

## The Right Treatment for Fractures

Gislene, a 34-year-old in Chad, was in a road traffic accident that injured her lower left leg. She originally sought treatment from a traditional healer because she did not think that she could afford care from a hospital. But when she was still unable to walk two months after her injury, she came to Centre Chirurgical Adventiste de Moundou.

SIGN Surgeon Dr. Odei Houloum Abdou examined Gislene's leg and immediately knew that a SIGN Nail was the best treatment for her fractured tibia. Because the SIGN Nail was donated and enables patients to leave the hospital within a week, Gislene and her family were able to afford the care she needed.

Over the course of a year since her surgery, Gislene has returned to the hospital for multiple check-ups and shows improved healing and function at each visit. Now she is able to walk, care for her family, and perform SIGN's squat and smile test.

You can help the next person in need recover from a fractured bone by donating today. Right now, your donation will be matched, helping heal twice as many injured and impoverished patients. Use the enclosed form or visit signfracturecare.org/donate

SIGN Surgery helped restore Gislene's health and joy after a fractured tibia.

# **Dr. Zirkle Receives Lifetime Achievement Award**



Lewis G. Zirkle, SIGN's President and Founder, recently received the inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award from the

Orthopaedic Trauma Association. Dr. Zirkle is honored to receive this award on behalf of the global network of SIGN Surgeons.

The Lifetime Achievement Award honors an OTA member who has dedicated their career to orthopaedic trauma and whose overall contributions to the profession have made outstanding, long-lasting, and impactful improvements to orthopaedic trauma education, research, and patient care.

"The OTA Board agreed unanimously it would be difficult to find someone more deserving of this honor," said Dr. Michael Archdeacon, OTA President. "In addition, you should know we received several nomination letters on your behalf, and your

dedication to our profession, and your amazing humanitarian accomplishments through SIGN are very highly regarded by our colleagues."

"We owe this award to our SIGN Staff and to all SIGN Surgeons," Dr. Zirkle says. "I am pleased, and I am humbled to see the outstanding surgery done by SIGN Surgeons."



SIGN Surgeons and Board Members accepted the award on Dr. Zirkle's behalf at the OTA Annual Meeting in October.

# Additional Ways to Give this Season

As we approach the end of 2022, there are many ways that you can provide healing surgery for people in need. Some of these ideas can create tax advantages for you. Please consult your financial adviser to see what is best for vour situation.

#### Stocks and Bonds

When you donate stocks and bonds to SIGN, the total value of your stock can be

tax-deductible, so you may not have to pay capital gains on the appreciation. Find the 2-step process for donating stocks at signfracturecare. org/stock-donation

#### IRA

If you are age 70 1/2 or older, check with your CPA to see if you are eligible to give a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA account directly to SIGN.

#### Cryptocurrency

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. Please contact finance@signfracturecare.org with the currency you wish to donate, and we will send you a unique link for your donation.



#### **Employer Matching**

Many employers match donations to charities. Check with your Human Resources department to find out how your donation to SIGN



can go further.

You can plan your charitable giving and create tax advantages by creating a donor advised



fund. Learn more at signfracturecare. org/daf

**Questions? Learn more at signfracture** care.org/ways-to-give or call 509.371.1107, ext. 2004.





### **Learning and Leading**

By Jeanne Dillner, SIGN CEO

SIGN is known as the leader in building orthopedic capacity throughout the developing world. Leadership begins with listening and, thanks to Dr. Zirkle's vision, we learned early on to listen to SIGN Surgeons. We continue to listen to gain knowledge and empathy for their needs and those of their patients. Leadership is empathy, and as we learned more our drive to help increased. Leadership is action, and our actions resulted in the design and manufacture of quality implants and instruments that have been used by SIGN Surgeons to heal nearly 400,000 patients.

As SIGN Surgeons become orthopaedic leaders within their own countries, they lead us into new areas of orthopaedic care such as spine, limb deformity, and wound care. They now play a bigger role in organizing the curriculum for SIGN Conferences both here at headquarters and regionally. SIGN Surgeons regularly publish and present scientific papers at organizations like the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and the Orthopaedic Trauma Association. We look for ward to SIGN Surgeons taking on more areas of leadership, including a place on SIGN's Board of Directors, to help us envision the future.

Finally, leadership is gratitude. We are grateful for SIGN Surgeons, their patients, our staff, and our board. And most of all, we are grateful for the generosity of our donors. With your support, we have listened to the needs of more than 7,000 SIGN Surgeons who have become orthopaedic leaders, not just in their country, but worldwide. Thank you for investing in these men and women through-



SIGN Surgeons including Dr. Bunn in Cambodia (above, from 2017) and Dr. Tessema and Dr. Wamisho from Ethiopia (below) are leading fellow surgeons in their countries and around the world.

out the last 24 years, the ups and downs of the economy, and the global pandemic. Your gift of healing is treasured by us, the SIGN Surgeons, and their grateful patients.





23,646 Patients Healed

26 SIGN Programs Started

**256 Hospitals** received implants

**56 Countries** have been sent shipments

8 SIGN Trauma Session Webinars

#### **Contact SIGN**

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



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# **Double Your Impact!**

All gifts received now through Dec. 31, 2022 will be matched, up to a total of \$700,000. Donate at signfracturecare.org/2022-Match

# November 29 is GI≫ING TWOsday

The season of giving continues on **Giving Tuesday**, **November 29**, a day for celebrating generosity globally.

Donate at **signfracturecare.org/GivingTuesday** and you will help twice as many people heal from broken bones.