



## MEZU INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION MEDICAL MISSION TO NIGERIA

JULY 2014

[www.mezufoundation.org](http://www.mezufoundation.org)



### OUR MISSION

Mezu International Foundation (MIF) is a 501 (C) (3) public charity organization incorporated in the state of Maryland, USA. This corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, scientific and educational purposes, more specifically for charity to the needy and undeserved in the USA and Africa. It seeks to achieve this purpose through programs in Agriculture, Education, Community Development, and Healthcare.

### MIF VISION CARE & GLOBAL HEALTH CARE INITIATIVES



**MIF Vision Initiatives:** Around the world, 284 million people suffer from poor vision because they do not have access to or cannot afford glasses. In the United States for instance, 142 million people 40 years old and above have vision problems and about one in every ten kids have vision issues. Each year, the MIF Foundation, conducts and provides FREE Health and Vision Screening. Between June 10 and June 15, 2013,

in collaboration with Aqua Vision Care, VSP and Alcon, Mezu Foundation conducted free eye examinations on over 200 underprivileged families in the Baltimore area and gave out free medications and free eye glasses to children, men and women who had refractive errors.

**MIF Health Care Initiatives:** MIF has several healthcare initiatives in US and Africa. In Africa, there is a reduced life expectancy due to extreme poverty and lack of appropriate medical care. Nigeria, despite its vast natural resources, has one of the highest rates of maternal and infant mortality in the world, sadly from treatable and preventable diseases. World Health Organization (WHO) data shows that in Nigeria, women have a 1-in-18 risk of dying during child-birth or pregnancy (1 person dies every 10 minutes), thus the highest overall risk of mortality for women throughout sub-Saharan Africa. According to “Save the Children”, an international nonprofit organization, about 800,000 Nigerian children die annually by the age of 5, making it the country with the highest number of newborn deaths in Africa. These devastating statistics are partly the outcome of a poorly funded, under-utilized and dilapidated healthcare system. MIF in previous years has partnered with well-meaning US trained healthcare professionals to provide free medical screening and treatment to over 1,000 poor men, women and children in Imo State,

Nigeria. Due to the success of past medical missions by our organization in providing much needed medical care to the under-privileged in Nigeria, MIF has undertaken to provide this humanitarian service bi-annually. With a unique volunteer staff of dedicated health care professionals in medicine, cardiology, neonatology, infectious diseases, pharmacy, optometry, nursing, public health and highly specialized informational technology aspects, MIF is committed to expand the outreach and public health benefits of our medical mission trips.

## WHEN IS OUR NEXT MIF MEDICAL MISSION?



Mezu Foundation is organizing a rolling Medical and Education Mission in Nigeria between Monday, July 21, and Monday August 4, 2014. The site for the MIF Medical mission this year is Nigeria. **The target outreach for the 2014 MIF medical mission is 2,000 poor indigenes (men, women and children)**



## CLINICAL GOALS/OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2014 MEDICAL MISSION:

MIF will focus on the following goals and objectives during our upcoming medical mission trip:

- **Free Medical exams** and care to poor indigenes
- **Free Vision exams** and free eyeglass prescriptions from donated pairs.
- Free evaluation and treatment of glaucoma and cataracts; and glaucoma meds.
- **Evaluation and Treatment of Infectious Diseases:** such as malaria, gastrointestinal, and parasitic infections.
- Education of Local Healthcare Professionals in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), neonatal resuscitation program (NRP).
- **HIV/ AIDS Education,** evaluation and treatment
- **Point of care testing and treatment of Cardiovascular** diseases like: hypertension, high cholesterol, diabetes, kidney disease, atherosclerosis
- Pediatric, neonatal/maternal-child health
- **Evaluation and treatment of respiratory disease:** like asthma, bronchitis, COPD, sleep apnea, and chronic respiratory illness,
- **Free medications:** multi-vitamins, antibiotics, anti-parasitics, pain control, fever, eye meds and mosquito nets.
- Emergency Medical Care: wound care, and treatment of minor trauma.
- Pharmaceutical & Nutrition Counseling
- Basic Information Technology (IT) and Computer Training and Safe Internet navigation.
- Agriculture and Financial Planning
- **Education:** Free reading books for kids and educational pamphlets for adults.
- **Free Meals:** Food, snacks and drinks for patients by MIF in partnership with a local women's volunteer group, **Our Lady's Food Kitchen.**

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- **DONATE MONEY:** securely through our website and state funds to be used for “2014 MIF Medical Mission Trip.”
  - Your monetary donations will help with the purchase and shipment of medicines, payment for, shipping medicines and medical equipment, security and supplies to Nigeria and other logistics for international and local volunteers.
  - **No donation is too small: A \$20 donation can cover the costs of free medical evaluation, multivitamins, educational pamphlets/books and a free meal/drink for two patients.** A \$50 donation will cover the cost of providing antibiotics, anti-hypertensive medications, and cardiovascular and diabetes testing for two patients in addition to a free meal/drink, educational pamphlets/book and multi-vitamins. Our target is to provide these services for 2,000 patients.
- **DONATE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES:** Medical equipment and supplies to help achieve our stated goals are welcome. Please contact MIF to arrange pick-up or shipment of safe medical equipment and supplies. Donated medications must be unused, unopened, and unexpired. Medical equipment must be in good working condition if used. All donations are tax-deductible.
- **PARTICIPATE IN FUND-RAISING:** Companies, organizations, churches, and schools are invited to match funds donated for the upcoming December Medical Mission as a partnership program or help organize fund-raising in their communities. We will supply the information needed and one of our resident agents will be happy to speak to your organization.
- **VOLUNTEER AT THE MEDICAL MISSION:** International and Local Medical Personnel of all specialties (Physicians, nurses, physician assistants, medical students) and other volunteers in IT, agriculture, and business are welcome.
  - Volunteers are expected to commit to 5 to 10 days towards the medical mission (including the two days of travel time back and forth) and pay the cost of their own plane ticket. All other needs such as obtaining visas, local transportation in Nigeria (air and ground), comfortable accommodations, healthy, hearty meals, and security will be provided by MIF during the trip. Security is ensured at the site of medical mission and secure transportation will be provided for volunteers. All volunteers receive an MIF medical mission tee-shirt and a certificate of appreciation for their generous volunteerism.
  - Our past volunteers say that *“The medical mission was an experience of a lifetime!” “We enjoyed the beautiful, unique and warm African culture and our presence brought joy and smiles to hungry, despairing and sick faces of men, women, and children suffering from lack of basic needs we take for granted.” “The people we served could not believe that strangers cared so much about them.” ...“Making a difference in people’s lives brought a sense of purpose and fulfillment to our hearts.”*



## INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING OR SUPPORTING OUR MISSION?

Contact us for detailed information on: Travel, onsite Accommodation, etc. at **MI Foundation Inc.** 1008 Reisterstown Road, Pikesville, Maryland 21208, or [info@mezufoundation.org](mailto:info@mezufoundation.org)



**2014 MIF FREE HEALTH AND VISION SCREENING** will be on April 18th and 19th, 2014 in collaboration Vision Service Plan & Aqua Vision Care, LLC, Contact MI Foundation at 1008 Reisterstown Road, Pikesville, Maryland 21208. Phone: +1.410. 775.8001; Fax: +1.410.602.1568; email: [info@mezufoundation.org](mailto:info@mezufoundation.org). *“Bringing Hope Where There Is Need”*