely affecting the generation and retention of income, is the Ghana Commercial Bank onsite and internet banking. This laudable intervention came in the month of June, 2022.



GCB BANKING





## SPECIALTY UNITS COMMUNITY HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAMS

*Community health programs enhance access to preventive care, involve citizens in decisions, and reduce medical costs. In February 2023, St. Joseph Hospital's specialty units launched a preventive care package. Two outreach services followed, screening over 400 pupils at St. Joseph's Primary School for ear, eye, and dental issues. Deworming was also provided for intestinal health.*

## INCEPTION OF LABORATORY ANNEX

As part of the hospital's commitment to reducing the waiting time of pregnant women and enhancing the provision of comprehensive and quality antenatal care services, a laboratory annex was created in June 2023 primarily to render laboratory services to our pregnant women. The recommendation came after series of discussions and consultations held to fashion out a prudent and sustainable means of resolving the pregnant woman waiting time quagmire at the laboratory. To manage the place, three more laboratory technicians were recruited to augment the hospital's laboratory staffing. Now, at St. Joseph Hospital, pregnant and expectant mothers do not join the main stream to access laboratory services.



**LABORATORY ANNEX**





**Embarking on a Brighter, Healthier Future with Our New Hospital Facilities.**  
*In partnership with the Mental Health Authority, the hospital initiated a project to tackle the oversight of mental health concerns, including rehabilitation for alcohol and substance addiction.*



**UNCOMPLETED NEW ADMINISTRATION BLOCK**

The new Administration block, a capital-intensive project, will soon resume and finish, thanks to government collaboration. It is a multipurpose structure housing OPD rooms, records, and administration offices, with a conference room on the first floor. This upgrade enhances aesthetics while preserving its unique historical significance.





## Welcome to LHIMS EHR

Enter a valid username and password to gain access to the LHIMS dashboard



## Login Panel

Username

Password

Secure Login

Email: [info@lwehs.com](mailto:info@lwehs.com) | Phone: 1.678.510.1739

## LHIMS

*The St. Joseph Hospital, Jirapa had its Light Wave Health Information Management System (LHIMS) training from 8th to 23rd May, 2023. Approximately, 97% of the general staff of the hospital were trained prior to the operationalization of LHIMS. The facility eventually went paperless on the 1st of June, 2023 with series of onsite trainings as well.*



Dr. Godfrey Bacheyie generously gifted a new borehole to enhance water supply at St. Joseph Hospital, easing pressure on the existing one. We deeply appreciate your ongoing support, Dr. Godfrey Bacheyie. Blessings to you.







## Refurbishment of Religious Ward

*This Ward, constructed and dedicated by the Religious, is specifically designated for the care of ailing members of the clergy. Additionally, it serves as a distinguished VIP ward within the hospital. In July 2022, a comprehensive renovation was undertaken, enhancing the ward with four modern flat-screen televisions and an equal number of refrigeration units.*

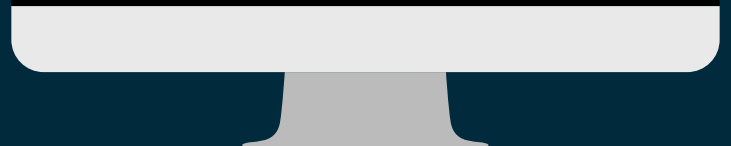
## Billing units

Two billing units were constructed in the month of July, 2022 to augment the work of the existing one and to ease congestion as well.



## Completion of Hospital Canteen

Responding to the need for an on-site dining option, the hospital management successfully built a canteen in November 2022. This initiative addresses staff's challenges in accessing meals and refreshments during working hours.



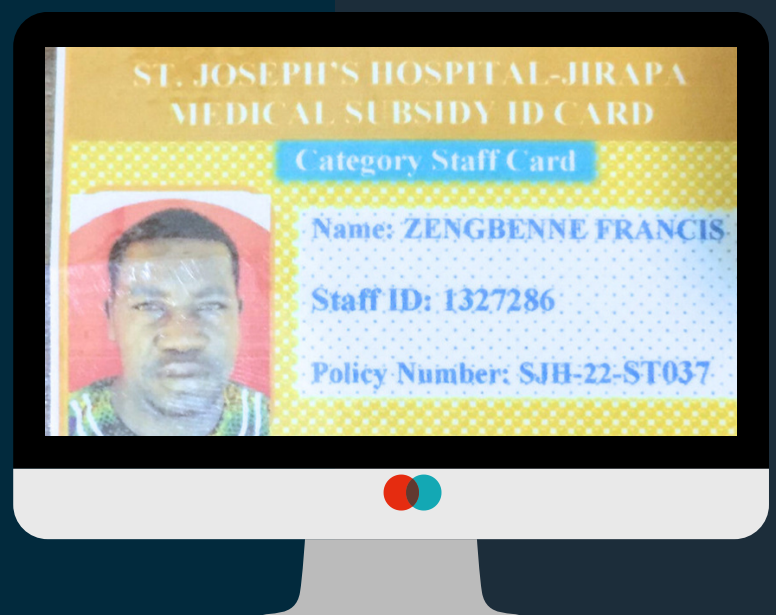


## Newly renovated hospital's staff bungalow

*Accommodation of critical staff is a key concern at St. Joseph Hospital. Despite the limited number of hospital accommodation, effort is constantly being put into the renovation of the old and even dilapidated available accommodation, for the convenience of accommodated staff.*



## Staff medical subsidy policy ID card



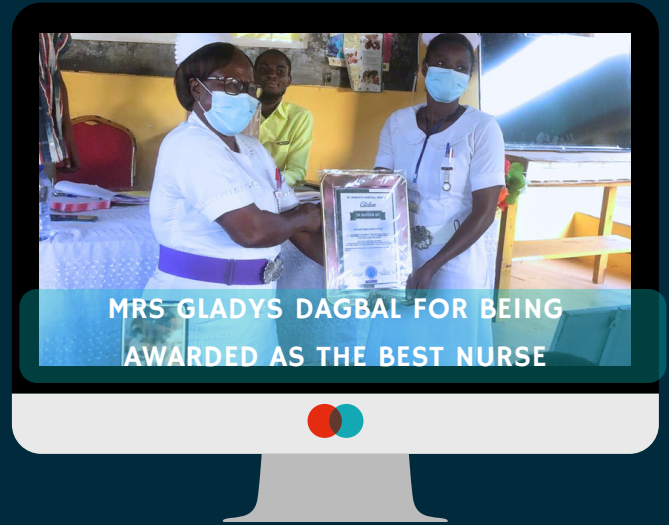
The staff medical subsidy was an initiative undertaken by hospital management in collaboration with the policy's committee to address the issue of alleviating financial pressures on hospital staff and their dependents in their time of healthcare needs. It is a well-coordinated and controlled system put in place according to the hospital's financial capacity.

# END OF YEAR AWARDS

On December 15, 2022, the hospital held an award ceremony at the ANC pavilion to recognize and motivate outstanding staff, units, and departments. NICU received the best ward, Theatre won best unit, and the mortuary department was honored as best department.



**MRS. JANE-FRANCES AWAANA FOR BEING AWARDED AS THE OVERALL BEST STAFF**



**MRS GLADYS DAGBAL FOR BEING AWARDED AS THE BEST NURSE**

Distinguished individuals were honored for their dedication. Miss Alfredina Dery received the junior staff's best administrative worker award. Mrs. Bayirinoba Margaret was recognized for her long service, and Mrs. Jane-Frances Awaana was named the overall best staff of 2022. The Medical Superintendent applauded the winners, urging continued effort for hospital progress and thanking all staff for their commitment.



**MRS. MARGARET BAYIRINOBA FOR BEING AWARDED AS THE BEST LONG SERVING STAFF**



# THE FAMILY ZONE



## UROLOGISTS' VISIT

Twice each year, German urologists from Doctors of Africa visit the hospital to conduct surgeries and treatments for prostate, bladder, and urinary tract problems, along with addressing erectile dysfunction and female fertility issues. These services are provided free of charge to those covered by the national health insurance scheme.

The Greater Works Restoration Foundation identified the hospital's needs and offered crucial assistance by offering free surgical services to the community. Their visit underscores effective teamwork and the impactful outcomes achievable through dedicated collaboration.

The German Urologists from Doctors of Africa visit us biannually.



In February this year, the German Urologists from Doctors of Africa visited our facility to do free surgeries. Their next visit would be in October 2023.



Visit of the Surgical Team from Greater Works Restoration Foundation.

## **ROTARY CLUB OF WINDSOR VISITS ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL.**

The hospital received a visit from the Rotary Club of Windsor, Canada. Dr. Godfrey Bachehie, a Jirapa native and Rotary Club member, has fostered a lasting connection between the club and the hospital.

Over time, the club has made significant contributions, including constructing a mother's hostel at the pediatric unit for resting mothers of patients. They also provide donations of supplies and equipment during their visits.



## **QUARTERLY EYE SURGERIES OUTREACH**

Mr. Seth Wanye, an Ophthalmologist Specialist is a partner of the hospital who visits the hospital quarterly every year to perform both major and minor eye surgeries. These surgeries are performed freely for clients who are covered by the Health Insurance Scheme. In his last visit, he performed 24 major and minor eye surgeries. The eye conditions he treats include glaucoma, cataract and any other eye conditions.







## FUN GAMES

*In the spirit of work-life balance, staff from St. Joseph Hospital and the Municipal Health Directorate came together for fun games. The aim was to alleviate year-long work stress and monotony. Ludo, draft, chess, volleyball, and football were played, and health screenings were provided. The Municipal Health Directorate team triumphed in volleyball and football, with the event graced by the medical superintendent and municipal director.*

## ARRIVAL OF CRITICAL STAFF

In February 2023, the management and staff welcomed three new members: Dr. Silas Gbogere, a medical officer; Ms. Grace Aduko, specialized in peri-operative care; and Mr. Clement Dumlo, a pharmacist. Ms. Grace returned after peri-operative nursing studies, while Mr. Clement replaced the retiring Mr. George Dabuo. Dr. Silas boosts medical officer numbers. Their addition did not only increase staff strength but also improved healthcare delivery.



**Dr. Silas Gbogere**



**Pharm. Clement Anlo Duuma**



**Ms. Grace Aduko**

## STAFF HEALTH SCREENING

Annually, the hospital conducts staff health screenings in August. This initiative aids in detecting hidden ailments due to busy schedules hindering regular checkups. Screening covers Hepatitis B&C, diabetes, hypertension, tooth decay, glaucoma, and more.







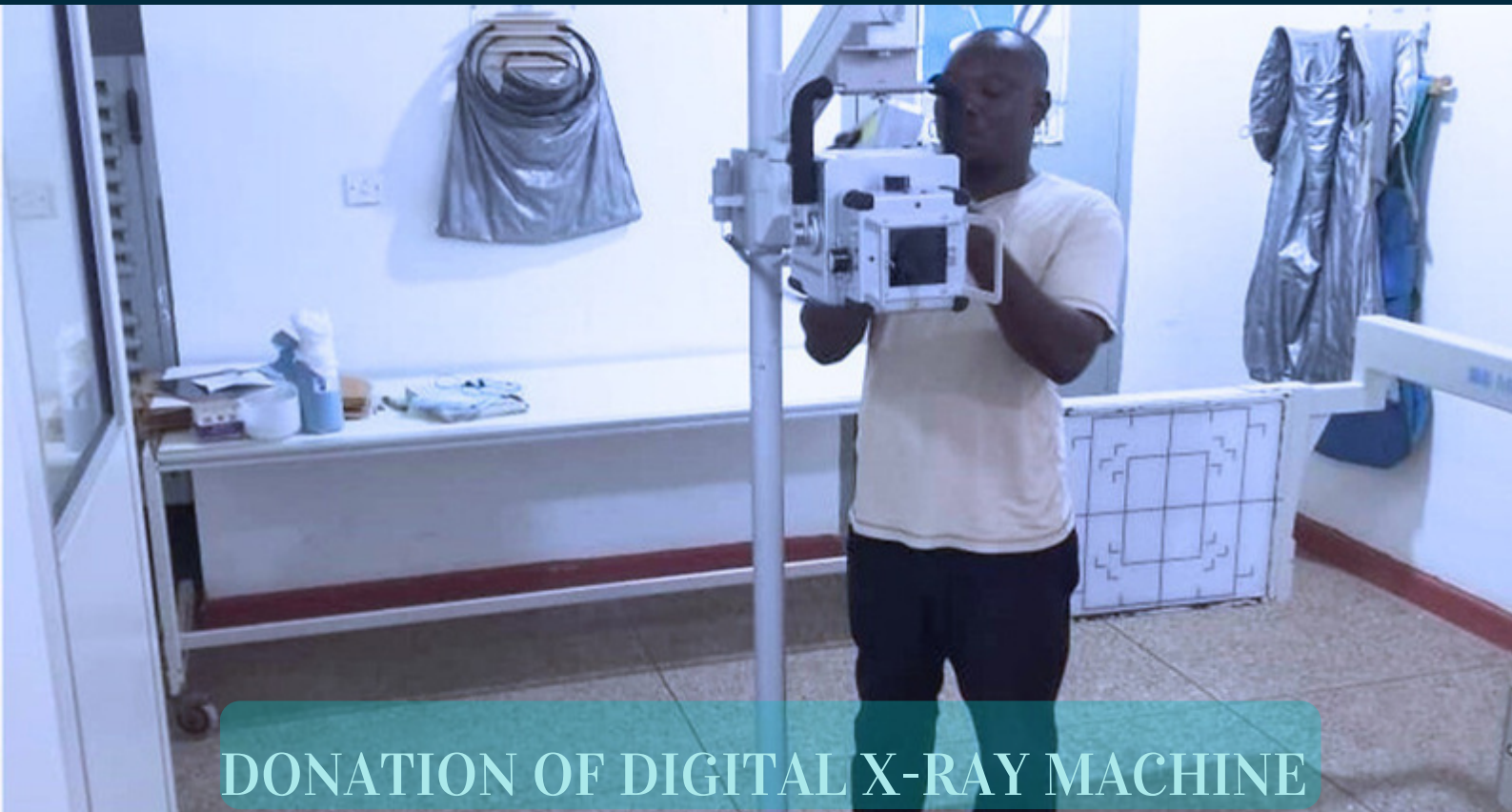
## DONATION FROM MTN GHANA

*Mr. Cosmas Beyuo, St. Joseph Hospital-Jirapa's Administrator, appreciated MTN Ghana's aid for PPE, supplementing their existing supplies.*

**Blood donation exercise by students of St. Joseph Nursing and Midwifery colleges, Jirapa sponsored by MTN Ghana. Blood Donation Drive: Lifesaving Contributions.**







## DONATION OF DIGITAL X-RAY MACHINE

The hospital received a digital X-ray machine from Delft Imaging through the National TB program to improve on TB case detection rates.

Ghana Anaesthetists Association's donation during their annual celebration

Enhancing Lives Through Healthcare Impact.







**Blood donation exercise at St. Francis of Assisi Girls SHS**



**Donation from Jirapa Municipal Member of Parliament – Hon. Cletus Seidu Dapilah**

**Donation from Mr. Eric Johnson**  
**CEO of Royal Cosy Hills Resort.**

Donation of flat-screen TVs, ceiling fans, and air conditioning units to the OPD/Emergency complex.





## ST JOSEPH HOSPITAL ATTAINS SAFE CARE LEVEL 3 RATING

The St Joseph Hospital, Jirapa chalked another success in its quest for improved quality service delivery. The feat was achieved when the hospital improved on its rating from level 2 to level 3 in the safe care standards.

The hospital was rated at level 2 after the baseline assessment was conducted in 2021 with an absolute score of 46. After the baseline assessment, a quality improvement plan was prepared for management to implement, following which a committee was set up to see to its implementation.

A second assessment was carried out after a year of implementation of the quality improvement plan. In this assessment, the hospital improved from level 2 to level 3 with an absolute score of 56. The national average score is currently 60

The safe care assessment is conducted through interviews, observations, sampling and verification of documents, physical inspection of the infrastructure and checks on processes and systems defined in the safe care standards.

**The safe care standards cover a full range of clinical and management functions, as well as infrastructural and ancillary services.**

>>> Safe care has been established to support both public and private healthcare facilities through a stepwise quality improvement program in order to deliver a safe and quality-secured care to their patients. It enables healthcare facilities to measure and improve the safety, quality and efficiency of their services. The safe care standards are accredited by the international society for quality in Healthcare External Evaluation Association (IEEA), a global leader in quality improvement.

**THIS FACILITY IS ON A QUALITY IMPROVEMENT  
JOURNEY WITH SAFECARE**

**Safe Care**

HEALTHCARE STANDARDS

Internationally accredited healthcare standards

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# HEALTH EDUCATION

by Paschal Mwaanyuu

The Hospital has been conducting health discussions twice a week on Gangaa Radio station in the Jirapa Municipality. These informative sessions, initiated by the Hospital, play a role in enlightening and creating awareness among the residents of the Municipality and beyond. Hospital staff members are chosen to host these health discussions on the radio, covering topics such as communicable diseases and hereditary conditions.



## St. Joseph Hospital's Diet and Nutrition Therapy Unit in Jirapa.



On May 12, 2023, the Diet/Nutrition Therapy Unit at St. Joseph Hospital, Jirapa, hosted a successful food demonstration as part of the concluded Child Health Week celebration.





During this year's half-year performance review, the following were noted in relation to the hospital's performance: OPD attendance was 20,439 as at mid-year 2022 but increased to 21,192 for mid-year 2023. Death rate of 2.1% in 2022 has reduced to 1.9% this year.

## Half year Performance Evaluation Summit

Also, still births which was 7 in 2022 mid-year had dropped down to 2 at 2023 mid-year. The hospital again had recorded only 1 neonatal death at both 2022 and 2023 mid-year, with zero maternal deaths in 2022 and 2023 mid-year.







## ANNUAL LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

*Mr. James Ziekye presented on "Leadership for Personal, Institutional, and Global Transformation," emphasizing essential qualities of effective leaders. He noted that success relies on visionary individuals, citing historic figures like Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Gandhi. He also emphasized that great leaders are cultivated from within and encouraged everyone to embrace leadership roles without fear. In his closing remarks, the medical superintendent thanked the speakers participants for their participation. He said this is a leadership workshop of its kind for staff and would subsequently be an annual event to sharpen the leadership skills of the managers of the hospital. He urged the participants to apply whatever they have learnt at their various wards, units and departments.*



In line with quality assurance suggestions and as an integral aspect of the hospital's commitment to cultivating a motivated and proficient workforce to enhance service excellence, a sequence of in-service training initiatives has consistently been arranged for the staff. Throughout 2023, two comprehensive training sessions has been, thus far, conducted for the entire hospital staff in the initial and subsequent quarters of the year. Furthermore, a minimum of three focused training sessions encompassing mental health and well-being, referral system orientation, leadership development, and immediate post-operative management for theater personnel were meticulously organized.





## TRAINING ON CARE OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

*One of the pertinent problems faced by most health facilities is the maintenance of medical equipment. This is usually due to knowledge gaps as to the technicality of use of these gadgets by healthcare workers. A training was organised for clinical staff on the proper care and safety precautions to employ in the use of medical equipment. Staff were enlightened on the oblivious errors made in the use of these equipment that shorten their lifespan and lead to frequent breakdown. This training was led by the hospital's well-seasoned Clinical Engineer, Mr. Polycarp Puopele.*

## TRAINING ON MANAGEMENT OF EMERGENCIES



Prompt response to emergency cases in the hospital setting is key to increasing patients' chances of survival. In March 2023, a one week training session on emergency care was organised for all clinical staff including doctors, physician assistants, nurses, laboratory scientists etc. on appropriate response during emergency situations. The training was organised and led by Dr. Sulemana Suabir, Physician Specialist and Mr. Louis Kapuonaa, Emergency nurse specialist cum emergency ward in-charge.





# IN-SERVICE TRAINING

## Hands-on training on neonatal resuscitation by Maternity ward staff

There is the growing need for the education of midwives who provide midwife-led continuity of care is crucial for global health security. This can improve the quality of care and decrease the rates of maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality. Pursuance to this, a one day hands-on training was organized in June, 2021 to afford midwives the opportunity to build their capacity and sharpen their skills in the area of neonatal resuscitation. The cost of the training was largely borne by the hospital.



## IN-SERVICE TRAINING ON STIGMA AGAINST HIV/TB



The needed skills and knowledge necessary to build the hospital's staff capacity to fight against stigma and discrimination among people living with HIV, TB and key population was a program fully funded by UKAID and USAID and implemented by CHAG. The idea came after a survey was conducted by CHAG in some selected health facilities of which St. Joseph Hospital, Jirapa was part. The training was commenced in November, 2021 and ended in May, 2022 after a TOT training in Kumasi where six selected members of staff of the hospital were trained. In the end almost all the staff of the hospital were trained to be change agents and advocates for PLWHIV and TB.



# EQUIPMENT

by Paschal Mwaanyuu

## THE HOSPITAL RECEIVED EQUIPMENT SUPPORT FOR IMPROVED SERVICES.

OXYGEN CONCENTRATORS AND SUCTION MACHINES DONATED BY WORLD BANK VIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH.



AstraZeneca, in partnership with GHS, donated Nebulizers for asthma care, together with a television to the children's ward. CHAG, and GHS, offered Ultrasound color doppler machines with UPS, and Ultrasound printers to the maternity and Imaging departments respectively.



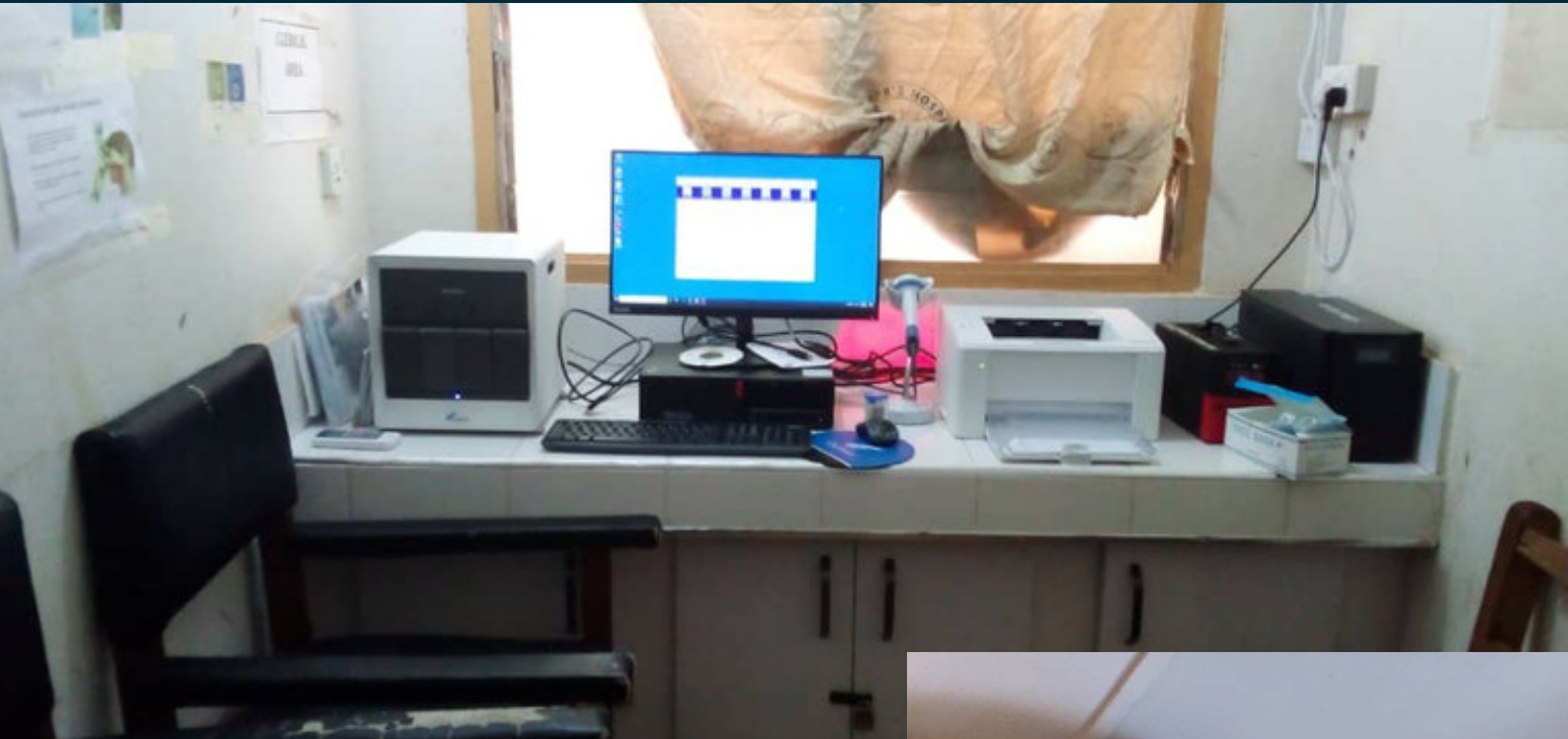
Nebulisers donated by AstraZeneca to Children's ward

There is now a new portable ultrasound machine at the maternity for emergency diagnosis of obstetric and gynaecological emergencies for early intervention.

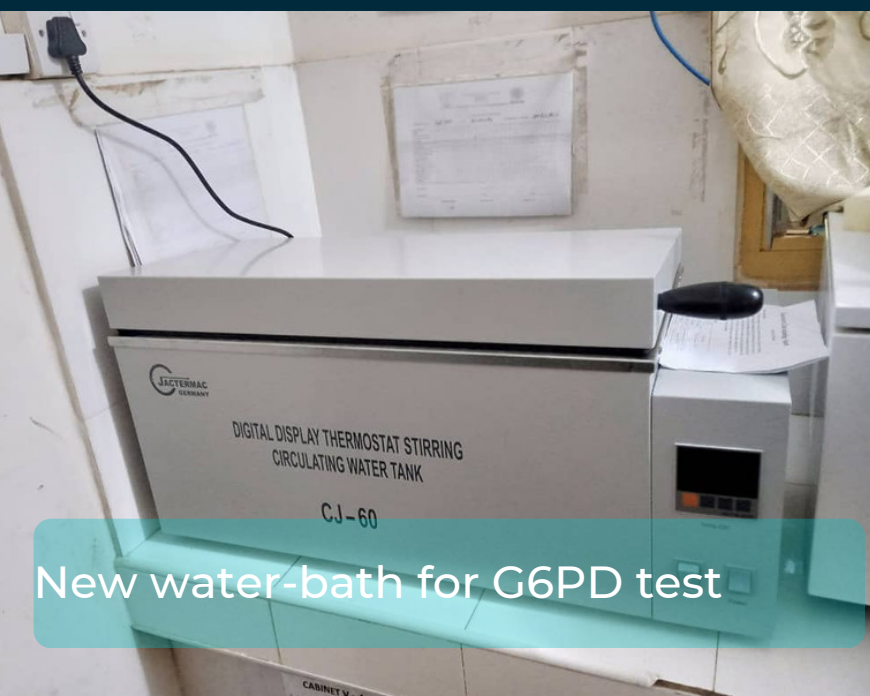
# EQUIPMENT

by Paschal Mwaanyuu

THE HOSPITAL RECEIVED EQUIPMENT SUPPORT FOR IMPROVED SERVICES.



GENE X'PERT MACHINE



New water-bath for G6PD test



Centralised CCTV for facility monitoring





## MENTAL WARD AND REHABILITATION CENTRE

*St. Joseph Hospital, situated in Jirapa within the Upper West Region, has taken a significant step by inaugurating a specialized Alcohol and Drugs Addiction Rehabilitation Center in July, 2023.*

*The primary objective of this newly established ward is to facilitate a transformative shift in behavior concerning the misuse of Alcohol and drugs related substances.*

Individuals grappling with Alcohol and drug dependencies and substance-related challenges can now access top-tier counselling services tailored to help them effectively manage their conditions.

The center boasts a team of highly trained nurses who underwent an intensive three-month training program focused on Alcohol and Drug Addiction Rehabilitation at Accra's Pantang Hospital.

In terms of services, the rehabilitation center offers two core options:

1. **Outpatient Department Service:** This service permits individuals dealing with alcohol and drugs addiction to make regular visits from their homes to engage in sessions with professional counselors. The program spans a minimum of four months, during which participants receive consistent guidance and support.

2. **Inpatient Department Service:** Designed for those facing severe addiction challenges, this service involves admitting individuals into the facility for a minimum period of six (6) months.

This intensive approach allows for round-the-clock care and support.

It is crucial to recognize that, akin to conditions like diabetes, hypertension, and organ failures, addiction to alcohol and drugs is a medical ailment that demands dedicated attention.

The prevalence of alcohol and drugs addiction is a pressing issue in many regions, including Jirapa. A considerable portion of those affected by these issues genuinely aspire to overcome or manage their conditions.

The establishment of the St. Joseph Alcohol and Drugs Addiction Rehabilitation Center represents a vital lifeline for such individuals striving to break free from harmful habits.

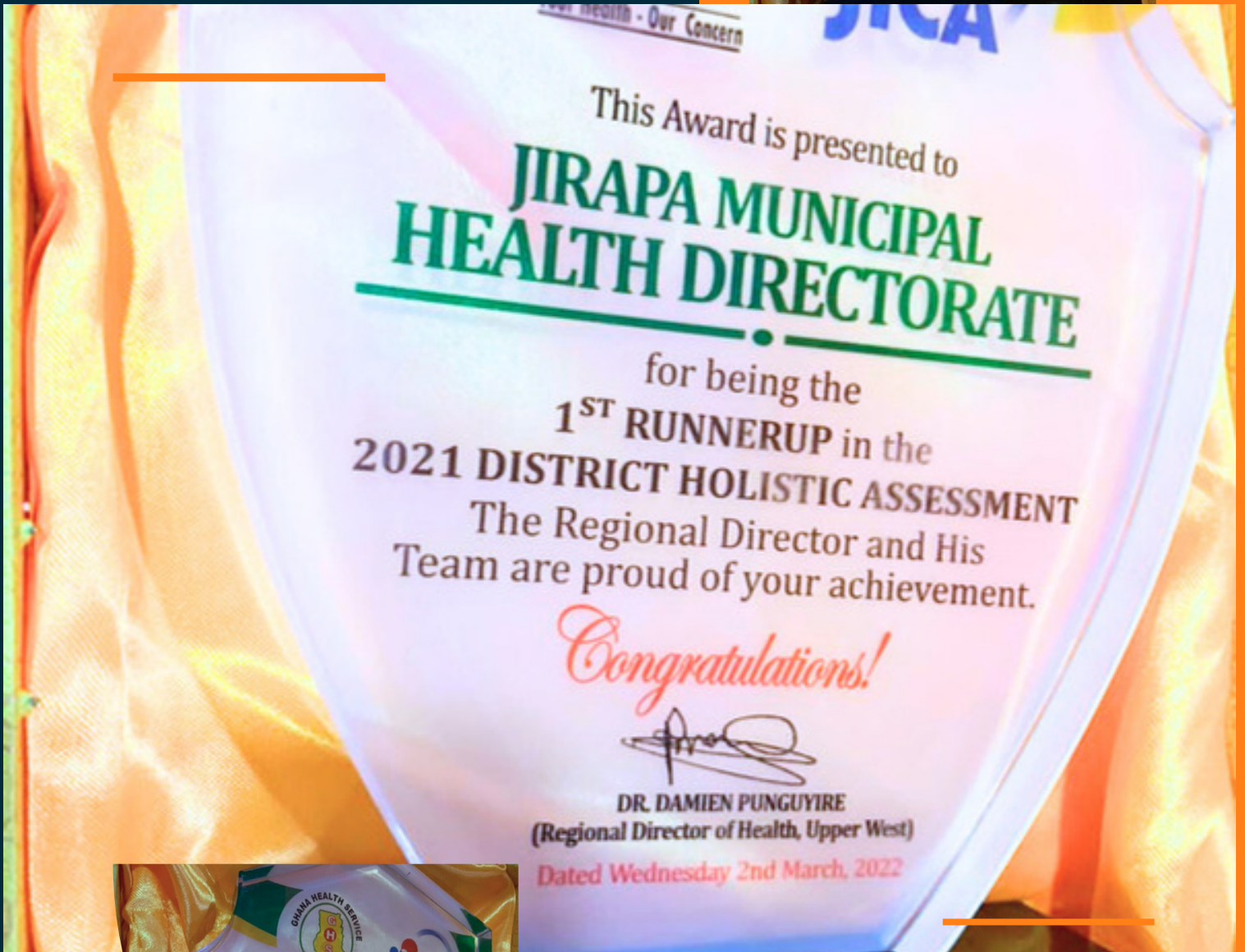
Notably, this initiative marks a significant milestone as the first rehabilitation center for alcohol and drug addiction in Northern Ghana.

Consequently, the center is poised to serve not only the local community but also individuals hailing from across Northern Ghana and beyond.

In conclusion, the launch of the St. Joseph Hospital Alcohol and Drugs Addiction Rehabilitation Center stands as a commendable effort in addressing a pressing societal concern.

By providing expert care, guidance, and resources, this center is set to make a lasting impact on the lives of those battling addiction and striving for a healthier, substance-free existence.

# FIRST RUNNER-UP IN THE 2021 DISTRICT HOLISTIC ASSESSMENT



**JIRAPA MUNICIPAL  
HEALTH  
DIRECTORATE**



# THE OVERALL BEST HOSPITAL IN THE REGION, AS DETERMINED BY A PEER REVIEW



**ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL  
JIRAPA**



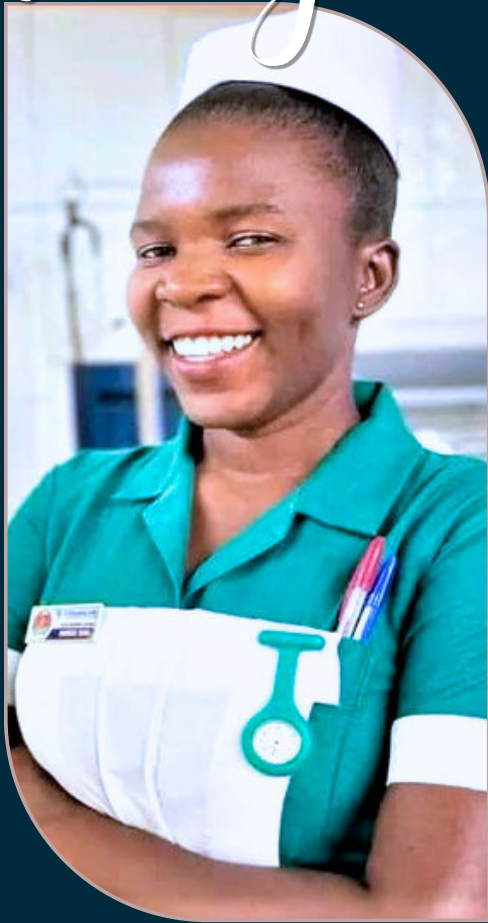
# OVERALL BEST NURSE IN THE UPPER WEST REGION.



Ms. Alifa Mbawini Zakari, is a staff of the neonatal intensive care unit of our facility who won the overall best nurse in the Upper west region due to her diligence and superior work ethics. St. Joseph hospital is proud of you.



## Intriguing interview



Ms. Alifa Mbawini Zakaria has been an enrolled nurse at St. Joseph Hospital, Jirapa since 2015. Every ward or department she has found herself has experienced excellent client care and improved clinical outcome since the beginning of her stay in our facility. She has proven to be a superb team player and an epitome of diligence and commitment to perfection in work outcome. Recently, she received the Upper west regional award for overall best nurse in 2022. The Editorial Team caught up with her for an intriguing interview.

### 1. Who would you say is Alifa Zakaria?

Alifa Mbawini Zakari is a 32 years old Principal Enrolled Nurse at the St. Joseph's Hospital, Jirapa Municipal. She has been able to bring her knowledge and skills to bear in reducing neonatal mortality and morbidity in St Joseph Hospital and contributed to the hospital to stand tall among others in the 2021 peer review in the region.

She holds a certificate in Health Assistant Clinical from Lawra Nursing training college and currently pursuing Bsc in nursing at UDS, Tamale.

She is the Municipal and Regional best nurse for Jirapa and the Upper west region respectively.

### 2. What inspired you to go into the nursing profession?

My inspiration was derived from how dedicated, hard working and compassionate a nurse was during my secondary school days at Cape coast and the beautiful smiles she had towards her clients

### 3. How has working at St. Joseph Hospital been?

Working at St. Joseph's Hospital has been one of the greatest moments in my life because as an Enrolled Nurse an opportunity was created for me to learn more about the intensive Care Units and Major medical conditions which needed swift response in saving lives and bringing smiles to the people in the municipality.

4. There has been a lot of improvement in clinical care and outcome since you started working at the Neonatal Intensive care unit. What would you say is your source of motivation to do extraordinary work?

My source of motivation is the joy my client exhibits anytime they see me in town, joyfully carrying their babies they lost hope for especially the preterm babies who are doing well. This has been my motivation and it has always encouraged me to always go the extra mile for neonates admitted in the intensive Care Unit

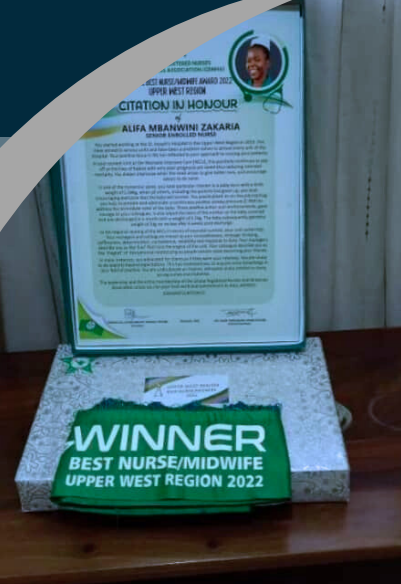
5. What are some of the challenges you face in your line of work? Challenges I personally faced at the Unit was lack of equipment and gadgets needed for emergency cases. Examples are ventilators, Wormers, CPAP machines and ready to use manual oxygen.

6. What do you usually do in your leisure time, away from work duties?

At my leisure time away from duty what I do most is to concentrate more on my business. I also spend time to teach mothers at church on danger signs in neonate.

7. You inspire a lot of people. Any message for those who look up to you?

Putting the client first in all that we do and showing them compassion when they are under our care. Punctuality, dedication to work and positive attitude towards work should be our hallmark. The spirit of teamwork and readiness to attend refresher training to improve our quality of work.







AT THE OPERATION ROOM

# GALLERY



MR. RICHARD DERY, RECEIVED THE COVID-19 PRESIDENTIAL AWARD



**Mental staff being trained at Pantang Hospital on Addiction management**



**Hospital transportation fleet**





CELEBRATING WORLD PREMATURETY DAY



LHIMS TRAINING SESSION



QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT DR. RAJ AMRIJ (PAEDIATRIC SPECIALIST), MS. ALIFA ZAKARIA AND A SATISFIED CLIENT DURING WORLD PREMATURETY DAY CELEBRATION





HOSPITAL BOARD



THE EDITORIAL TEAM





MATRON 360 ASSESSMENT TEAM AT WORK



MR. NICHOLAS YEBOAH, RECEIVED THE COVID-19 PRESIDENTIAL AWARD



**BEST ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF, SENIOR CATEGORY MRS GRACE DOUCHEBE**



THE NEW MENTAL WARD AND REHABILITATION CENTRE





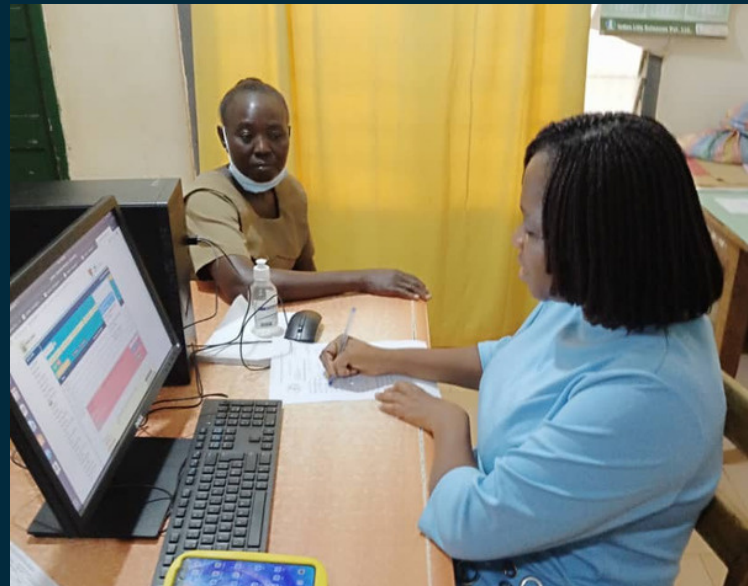
**SAVING LIVES AND LIVELIHOOD PROJECT**



**ROTARY CLUB OF WINDSOR, CANADA WITH HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT TEAM**



**IMPLEMENTATION OF ADDICTION REHABILITATION PROJECT**



**ANNUAL STAFF HEALTH SCREENING**



**CELEBRATION OF WORLD NEONATAL JAUNDICE DAY**



**NSAWAM PHYSIOTHERAPISTS BIENNIAL OUTREACH**



# THE EDITORIAL TEAM



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**MR. DERY RICHARD**



**MR. COSMAS BEYUO**



**MR. PASCHAL MWAANYUU**



**MR. EMMANUEL Z. MORIMAHA**



**MR. GODWIN ZASIB**



**MR. SAADIE ANBONG-BIO TITUS**



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Announcing Our Latest Report: Insights from 2023

Celebrating a Milestone: Join us in celebrating a remarkable milestone as St. Joseph Hospital Jirapa marks [70] years of unwavering service to our community. We're immensely proud of the compassionate care, medical advancements, and countless lives touched during this journey, 1953 - 2023.



### GERMAN UROLOGISTS VISIT FROM 17TH OCTOBER TO 5TH NOVEMBER 2023.

German Urologists visit from 17th October to 5th November 2023. And also the hospital being open to donations from philanthropists and well wishes in cash and kind to improve service delivery.



### KEY EVENTS

Unlocking Progress Through Key Events: Our hospital takes pride in the impactful milestones we've achieved on our journey of care. From groundbreaking innovations to transformative partnerships, each key event has been a stepping stone towards elevating healthcare excellence.

- Surgical outreaches
- Modern equipment
- Staff-centered policies
- Patient-centred policies
- Partnership for progress
- Community Health Screening
- Awards and Recognitions
- Inservice training programs etc.





# THANK YOU!

**We extend our gratitude for dedicating your time to review this content.**

Welcome to your

**Embracing Wellness: St. Joseph Hospital Jirapa's Heartfelt Commitment to Health and Healing.**

In the heart of Jirapa, a beacon of hope and healing has been steadfastly shining for years — St. Joseph Hospital. With a legacy of compassionate care, cutting-edge medical expertise, and a commitment to enhancing the well-being of our community, the hospital stands as a testament to the unwavering dedication of its staff and the enduring spirit of health and wellness. As we journey forward, let St. Joseph Hospital Jirapa continue to be a sanctuary of health, a symbol of compassion, and a source of inspiration for all.

