

The Right Treatment

Thanks to the support of our faithful donors, we have started SIGN Programs at 34 new hospitals so far in 2021. One of the newest is at Compassion Evangelical Hospital in Mamou, Guinea. Dr. Paul Sidjani learned SIGN Surgery when he trained for two months at a SIGN Program in Cameroon. He returned home and was able to start a new SIGN Program in October.

The first patient Dr. Sidjani treated with SIGN Surgery is Barry, a 27-year-

old farmer who was badly injured in a traffic accident. Both the femur and tibia in his left leg were fractured. Barry planned to go to a traditional bonesetter for care. But a friend, who had been treated by that bonesetter and left immobilized, convinced Barry to go to the hospital instead.

Dr. Sidjani quickly realized that SIGN Nails would be the best treatment for Barry's injuries. Since the nails were donated, Barry and his family could afford the care he needed. Dr. Sidjani

performed two separate surgeries to insert the SIGN Nails and stabilize the fractured bones.

The next day, Barry was able to stand without support and walk with crutches. "It was wonderful to see the smile on their faces — Barry, his father and his mother," Dr. Sidjani says.

Barry is just beginning his recovery, but thanks to the right treatment at the right time, he is able to take one step at a time on the path to healing.



The surgical team at Compassion Evangelical Hospital celebrates with their first patient who received SIGN Surgery.

A Retiree Looks at Giving

By David Whitney, MD

Having spent the first 2/3 of my life learning and then using skills to be productive, I have found retirement household projects, family trips, and fishing to be unfulfilling. Volunteering on church, community, and non-profit boards helps, but I often have the feeling that if I wasn't doing a given task, someone else would. I'd like to think that, in the turmoil of our current world problems, I could make a lasting improvement in the big picture.

Charitable giving offers such an opportunity, but we can all think of great causes that proved disappointing. Discovering SIGN, I found a project that was positively changing individual lives, families, and communities, as well as fulfilling the adage of teaching a person to fish versus giving them a fish. More than 20 years later I see SIGN Fracture Care among the very few organizations that Charity Navigator consistently awards four stars for financial

efficiency, transparency, and overall performance.

Okay, so how much to give? **Dr. David Whitney**

As a senior

I must consider retirement needs for my wife and myself, educational and vocational needs of my kids and grandkids, and perhaps an emergency fund for unknowns. Vacations and a new car beckon, and are engaged in, but I have found that donating toward a surgical program in a country and community with great needs gives me more pleasure than something new or more of something I already have.

Prior to 2017 charitable giving was easily tax deductible in the U.S. That situation has changed. I have found that, for me, the best way to give tax-free money is to have it directly transferred from my IRA to SIGN without passing through my bank account. Once I give the OK on that transfer, I can enjoy knowing that I am still being productive.

Learn more about donating IRA shares, stocks, and more at signfracturcare.org/ways-to-give



As SIGN Surgeons in South Sudan (left) and Cameroon (above) train other surgeons, the impact of your support is multiplied.

Cryptocurrency Donations



Donors have been asking, and we are happy to announce that we are now able to accept cryptocurrency donations through Coinbase. Please contact finance@signfracturcare.org with the currency you want to donate, and we will send you a unique link for your donation.

The IRS classifies cryptocurrency donations as property, meaning they are not subject to capital gains tax.

Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law. This means donating bitcoin or other cryptocurrencies to SIGN Fracture Care, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, you receive a tax deduction for the value of the crypto and avoid the capital gains tax had you sold the crypto before donating.

**Consult your financial advisor if you have more questions.*

Thank You Very Much

By SIGN Patient Nobert Oumo

I am a fifth-year medical student at Gulu University, in Uganda. I have been practicing at Dabani Hospital since the lockdown started.

On the day the accident happened, my colleague and I had gone to pick up blood from Mbale Hospital, like we usually do each week. On our way back, a trailer that was overtaking another hit us. I broke my right leg and my right hand. We were rushed to the closest hospital, where they thought that I was dead because I had lost so much blood and was too weak. They gave us first aid and referred us to Kumi Orthopaedic Center, where they use SIGN Nails to treat long broken bones.

Upon reaching Kumi, they immobilized my fractures and the pain disappeared completely. After four days, they took me to theatre for the operation. I gained hope when I started walking again a day after SIGN Surgery.

The doctor explained to me that the SIGN Nail was donated, and all that is expected of me is to follow a strict follow-up program so that x-rays and squat and smile pictures can be obtained to help with assessment of progress of my healing and



rehabilitation, and to help doctors detect any complications that may arise.

I am grateful that I have gone back to school, and I am able to walk and use my hand. Thank you very much SIGN Fracture Care and the people who support them. Thank you to the surgeons and nurses and the whole rehabilitation team at Kumi Orthopaedic Center, who are doing a terrific job.



Nobert takes his first steps after SIGN Surgery.



Trauma Healers: Now Available Worldwide!

You can watch the one-hour documentary that reveals the need for trauma care in developing countries and shows how SIGN Surgeons are part of the solution.

Nobert, from the story above, notes that simple interventions, like wearing a helmet while riding on a motorcycle, are critical. "Helmets are good," he says. "If it was not for the helmet, my colleague would be

dead by now. The helmet got shattered, but he did not get any injury on the head."

More than 20 million people are injured in traffic accidents every year. SIGN Surgeons provide critical post-crash care that helps an injured person quickly heal and return to work or school.

Watch now at signfracturecare.org/traumahealers



How You've Helped This Year...

As of Oct. 2021

27,336
Patients Healed

34 SIGN
Programs Started

238 Hospitals
received implants

51 Countries
have been sent
shipments

8 SIGN Trauma
Session Webinars

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See SIGN's privacy policy
and state disclosures at
signfracturecare.org/privacy



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Season of Giving

November 30 is GIVING TWOSday

The season of giving starts on Giving Tuesday, November 30.

Don't miss this opportunity to have your gift matched, which means you will help twice as many people heal from broken bones.

Donate at signfracturecare.org/GivingTuesday

Double Your Impact!

All gifts received through
Dec. 31, 2021 will be matched,
up to a total of \$700,000.