

A photograph of a woman and a young child. The woman, on the left, has short dark hair and is wearing a yellow t-shirt with a black and white pattern. She is smiling and looking towards the child. The child, on the right, is wearing an orange t-shirt and is also smiling, showing their teeth. The background is slightly blurred, showing some white fabric hanging from above.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

**CoRSU**  
**Rehabilitation Hospital**  
*.. For people with disability*



## ABOUT CORSU

Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services for People with Disability in Uganda (CoRSU) is a specialized rehabilitation hospital established in 2009 as a local NGO with the major objective of providing high quality rehabilitation and surgical services to people with disabilities in Uganda.

For 12 years, CoRSU has changed the lives of over 50,000 children through surgical services and rehabilitated over 80,000 patients through a variety of services and disciplines.

**CoRSU**  
Rehabilitation Hospital  
*... For people with disability*



### Our **Vision**

"People with disability in Uganda are able to access Rehabilitation services that improve their quality of life and that they are fully integrated in society"



### Our **Mission**

"To be a centre of excellence in Uganda providing orthopaedic and plastic reconstructive surgery and comprehensive rehabilitation services for people with disabilities prioritizing children".





GOVERNANCE AND  
MANAGEMENT



SENIOR MANAGEMENT  
TEAM



MESSAGE FROM  
THE CORSU BOARD  
PRESIDENT



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MEDICAL DIRECTOR /  
DEPUTY CEO

INTRODUCTION



ORTHOPAEDICS  
DEPARTMENT



PLASTIC &  
RECONSTRUCTIVE  
SURGERY



REHABILITATION  
DEPARTMENT



NURSING DEPARTMENT



PHARMACY AND  
DIAGNOSTICS  
DEPARTMENT



THE FISTULA PROGRAM



RESEARCH



SOCIAL WORKERS  
AND CBID



PROGRAM MANAGEMENT  
OFFICE



# GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

## Board of **Directors**



Dr. Emmanuel B.K. Luyirika  
**Board President**



Sr. Dr. Nakamya  
Anthonia  
**Board Vice President  
and Chairperson of  
Board HR & QA  
Committee**



Mr. Victor B.O. Odongo  
**Treasurer and  
Chairperson of Board  
Finance Committee**



Mr. Caleb Owino  
**Member and Chairperson  
Fundraising Committee**



Mr. Aloysius K.  
Bakkidde  
**Member**



Mr. William  
Byaruhanga  
**Member**



Mr. Jean-Pierre  
Lequeux  
**Member**



Mr. Jack Wavamunno  
**Member**



Ms. Teresa Mwenyango  
Luzinda  
**Member**



Mr. Joseph Kasozi  
**Member**



Ms. Jacquelyn  
Lubwama-Ssali  
**Member**



Mr. Davide Naggi  
**Member**



Dr. Doreen Birabwa-Male  
**Member**



## Senior Management Team



Mr. Davide Naggi  
**Chief Executive Officer**



Dr. Doreen Birabwa-Male  
**Medical Director/ Deputy CEO**



Mr. Wilber Katubakire  
**Head of HR and  
Organizational  
Development**



Mr. Moses Kawuma  
**Head of Finance**



Dr. Fisha Muhumuza  
**Head of Orthopaedics**



Dr. George Galiwango  
**Head of Plastics  
and Reconstructive  
Surgery**



Ms. Christine Tusiime  
**Head of Rehabilitation  
Services**



Ms. Juliet Babirye  
**Head of Nursing**



Mr. David Alip  
**Head of Estates and  
Service Department**





*Part of the CoRSU Annual General Assembly.*

## Annual General Assembly

| Name                         | Position             |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Dr. Emmanuel B.K Luyirika    | Board President      |
| Sr. Dr. Nakamya Anthonia     | Board Vice President |
| Mr. Victor B.O. Odongo       | Treasurer            |
| Dr. Alice Nganwa             | Members              |
| Dr. Linda Barlow             | Member               |
| Mr. Leonard Mutesaasira      | Member               |
| Ms. Resty Namanda            | Member               |
| Mr. Douglas Opio             | Member               |
| Dr. Frederick Mutyaba        | Member               |
| Mr. Caleb Owino              | Member               |
| Mr. Aloysius K. Bakkidde     | Member               |
| Mr. William Byaruhanga       | Member               |
| Mr. Jean-Pierre Lequeux      | Member               |
| Mr. Jack Wavamunno           | Member               |
| Mr. Dan Ward                 | Member               |
| Ms. Teresa Mwenyango Luzinda | Member               |
| Mr. Joseph Kasozi            | Member               |
| Ms. Jacquelyn Lubwama-Ssali  | Member               |
| Mr. Davide Naggi             | Member               |
| Dr. Doreen Birabwa-Male      | Member               |

## ABBREVIATION

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>CoRSU</b>        | Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services in Uganda  |
| <b>CEO</b>          | Chief Executive Officer  |
| <b>NGO</b>          | Non-Governmental Organization  |
| <b>CBM</b>          | Christian Blind Mission  |
| <b>VVF</b>          | Vesicovaginal fistula  |
| <b>CME</b>          | Continuous Medical Education   |
| <b>IPC</b>          | Infection prevention and control Committee   |
| <b>MTC</b>          | Medicines and Therapeutic committee  |
| <b>TC</b>           | Theatre Committee  |
| <b>HoD</b>          | Head of Department   |
| <b>EBJIS</b>        | European Society of Bone and Joint Infections  |
| <b>POSNA</b>        | Paediatric Orthopaedic Society of Uganda   |
| <b>COEDN</b>        | Children's Orthopedic Education for Developing Nations   |
| <b>COSECSA</b>      | College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa   |
| <b>MakCHS</b>       | Makerere University College of Health Science  |
| <b>AGM</b>          | Annual General Meeting   |
| <b>OPD</b>          | Outpatient Department  |
| <b>ISPO</b>         | International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics  |
| <b>UWEC</b>         | Uganda Wildlife Educational Center   |
| <b>TDP</b>          | Total Dimension Project  |
| <b>ICRC</b>         | International Committee of Red Cross   |
| <b>HDU</b>          | High Dependency Unit   |
| <b>MRC</b>          | Medical Research Council   |
| <b>UVRI</b>         | Uganda Virus Research Institute  |
| <b>CBID</b>         | Community-Based Inclusive Development  |
| <b>IEC Material</b> | Information, Education & Communication Material  |
| <b>VHTs</b>         | Village Health Teams   |
| <b>FGDs</b>         | Focus Group Discussion   |
| <b>IT</b>           | Information Technology   |
| <b>ERP</b>          | Enterprise Resource Program  |
| <b>ISP</b>          | Internet Service Provider  |
| <b>ETALO</b>        | ETALO (Education To Advance Limb-Saving Options for Open Fractures and Osteomyelitis) bone model |
| <b>P&amp;O</b>      | Prosthetics and Orthotics  |
| <b>BoD</b>          | Board of Directors   |
| <b>GSTC</b>         | Global Surgical Training Challenge   |
| <b>PRS</b>          | Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery   |
| <b>WHO ERG</b>      | World Health Organisation External Review Group  |
| <b>ATA</b>          | Assistive Technology Assessment  |
| <b>ALTSO</b>        | A Leg To Stand On  |
| <b>UCSF</b>         | University of California San Francisco   |





## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



**DR. EMMANUEL B.K LUYIRIKA**  
**PRESIDENT**

**T**he year 2021 marked the 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CoRSU's establishment. On behalf of the CoRSU General Assembly and Board of Directors, I am thankful to God for the gift of life and good health. I also commiserate with those who lost loved ones or grappled with ill health during the year, and pray for God's Grace and guidance as we progress with patience, perseverance, and trust in His plans for our collective resolution of a number of internal and external challenges, as highlighted throughout the report.

The unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic spilled over the year 2021 and continued to pose numerous challenges due to the heightened level of anxiety over infections and job security among staff; considering that the average employee turnover in the year was about 12.7%, although this was also partly due to the rising post-lockdown job opportunities.

I congratulate Management for having expeditiously planned and successfully implemented the COVID-19 guidelines that ensured continuation of operations throughout the period by offering a variety of services and disciplines resulting in the continued transformation of the lives of people with disabilities; as seen from the over 3,400 patients served in specialized surgical interventions and over 8,000 patients served in therapy sessions during the year – the majority of whom were vulnerable Children.

Consequently, Revenue increased by 20%; Internally Generated Funds increased by 7%; Expenditures increased by 25%; Assets decreased by 1%; while Project contributions were over UGX 7.5bn for which we appreciate all our Donors for this tremendous support.

A number of infrastructure development works were also executed in the year. Important to note is that the CBM funded construction project of the New Rehabilitation Unit materialized in 2021 and that we

are immensely grateful to CBM. The procurement process for the Contractor is ongoing.

During the year, the Board was also more engaged than usual in providing guidance to CoRSU Management and follow up on several agreed action points and strategies through its Standing and other Ad-hoc Committees. Important to note is that the Board instituted the restructuring of the Hospital's Management which is still ongoing, and that the process is expected to be concluded in 2022.

Therefore, the successful governance and management of CoRSU requires concerted and well-coordinated efforts by all those involved in seeking more innovative avenues with all stakeholders in the continued pursuit of being a Centre of Excellence in the service of those with disabilities in Uganda and beyond. In this regard, I would like to thank;

- The CoRSU General Assembly and Board members for their strategic oversight, outstanding commitment, continued engagement and excellent work done during the year in guiding and supporting CoRSU's Management.
- The CoRSU Management and Staff for their passion, hard work and loyalty towards the organization and delivering on their expectations under very difficult circumstances.
- The CoRSU donors, partners, friends, and well-wishers for their tremendous support, good networking and unreserved collaborations with CoRSU.
- The Government of Uganda for its partnership and support as we serve our clients.
- The CoRSU Patients and their families for whom CoRSU was established to serve.

On behalf of the Board, I also extend our appreciation to all those who contributed to the compilation of this report, and call upon all Ugandans to continue supporting the lives of children and adults with disability who need help; and to also support CoRSU in the provision of Health Care Services to these People.

I thank you all.

**DR. EMMANUEL B.K LUYIRIKA**  
**PRESIDENT**



*Board President shares a light moment with a patient.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



**MR. DAVIDE NAGGI**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

*Davide Naggi, CEO, helps a patient to sit in a wheelchair.*

## We made it! CoRSU made it!

**I**n 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic hit Uganda harshly, causing losses, suffering and distress at individual, community, institutional and national levels.

Despite the difficulties recorded at both institutional and individual levels, we kept the hospital running throughout the year.

This was possible thanks to several critical factors, including the resilience and loyalty of our clients; the successful partnerships with many excellent organizations operating all over Uganda; the dedication of CoRSU staff, management and Board members; and the invaluable support of our donors.

The beautiful and colourful Annual Report 2021 witnesses the above through a collection of stories about the passion and resilience shown by all those who relentlessly contribute toward CoRSU's work and mandate,



internally and overall.

In summary, during the year 2021, CoRSU performed over 3,400 specialised surgeries, and 8,000 patients were treated through several disciplines of medical rehabilitation.

Financially we recorded a slight increment compared to the previous year, with a total of 6.6 Billion in terms of local collections and 7.5 Billion in grants.

CoRSU continued organising fieldwork activities (supported by Transforming Faces and CBM-BMZ) in hard-to-reach areas, including Karamoja and West Nile regions, in collaboration with several partners organisations and local authorities.

Furthermore, CoRSU successfully implemented an innovative pilot program with Hope and Healing International, promoting resilience for children with disability at the community level.

A significant breakthrough was the CBM's approval to construct a new Rehabilitation Centre (to be completed in 2023) that will represent a substantial upgrade in the field of medical rehabilitation for CoRSU and Uganda.

Another significant development was the partnership with KIDSOR through Smile Train, a historical donor of CoRSU. KiDSOR/Smile Train will (in 2022) refurbish a portion of the operating theatre block and provide equipment for a pediatric operating room.

CoRSU continues expanding and consolidating several areas of work, such as research, innovative technology (e.g. 3D printability applied to the production of assistive devices), and training.

We wholeheartedly thank CBM International, CBM Global, Hope and Healing International, SmileTrain, Transforming Faces, Miracle Feet, Fistula Foundation and other donors, for their support, without whom we would not have been able to offer specialised services to boys and girls, women and men with physical disabilities. Rest assured that your tireless efforts in mobilizing resources for CoRSU will echo in the lives of the thousands who have been treated.

I also take this opportunity to thank the many organisations and individuals who worked so hard to identify and refer persons with disabilities to CoRSU.

Lastly, I want to thank the Board and General Assembly of CoRSU, who have guided the management and staff of CoRSU.

Special thanks go to the management and staff of CoRSU for their dedication, for supporting me in my role as CEO, and for working as part of a team to enable all of us to contribute to CoRSU's growth and attain such remarkable achievements.

**MR. DAVIDE NAGGI**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



## MEDICAL DIRECTOR / DEPUTY CEO



**W**e thank God for He has continued to bless CoRSU through 2021. It is notable that inspite of the continued COVID-19 pandemic, staff remained committed to their work and the patients continued to seek our interventions.

The Directorate was duly organised into 8 Departments/Units. These include: Ortho-paedics, Plastic and Reconstruction, Anaes-thesia, Nursing, Rehabilitation, Pharmacy and Diagnostics, Research, Gynaecology, Paediatrics and Clinical Psychology. This has enabled us to focus on the mandate of the hospital and fully support the patients as required. It has also led to strengthening of the sustainability of the hospital.

Inspite of the pandemic, we were able to work at almost normal pace as the achievements will be elaborated later. I commend the directorate for having

worked so hard to achieve our goals for the year 2021. Because of the improved services, we are increasingly in need of new staff to cover the emerging gaps.

During this period we up-dated the COVID-19 guidelines and were strictly observing the SOPS. This was spear headed by the Infection Prevention and Control Committee (IPC). We are glad to report that 100% of all the employees at that time were fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in accordance with the Ministry of Health Guidelines.

The Medicines and Therapeutic Committee (MTC) has also been very active. The staff have been sensitized about antimicrobial stewardship and general medicine management. This committee and the IPC had a training by USAID,.

The Surgeons are embracing the Private Practice and I hope it will expand in the following year.

We received a grant to upgrade the day theatre into a KidsOR. We also got a grant and signed an MoU with Brass for Africa to use music therapy involving our patients and staff. We also received a grant to purchase a new X-Ray machine. The procurement process is ongoing.

We are bracing ourselves for a better 2022 with new goals and challenges for better performance.

**Dr. Doreen Barabwa Male**  
Medical Director/Deputy CEO





A patient learning how to use crutches.

## INTRODUCTION

2021 was a year of transition. The hospital was coping up with the COVID-19 Pandemic and learning to work with the new guidelines put in place by the WHO and Ministry of Health.

Despite the COVID-19 lock down that was put in place in June 2021 for 2 months, the hospital was allowed to operate and patients allowed to move unlike the 2020 lock down.

As the hospital marked 12 years of transforming lives of people with disabilities the staff, Management, Board and stakeholders remained committed to delivering quality services despite the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

CoRSU continues to offer a vast array of services which will be described within the report. These are;

- Orthopaedic surgery
- Plastic and Reconstructive surgery
- Medical Rehabilitation services ( physiotherapy, occupation therapy, speech and language therapy, Nutrition, cerebral palsy clinic, sport medicine and play therapy)
- Production of Assistive Devices (prostheses and orthoses)
- Clubfoot clinic
- Vesico-Vaginal Fistula (VVF) clinic
- Psychosocial services
- Community Based Inclusive Development

Complex and highly technical procedures that have been offered at the hospital include:

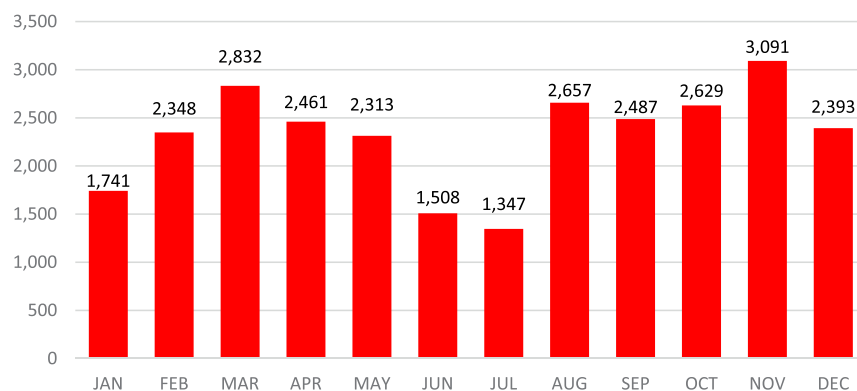
- Knee and hip replacements.
- Microvascular free tissue transfer

- surgeries.
- Temporomandibular joint ankyloses surgeries.
  - Vacuum-assisted closure therapy.
  - Cosmetic procedures.
  - Sport medicine.

The 2021 Annual Report represents a summary of CoRSU's achievements, measures put in-place to cope with the pandemic and highlights a series of lives transformed. With support from donors, partners and supporters, we were able to provide over **3,400** specialized surgeries and over 8,000 therapy sessions to people with disabilities.

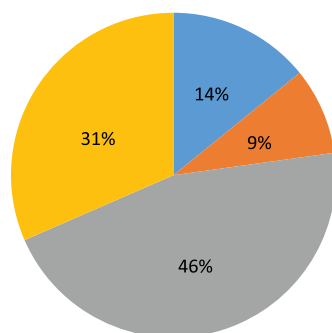
## 2021 STATISTICS.

### Out Patient Statistics



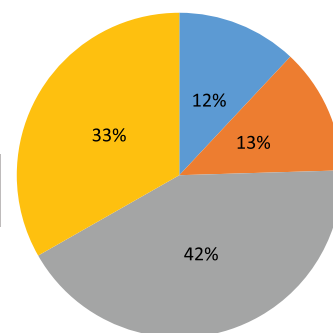
### Orthopedic

Men Women  
Boys Girls



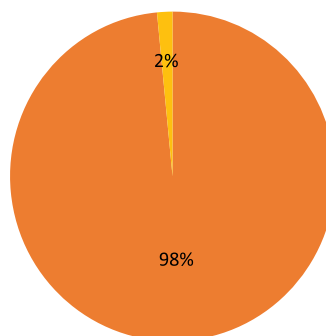
### Plastic and reconstruction

Men Women  
Boys Girls



### Gynecology

Women  
Girls





*A patient undergoing rehabilitation.*

## ORTHOPAEDICS DEPARTMENT



**The Orthopaedics department offers a wide range of services including but not limited to Paediatric Orthopaedics, Limb reconstruction, Joint arthroplasty for degenerative and infective joint diseases, Sports medicine and bone infections among others. Our team of 7 Orthopaedic surgeons, 3 Orthopaedic Clinical Officers and 3 medical officers ranks among the largest Orthopaedic departments in Uganda offering a wide array of services and loads of experience built over the years.**



2021 came at the backdrop of what seemed like the world had gone to sleep and was starting to awake albeit slowly. The lockdown had stagnated everyone including us in the department. We moved on with caution amidst the pandemic that froze the world.

Having had the lockdown partially lifted, work resumed normally with the easing of the ban on public transport.

### Milestones

With all the challenges resulting from COVID 19 pandemic, the department managed to perform 2,035 surgeries and attended to 14,000 outpatients which was below our annual targets. The number of surgeries significantly dropped compared to the years preceding 2020.

### Clinics

The reduction in numbers allowed us to realign our activities and we formed specialized clinics to smoothen our work. This has also been influenced by the super specialization of the team members in the various fields of Orthopaedics. Among the clinics created include the Hand deformities clinic in collaboration with the Plastic Surgery and Rehab teams, Arthroplasty clinic, Sports medicine clinic, Club foot clinic and Cerebral palsy clinics among others. The clinics allowed us to streamline our activities and reallocate the required manpower to the relevant units.

### Capacity Building

The Paediatric Orthopaedic Training that started at the beginning of 2020 was conducted on the Zoom platform with the help of our COEDN (Children's Orthopedic Education for Developing Nations) trainers led by Dr Mark Barry and Dr Coleen Sabatini. This program is still ongoing to date every fortnight. Dr. Barry is finalizing the program accreditation through COSECSA (College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa). We are also looking forward to further training opportunities with the CURE hospitals network. Finally, we are building stronger bonds with the Department of Orthopaedics under the Makerere University, College of Health Sciences to allow for

performed  
**2,035**  
surgeries

attended to  
**14,000**  
outpatients

**Clinics created**  
**Hand deformities**  
**Arthroplasty**  
**Sports medicine**  
**Club foot**  
**Cerebral palsy**



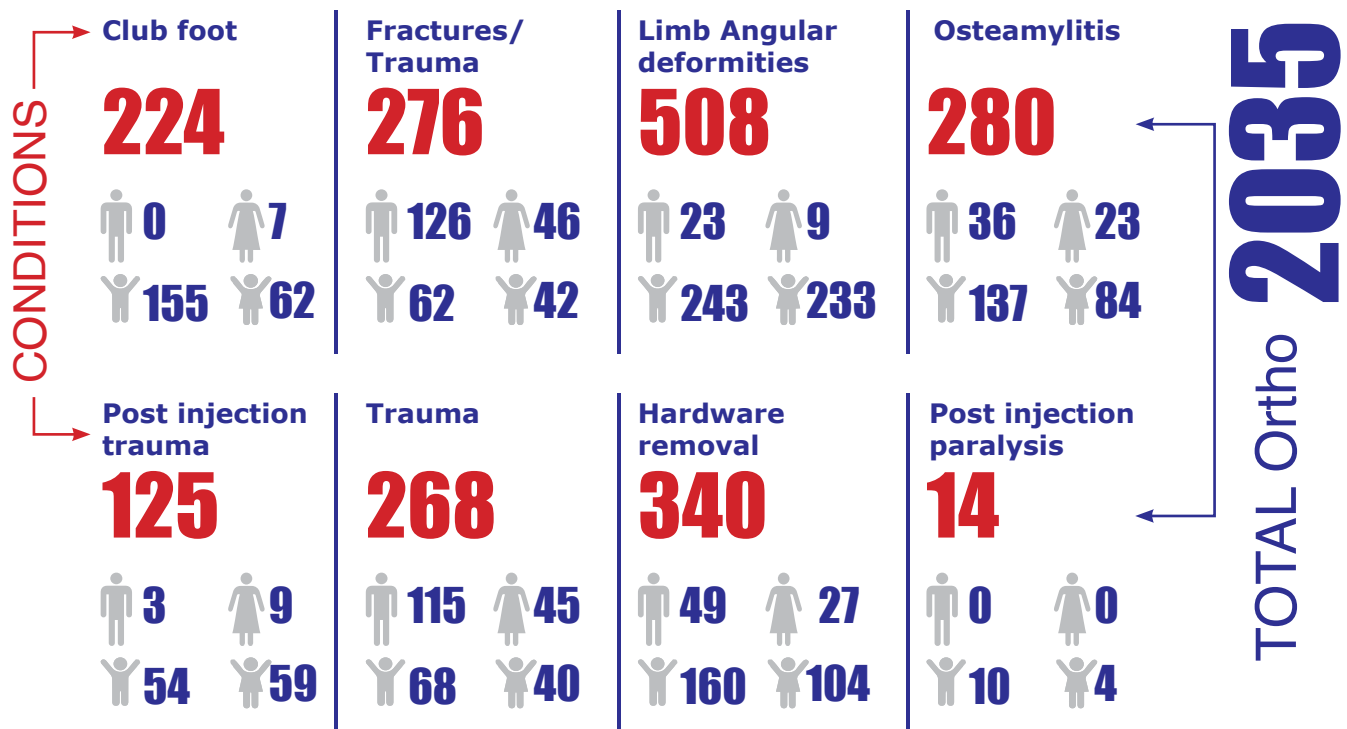
training of Orthopaedics residents in Paediatric Orthopaedics.

#### Research

In 2021, the department was involved in a research competition under the Global Surgical Training Challenge (GSTC) based in the UK. We presented our ETALO (Education To Advance Limb-Saving Options for Open Fractures and Osteomyelitis) bone model. The model was meant to create a cheap surgical training model for general surgeons, medical officers and non-Orthopaedic practitioners around the world. This would strengthen their skills on how to drill bones and place fixation pins to stabilize open fractures.

Our team participated to the final competition. This was a major milestone achieved and we are looking forward to more research and innovation collaborations that will allow us to share our skills and knowledge with the world.

The passion to manage children with disabilities never stops and we are continuously motivated by the support and funding from our key stakeholders. We look forward to making more fruitful collaborations in the future. The department strives to make CoRSU the center of excellence in Paediatric Orthopaedics training within the region. The future is bright and there is hope, especially as we try to live life in "the new normal".



## Aida's life transformed.

Aida is the first child of 5 siblings. She lost both her parents to food poisoning at age of 12. She currently stays with an ill grandmother who is unable to cater for all of their basic need.

One evening after fetching firewood, Aida felt an itch on her right leg. She started scratching it that resulted into a swollen blister. The blister later burst and started releasing a foul fluid(pus). Due to financial constraints, they family couldn't afford proper medical care therefore resorted to a traditional herbal attendant. He assured that family that Aida was suffering from a spiritual disease and needed cleansing.

Six months under the herbalist care, the family was not seeing any change despite spending all the income they had. The leg worsened and people started isolating Aida due to the smell of the pus.

### Aida is referred to CoRSU

A CoRSU Community Mobiliser visited

Aida's village carrying out the day to day community awareness and patient referral. He came across Aida and requested the grandmother to bring Aida to CoRSU. The grandmother agreed and requested the neighbor to transfer her to CoRSU.

At CoRSU, Aida was welcomed by the Social Work team that assessed her and found her eligible for subsidy. With that, Aida accessed comprehensive care at no cost.

Orthopaedic Surgeons assessed Aida and identified that she had Chronic osteomyelitis. She underwent surgery and physiotherapy.

***On the next visit,  
Aida was all over  
the place, running  
up and down  
on the CoRSU  
walkways.***

On the next visit, Aida was all over the place, running up and down on the CoRSU walkways.

Thanks to our donors;  
CBM, Hope and Healing  
International and MTN

foundation, vulnerable children like Aida receive subsidized treatment at CoRSU. We pride in improving the quality of life for people with disabilities.



Before



After





*Dr. George (Plastic Surgeon) and Nakiwu (Registered Nurse) performing surgery.*

## PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY



**The Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (PRS) department offers a wide range of services including surgical reconstruction for:**

- **Cleft lip and palate**
- **Post burn contractures**
- **Complex wound management**
- **Limb traumatic and congenital conditions,**
- **Head and neck tumours**
- **Hand and peripheral nerve injury**
- **Soft tissue tumors**

The COVID-19 Pandemic affected the department in different ways. We were unable to achieve most of the set targets due to the restrictions put in place and the effects of COVID-19 in the community.

The department performed 1,084 procedures on 918 patients. In addition, there was an increased number of Outpatients with 4,574 patients seen.

performed  
**1,084**  
procedures on **918**  
patients

outpatients  
**4,574** ↑  
seen  
surgical  
**1,084**  
procedures

Dr. Joseph (Plastic Surgeon) and the team during a ward round.



## Hand Surgery clinics

Surgery and therapy for Obstetric Brachial Plexus injuries and hand trauma patients continued to grow though hampered by the lock downs and lack of appropriate splinting material. The Hand and Surgery clinic operates on Thursday with 2 Plastic Surgeons and Hand Therapists. There has been an increased demand for hand surgery, we hope to further develop the service.



*Dr. Cornelius (Plastic Surgeon) assessing a hand patient.*

## Cosmetic surgery

With the financial constraints caused by COVID -19 Pandemic, there has a very low uptake of cosmetic surgery throughout the year. The Department needs to purchase a new liposuction equipment to further expand the service offering.



## Surgical trainee attachments

The PRS department received requests for surgical trainees for observership and training at CoRSU. This enables knowledge and experience sharing. Throughout the year, we received three trainees;

1. Dr. Fikru Delesa , Ethiopian – final year FCS Plast Surg COSECSA - 6 weeks
2. Dr. Seif Nuru, Tanzanian – ReSurge Fellow – Nov - Dec
3. Dr. Adelaida Mghase, Tanzanian – final year FCS Plast Surg COSECSA – 1 day microsurgery experience.

We applied for re- accreditation of the hospital as COSECSA FCS Plastic surgery training site. We await for this in 2022. Meanwhile, we continue to receive requests for training placements.





During treatment



After treatment

## Selina's Story:

Selina had a flame injury at six months. She developed a complex post-burn contracture and was unable to walk. A partner organization carrying out an outreach identified and referred her to CoRSU.

At CoRSU, Selina was assessed by a Plastic Surgeon, and she noted that she would benefit from a contracture release surgery. The surgery was performed in phases since it involved different parts of the body.

After four months, Selina returned for review. During the review, Dr. Naome Kekisa noted that the result of the surgery was excellent.

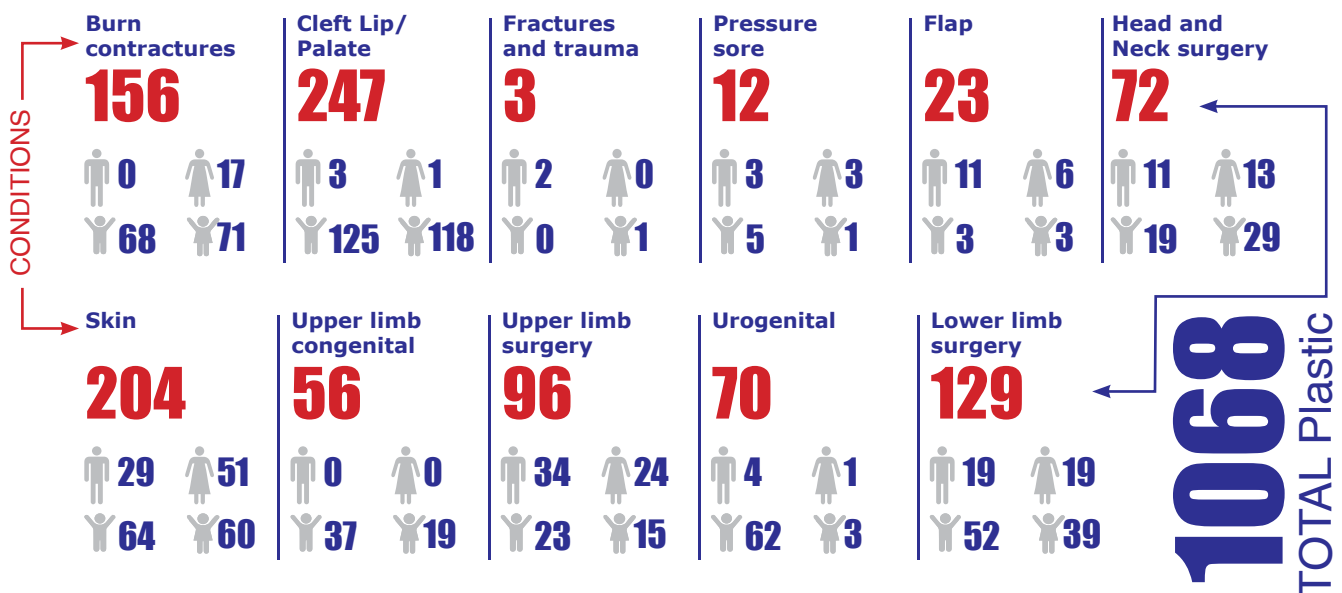
"I am forever indebted to all the donors who made the surgery possible for my grandchild." Selina's Grandmother stated. My Selina can run and play with her friends without difficulty. We are forever indebted to CoRSU Hospital.



## Opportunities in 2022

The department applied for a Research training that will be sponsored by Smile Train.

### Plastic and Reconstructive surgeries



## Jemima's smile transformed



In March 2020, CoRSU team carried out community sensitization. Village Health Team members (VHT) were trained on cleft patient identification and the referral pathway.

Later on, in July 2020, a VHT identified and referred little Jemima to CoRSU.

### **Family history**

Jemima is the second child in the family. Her elder sibling Jordan is without a disability. The day Jemima was born, her mother Aisha recalls:

"I had never seen a child with this kind of disability. I was so scared and could not comprehend what was happening to me at the time. I was too confused."

Jemima's parents lost their jobs during to the COVID 19 pandemic. They could not afford medical treatment for Jemimah.

When they were identified by the VHT, he informed them that Jemima could access treatment at a fully subsidized cost.

### **Jemima at CoRSU**

At CoRSU, Jemima weighed 3 kilograms and had difficulty breastfeeding. The mother was stigmatized and could only breastfeed her child in hiding. She underwent psychosocial counselling

which involved her learning about the disability and how to cope in the community. This gave her confidence to embrace Jemima and the cleft lip condition.

She was also assessed by a Nutritionist that encouraged Aisha to continue breastfeeding. Finally, she was taught how to express milk and a soft bottle was given to baby Jemima.

On the next visit, Jemima was found to have gained the required weight for surgery and therefore, she was booked.

**The surgery was done; it was a success.**

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***"I thank the team of doctors, the donors who made the surgery possible. I pray for God's blessings upon their lives. God should continue elevating them to greater heights," says Jemima's mum.***

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*Therapy team, Davide (CEO) and Dr. Doreen (Medical Director/D-CEO) celebrating Physiotherapy day.*

## REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT



**The department consists of three major units**

- 1. Therapy**
- 2. Prosthetics and Orthotics**
- 3. Nutrition unit.**



## Therapy Unit

2021 was the year we started to recover from the havoc and despair caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We were able to resume our departmental continuous medication education sessions (with strict adherence to the COVID-19 related SOPs). These sessions are important to ensure we provide quality standard care to our patients. In spite of the pandemic, the team managed to attain a number of achievements such as:


- Provided quality therapy to over 4,000 patients.
- Successfully fitted over 100 beneficiaries with wheelchairs received from CLASP.
- Attended online training sessions conducted by the Global Peace Network Team.
- Attended the Online World Physiotherapy Congress 2021.
- One staff was selected as a member of the WHO External Review Group (ERG). The group developed a new tool as part of the Assistive Technology Assessment (ATA) Toolkit. This toolkit will be used to support countries to collect data on assistive technology.
- Supervision of two 3rd year Physiotherapy students from Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) for 4 weeks for clinical placement.



*Daniel (Speech & Language Therapist) during a session.*

fitted  
**100**  
wheelchairs

Therapy  
**4,000**  
patients

 **50%**  
adults

 **50%**  
children

received over  
**8,000**  
sessions

## Statistics

Over 4,000 patients were provided with Therapy. Of these 50% were children and 50% were adults. These patients received over 8,000 sessions.

The team is very proud of the impact we make by promoting the patients' participation in their daily activities as this improves their quality of life.

## Future Plans

- ✓ Construction of an integrated Rehabilitation Centre.

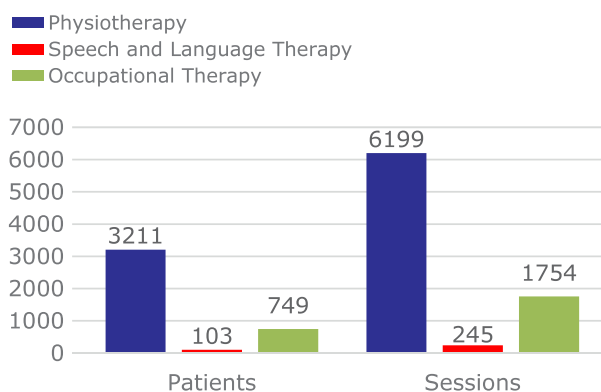


*A patient undergoing rehabilitation.*

This will improve and strengthen the quality of service delivery of both Therapy and Prosthetics and Orthotics Teams.

- ✓ Construction of a well-designed inclusive children's playground to complement the Rehabilitation services we provide. Having a well-designed inclusive children's playground will encourage the children admitted at CoRSU to participate in different physical activities.
- ✓ Capacity build the Rehabilitation team to conduct clinical research to ensure we provide Evidence Based Practice. We intend to develop research in the department by identifying and applying for research grants.
- ✓ There is still need to create awareness about the importance of early identification, referral, and treatment using Therapy to ensure clients adhere to the treatment regimes.

### Therapy service provision 2021



## Esther's story



*A patient undergoing rehabilitation.*

### Introduction

When Esther was first brought to CoRSU Hospital in September 2020 by her grandmother Sarah, she could not stand or walk. According to her grandmother, Esther was in bad shape. Additionally, the left side of her body was too weak. She could not hold anything in her left hand.

"In this one year of therapy at CoRSU Hospital, I have seen great improvements in the life of Esther," the grandmother said. We look forward to more improvements as Esther continues with rehabilitation.

### The beginning

Esther was born eight (8) years ago to her mother and father that abandoned her. Her grandmother reveals that Esther's mother had an eventful pregnancy and suspects that this could have affected the baby's growth in the womb.

A few months after Esther was born, the relationship between her mother and father ended. Esther was taken to her paternal aunt, where life was not so good. She had developmental delays, and being in an unsupportive environment worsened Esther's growth.

When life became unbearable, her maternal grandmother picked her up at the beginning of 2020. Esther could hardly do anything a child her age is supposed to do and had never enrolled in school. She needed not just care but specialized care.

A neighbor told her about CoRSU, a specialized Hospital where her grandchild could be helped. At first, the grandmother was scared of the cost of treatment but was determined to transform Esther's life.

### Esther at the Therapy Department

The Therapy team diagnosed Esther with "**Developmental Delays**". This meant that Esther could not achieve her milestones at the right time. For example, Esther started sitting at 2 years. On arrival at the Hospital, Esther could not kneel or crawl. She could not stand or walk.

The therapist developed a treatment plan that included Play Therapy, Ambulation Training, Sit-standing exercise, and social skills training among others.

After one year of therapy, Esther can lift herself and stand. She is also able to sit upright and crawl on her bottom. She can make 2 steps in an attempt to walk.

Her grandmother is impressed with the progress. I am very impressed when I see my granddaughter. I look forward to seeing her walking very soon, she said with gratitude.

We will keep our eyes on Esther because Rehabilitation is not a one-off treatment. It takes time to bring a person to a state where they can support themselves.



# Rosette Amahoro

Physiotherapist



*Rosette during a physiotherapy session.*

I have been working at CoRSU Hospital for the last 6 years. I mostly attend to children with cerebral palsy. It's been an eventful journey because I have gained a lot of experience and skills which I wouldn't have got elsewhere. I am passionate about children and issues surrounding children.

When I had just joined CoRSU and started working on children with disability, I realized there were actually many children living with disability in the community. In no time I got used to the situation.

If you listen to some of the children's stories, they are really touching, and this propels me to go an extra mile to help.

## **The most challenging part in my career at CoRSU:**

- Seeing a child who is improving and with great potential drop out of therapy, only to come back later in a worse state.
- Caretakers giving up on a child living with a disability

These challenges are due to the fact that some of the clients live very far away and such specialized rehabilitation services are not easily available for them.

Poverty also limits some of our clients from following scheduled appointments.

Nonetheless, when I see a patient walking away with gratitude, I get motivated to work more. And also seeing a child make improvements gives me a lot of joy.

## Prosthetics and Orthotics (P&O) Workshop also known as Orthopaedic Workshop:



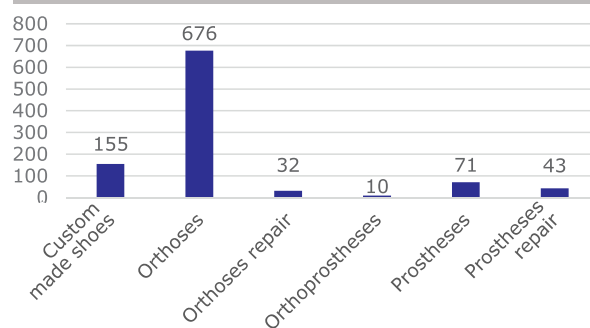
Denis Angole (Wheelchair Technician) and Rhonah Asinguza (Occupation Therapist) fitting a patient in a wheelchair.

The P&O Workshop provides different categories of Assistive Devices for people with disabilities. We use three different technologies in the Workshop; International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC), lamination and 3 Dimensional (3D) printing.

With support from CBM Italy, we were able to expand production in our 3D laboratory. Our products include artificial limb sockets, orthoses and face shields. We appreciate Fit 360 Team for providing us with a license to their 3D software. This enabled us to diversify the Assistive Devices we print using 3D Technology. Furthermore, in partnership with Victoria Hand Project and Enevra teams, we diversified the array of artificial upper limbs that we provide to our patients to include Limb Forge and Enevra cosmetic hand.

The Team greatly appreciates our donors who continue to support us by providing raw materials to fabricate the prostheses and orthoses as well as the wheelchairs. These donations enable us to continue providing P&O services at subsidized costs. These donors include CBM, Victoria Hand Project, Nia Technologies, A Leg To Stand On (ALTSO), Legs4Africa to mention but a few.

### Assistive devices production



# Latifa's life Rehabilitated

17-year-old Latifa is the second born child in a family of seven children. She was born with hypogenesis of the tibia and calcaneus plus agenesis of the fibula. The left leg was shorter with the ankle in severe valgus.

At the age of 12, her left leg was amputated. This made mobility difficult, thus, Latifa depended on her mother Lovinsa a peasant farmer and single mother for all the support. This denied her chance to play with her peer and threatened her dream of becoming a doctor.

Latifa was brought to CoRSU and the Prosthetic and Orthotic team fabricated a prosthetic limb for her. With a series of physio therapy sessions, Latifa is able to attend secondary school, perform her domestic chores like washing clothes and utensil. She says

---

*"I can't wait to  
become a doctor to  
treat children with  
disabilities."*

---



Before



After



## NUTRITION UNIT

Despite the COVID -19 Pandemic, lockdown and tight preventive measures, the unit continued to offer nutrition rehabilitation services to patients. A total of 1,069 patients were managed (male- 530, F-462), of these 93% were children and 7% were adult patients. 53% (568) of the patients were at risk of having malnutrition, 26%(279) were moderately malnourished and 21% (222) were severely malnourished.

The team was able to achieve a number of milestones during 2021. These included;


- Two Nutrition research proposals were approved by CoRSU Research committee and are to be conducted in 2022.
- The unit celebrated the World Breast feeding week in August with the theme “Protect Breastfeeding: A Shared Responsibility”.
- In collaboration with the hospital Pediatrician, the unit initiated monthly joint Focus Group Discussions for caretakers of children with cleft lip and Palate.
- The unit also created a joint cleft care WhatsApp support group which has been welcomed and supported by the cleft care givers and the CoRSU cleft care team.
- With funding from Smile train, the unit conducted two Nutrition Trainings on Supporting Comprehensive Cleft Care through Nutrition and Feeding.
- The unit represented in the Comprehensive Cleft Care Conference that was held in October 2021 in Istanbul, Turkey.
- In addition, the unit attended the Virtual American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (ACPA) Annual Meeting in May 2021. One of the Nutritionists was a Panelists and discussed “Advancing Nutrition Cleft Care in Africa”
- The Nutrition Garden was shifted back to the old plot which is more fertile and has increased the yield of the planted vegetables.
- The team continued to support Smile train as Regional Nutrition Advisors in East Africa.
- With support from Transforming Faces, there is continued provision of Nutrition take home packages to children with cleft lip and palate to ensure timely cleft surgeries.

managed  
**1,069**  
patients

 **530**  
Male

 **462**  
Female

 **93%**  
children

 **7%**  
adults

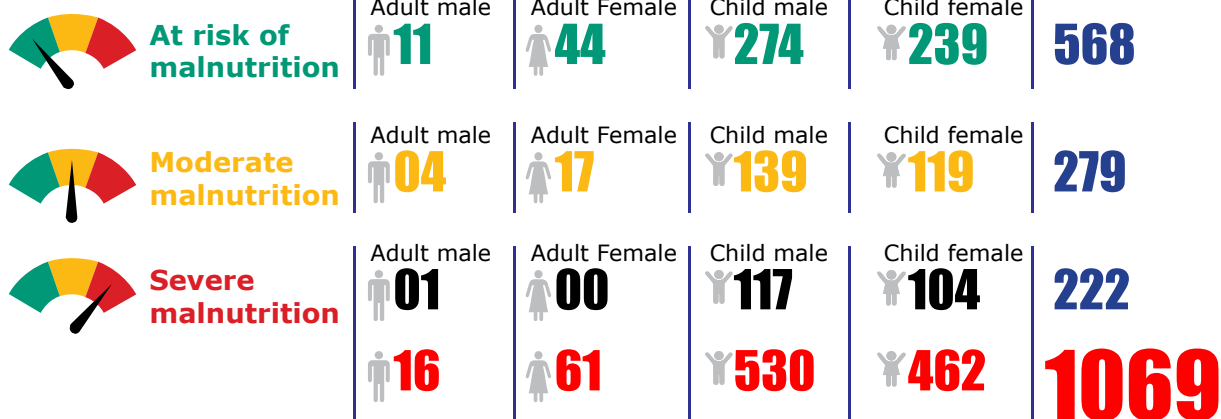
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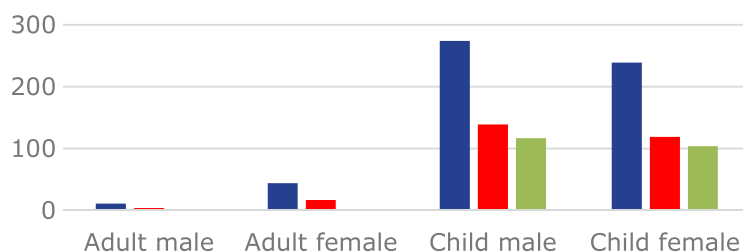
## Number of Patients Seen January – December 2021

### Type of malnutrition



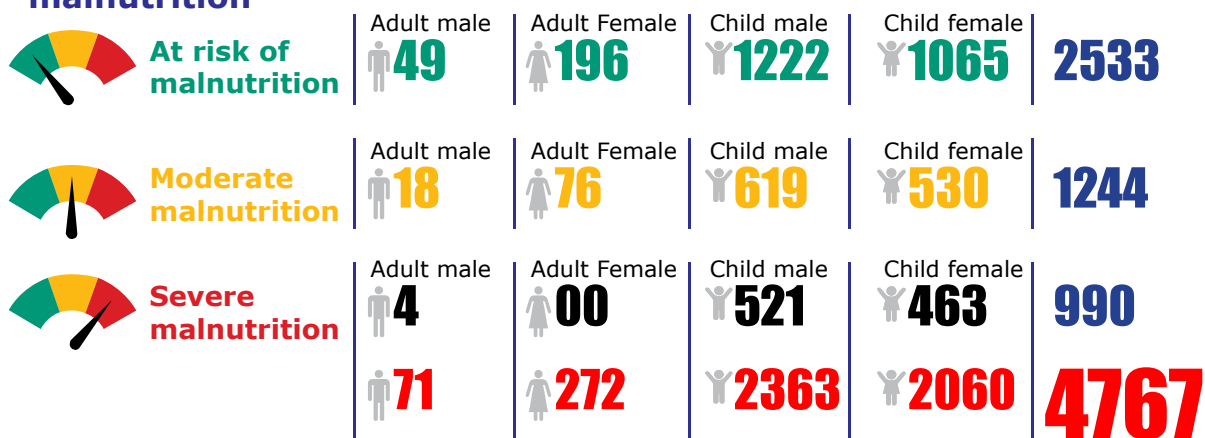
### Nutrition status of children enrolled on the Nutrition Rehabilitation Program Jan-Dec 2021

 At risk of malnutrition  
 Severe malnutrition  
 Moderate malnutrition



## Total number of sessions/ days (Jan – December 2020)

### Type of malnutrition





*Bertha Tendo (Nutritionist) demonstrating feeding techniques.*



## NUTRITION UNIT FUTURE PLANS

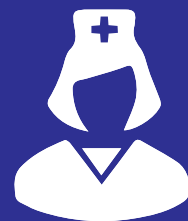
- Continue with Nutrition Rehabilitation of children with disabilities.
- Conduct more Nutrition Trainings on Supporting Comprehensive Cleft Care through Nutrition and Feeding.
- Refresher training on the updated guidelines of Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM).
- Plan to add a Nutrition Nurse to assist on ensuring adequate Inpatient management of malnourished patients.
- Look forward to employment of a full time Pediatrician to manage medical complications in children.
- Strengthen partnership with partner organizations and other affiliated Nutrition organizations.
- Conduct and publish the approved Research findings.
- Evaluate the Nutrition Take Home Package program to assess its contribution to timely cleft surgeries.





*Nursing In-charges during a ward round.*

## NURSING DEPARTMENT



**In order to continue providing quality nursing care to all our patients during the COVID-19 pandemic, the team strengthened their roots of professionalism, compassion, integrity and competence in service provision. It aimed at providing work and specialized care with resilience which has uplifted the standard of Nursing services we do offer. It's through this care that the patient outcome has continued to improve, the bed occupancy increase, and the length of stay reduce.**

In the year 2021 the department had several achievements and recognitions:

- The team was recognised for its excellent work and exceptional nursing care by partners organisations.
- We managed to retain at least 95% of the nurses despite the COVID-19 pandemic and its related effects.
- Some of the nurses attended the nutrition training on Comprehensive Nutritional care for children with cleft lip and pallet funded by Smile Train.
- Quarterly hospital supervision rounds were carried out to help in identifying the needs, gaps and appreciate the different units. This is done by a group of Nurse In-charges.
- We Introduced a new cadre of nurses called the Theatre Assistants to support the theatre nurses. This further strengthened the theatre activities.
- Some of the nurses who were upgrading professionally finally graduated despite the delay in the process due to COVID-19 pandemic and the related restrictions.
- Continued active involvement in the Infection Prevention and Control committee which oversees the implementation of the IPC protocol and standards.

recognised  
for its  
excellent  
work



### Challenges:

- The COVID-19 pandemic prevented many visiting nursing expatriates who used to come and share their skills with the team for further skills improvement.
- Some of the nurses suffered from COVID-19 which affected their attendance and availability to offer service.

Some  
nurses  
suffered  
from  
COVID-19



### Future plans.

To achieve the Nursing department vision, we will focus on

1. Quality patient centered care, professional growth, team work, motivation and safety standards.
2. Invite more professional visitors to share their skills with the team. These will conduct in-house trainings and CMEs for the team.
3. Encourage professional growth of the team members with financial support from the hospital.
4. The team will also start having mid- morning update meetings during which patient care plans after the ward rounds will be made.

In conclusion, we appreciate the other departments for collaboration to ensure exceptional care for the patients. We thank all our donors and partners for supporting the department and, the management of CoRSU for continuously equipping the department.



**Staff Name: Ilakut Esther**  
**Title: Registered Nurse**  
**Work Space: Septic Ward**

My name is Ilakut Esther, a Registered Nurse at CoRSU working in the Septic Ward. I joined the CoRSU family in September 2009 as a fresh nurse from school. It has been an adventurous experience. CoRSU was different from the places I had worked in as a student.

I love my job so much because it allows me to impact the well-being of people with disabilities. I love challenges and my job dares me a lot. Also, I love it when a patient receives our treatment and goes home with a smile. It is rewarding. For example, there was a child who was brought to the ward with her thigh bone exposed.

She was in severe pain and the doctors were contemplating amputating her. Together with the team, we developed a treatment plan to ensure that she receives the best treatment and care. After a month in the hospital, the child greatly improved and even the plan for amputation was changed. The family that was once worried and scared was very happy. It is such stories that keep me moving. On daily basis, I carry out wound cleaning and dressing, order drugs and other supplies, ensure patients have taken their drugs, counseling, and overall nursing care.

I thank CoRSU Hospital for giving me the opportunity to serve people with disabilities. I am now an expert in wound care and look forward to sharing my knowledge with younger nurses.





*John Baptist (Medical Imaging Technologist) carrying out an X-ray.*

## PHARMACY AND DIAGNOSTICS DEPARTMENT



**The Pharmacy and Diagnostics department is comprised of three units namely; Pharmacy, Radiology and Laboratory with a total of 9 staff.**

**The Pharmacy unit is responsible for the procurement of medicines and consumables, dispensing of drugs, identifying and reporting of adverse drug reactions, compounding of disinfectants and non-sterile solutions, providing medicine related information to prescribers and patients and monitoring medicines use within the hospital.**

**The Laboratory unit's main functions are performing microbiology,**

**parasitology, and clinical chemistry on samples collected from patients.**

**The main functions of the Radiology unit include performing X-rays and ultrasound scans on patients as recommended by the doctors. We appreciate CBM for allocating funds to purchase a new X-ray machine. This will greatly boost the efficiency of the unit and ensure the provision of reliable imaging services to the patients. We are pleased that the year ended with the initiation of the procurement of a modern X-Ray machine.**



*Beneficiaries of the Fistula Program.*

## THE FISTULA PROGRAM



**2021 commenced with outreach activities to mobilize and screen women with child birth related injuries where 421 patients were identified. The outreach covered the districts of Pallisa, Butebo, Ngora, Serere, Lira, Otuke, Alebtong, Oyam, Omoro, Dokolo, Amolatar, Kaberamaido, Apac and Kwanja. Accompanied by social worker Sylvia Nafuna, the team was able to give health talks and inform the gathered patients about CoRSU's services.**





*Fistula program beneficiaries share a light moment.*

The Program was able to treat 301 patients in 2021 compared to 277 in 2020. The increase in patient numbers was due to the two weeks' treatment camp which was conducted in March 2021 with Dr. Andrew Browning, a visiting surgeon from Australia, and again in November 2021.

In addition, we held a radio talk show at a local radio station with mobilizers and treated patients. This provided a platform to create awareness and a chance for patients to testify their experience with the treatment and recovery at CoRSU Hospital.



### Surgeries according to procedures

| Surgeries                            | 2021       |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Perineal Repair                      | <b>247</b> |
| VVF Repair                           | <b>19</b>  |
| Pelvic Organ Prolapse Surgery        | <b>3</b>   |
| Post VVF Repair Incontinence Surgery | <b>11</b>  |
| Stress Incontinence Surgery          | <b>4</b>   |
| Vaginoplasty                         | <b>14</b>  |
| Ureteric Fistula Repair              | <b>2</b>   |
| Bladder Stone removal                | <b>1</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>301</b> |



## CHARITY'S DIGNITY RESTORED



Charity was 17 years old when she conceived her first child. By Ugandan laws, Charity was still a child at the time. She fell prey to one of the charming boys in her village.

She had a normal pregnancy, but the delivery was not as anticipated. "I had seen pregnant women go to the hospital, and I would see them walking back home with newly born children the following day. I thought that would be the same case with me," Charity says. She instead spent three days in labor which led to her unending woes.

Charity delivered her baby, but started leaking a few days later.

On discharge, she was assured by a midwife that the leaking would stop later and was nothing to worry about.

Well, the situation worsened and she became the talk of her village.

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*"People including my peers would laugh at home. The worst was the foul smell emitted with the leaking," Charity narrates with teary eyes.*

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Charity and family practice peasant farming and could not afford medical treatment and transport to the hospital. With time, Charity lost hope and accepted her condition as permanent.

### Charity finds hope

As she pondered on her future, a community mobilizer approached her family. She was informed that she would benefit from the free surgeries provided at CoRSU Hospital. These surgeries are sponsored by the Fistula Foundation. Accordingly, she was transferred to CoRSU, and surgery was performed.

"It feels like a dream; I can't believe am no longer leaking. I will go back to the village and will talk about CoRSU services. Thank you Fistula Foundation, for making sure that Women receive the treatment and surgeries they get at CoRSU. Please continue supporting this hospital because so many women need to undergo surgery. I will now ably join tailoring to support my family financially," Charity applauded.



*Dr. Moses Muhumuza (Orthopaedic Surgeon) and Dr. Coleen Sabatini (Orthopaedic Surgeon) building a bone simulator.*

## RESEARCH



**2021 was a year of growth for the Research Unit. Although CoRSU Hospital faced several challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, it continued to receive research interests from various organizations and institutions internationally. The Research Department received several requests and proposals to conduct research projects and studies at CoRSU from Team ETALO, SPOON Foundation and KidsOR. As a result of these applications, a new role of Research Assistant was created to boost the work of the Research Coordinator in the department.**

## COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS

### ETALO project

Team ETALO came together in 2020 for the Global Surgical Training Challenge (GSTC) to develop a low-cost simulator and training course for non-orthopedic clinicians to learn to drill bones as a central part of treatment of open fractures and osteomyelitis. Having emerged as one of the winners of the Discovery Awards, worth USD 200,000, Team ETALO set out to build a bone simulator model and develop a bone drilling module. This would train medical officers, orthopaedic officers and medical students the psychomotor skill of drilling bone.

Based at CoRSU Rehabilitation Hospital, the team worked diligently to achieve their goal and successfully completed the project.



### ETALO TEAM



Dr. Moses Flisha Muhumuza, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Uganda



Dr. Coleen Sabatini, Orthopaedic Surgeon, USA



Dr. Qusai Hammouri, Orthopaedic Surgeon, USA & Jordan



Daniela Akelot, Research Coordinator, Uganda



Dr. Norgrove Penny, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Canada



Tayla Colton, Education Consultant, USA



## ONGOING STUDIES

| Title  | Brief description   |
|--|---|
| <b>Vascularised Fibula Flap (VFF Study)</b>  | This study is a collaboration between Dr. Coleen Sabatini from UCSF and the Orthopaedic and Plastic Surgeons at CoRSU Rehabilitation Hospital. The title of this study is "Outcomes of Vascularised Fibula Flaps for Reconstruction of Segmental Bone Defects at CoRSU Rehabilitation Hospital". The purpose of this study is to evaluate and report on the outcomes of vascularised fibula flaps for large-segmental bone defects in Uganda.   |
| <b>Nutrition Assessment and Advocacy for Children with Disabilities and Children without Family Care</b> | This study is a collaboration between SPOON Foundation and the Nutrition Unit of CoRSU. In the proposed study, SPOON and CoRSU Rehabilitation Hospital will collect qualitative and quantitative data to estimate the prevalence of malnutrition and feeding difficulties, assess the perceived barriers to adequate nutrition and feeding, and identify gaps and opportunities in feeding and nutrition services and policies for children with disabilities and children living without family care.  |
| <b>A seat for every child: Ensuring safe and dignified mealtimes for children with disabilities</b>      | This study is a collaboration between SPOON Foundation, St. Catherine University and the Nutrition Unit at CoRSU. The objective of this study is to pilot test SPOON Foundation's low-cost feeding chair for acceptability, usability, and feasibility for families with a child with a disability (CWD) in Uganda.   |
| <b>KidsOR Data Study</b>   | This study is a collaboration between KidsOR and CoRSU Rehabilitation Hospital. The title of this study is "Evaluating the clinical and economic impact of the installation of a dedicated paediatric operating room in CoRSU Rehabilitation Hospital, Uganda". The objective of this study is to establish a database of paediatric surgical cases performed one year before and up to three years after the installation of a KidsOR-funded dedicated paediatric operating theatre, in order to evaluate the clinical and economic impact of installing a KidsOR-funded theatre in CoRSU. |

## PUBLICATIONS

| Authors   | Publication  |
|---|--|
| Bettens, Kim, Laura Bruneel, Cassandra Alighieri, Daniel Sseremba, Duncan Musasizib, Isaac Ojok, Andrew Hodges, et al.  | <b>"Perceptual Speech Outcomes After Early Primary Palatal Repair in Ugandan Patients With Cleft Palate."</b> The Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal 58, no. 8 (August 2021): 999–1011. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/1055665620980249">https://doi.org/10.1177/1055665620980249</a> .               |
| Cassandra Alighieri, Evelien D'haeseleer, Kim Bettens, Katrien Bonte, H. Vermeersch, Nele Vermeire, Merel Claeys, Daniel Sseremba, George Galiwango, Kristiane Van Lierde.    | <b>"Long-Term Outcomes in Adolescents and Adults with a Cleft Lip and/or Palate: Esthetics, Employment and Functioning."</b> Research Square (2021) DOI: 10.21203/rs.3.rs-166715/v1  |
| Femke Bannink Mbazzi, PhD, Claire Nimusiima, BSc, Daniella Akellot, MPH, Elizabeth Kawesa, MSc, Andrew Abaasa, PhD, Sarah Hodges, DMSc, Janet Seeley, PhD, Tine Vervoort, PhD | <b>"Use of Virtual Reality Distraction to Reduce Child Pain and Fear during Painful Medical Procedures in Children with Physical Disabilities in Uganda:"</b> A Feasibility Study, Pain Medicine, 2021; pnab206, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/pm/pnab206">https://doi.org/10.1093/pm/pnab206</a> . |
| Mbuga, Joseph & Galiwango, George & Tungotyo, Martin. (2021).   | <b>Anthropometric nutrition outcomes of children under 5 years undergoing cleft palate repair at CoRSU rehabilitation hospital Uganda;</b> trends, patterns and determinants. International Journal of Contemporary Pediatrics. 8. 420. 10.18203/2349-3291.ijcp20210647.                               |
| Kekisa, Naomi Leah, George William Galiwango and Andrew M. Hodges.  | <b>"Comparing Banana Leaf Dressing and Vaseline Gauze Dressing for Split-Thickness Skin Graft Donor Sites in a Ugandan Hospital."</b> The Annals of African Surgery 18 (2021): 4-9.  |



| Authors  | Publication   |
|--|---|
| Nabatanzi, M., Seruwagi, G.K., Tushemerirwe, F.B. et al. | <b>"Mine did not breastfeed",</b> mothers' experiences in breastfeeding children aged 0 to 24 months with oral clefts in Uganda. BMC Pregnancy Childbirth 21, 100 (2021). <a href="https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-021-03581-3">https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-021-03581-3</a> . |
| Loro, A., Hodges, A., Galiwango, G. W., and Loro, F.     | <b>Vascularized fibula flap in the management of segmental bone loss following osteomyelitis in children at a Ugandan hospital,</b> J. Bone Joint Infect., 6, 179–187, <a href="https://doi.org/10.5194/jbji-6-179-2021">https://doi.org/10.5194/jbji-6-179-2021</a> , 2021.`   |
| Miriam Nyeko-Lacek and Andrew Hodges.                    | "A retrospective study describing desmoid tumour characteristics and management at a private, nonprofit physical rehabilitation facility in Kampala, Uganda" East and Central African Journal of Surgery. Vol 26 No 1 (2021) DOI: 10.4314/ecajs.v26i1.6.                        |





*Sylvia Nafuna (Team leader Social Work/ CBID) training VHTs and Parent Support groups.*

## SOCIAL WORKERS AND CBID



### Psycho-social services:

With the continued effects of COVID 19 pandemic, the need for psycho-social services increased in 2021. During this period, we continued providing unceasing psycho social support in terms of; counselling patients and caregivers, Social economic assessments, plan appropriate interventions based on the level of vulnerability so as to improve on their emotional wellbeing and enable them benefit from the subsidised services. The IEC programme for patients/caregivers continued, though on small scale

Focus Group Discussions (FDGs), focusing on patient cubicles in line with the COVID-19 SOPs and guidelines.

In total, 463 counselling sessions were offered to patients/Attendants, and 856 patients/Attendants were equipped with skills and knowledge on health related aspects during the IEC sessions.

 **463**  
counselling  
sessions

## CBID/OUTREACH programme:

The team expanded its services to regions it had not operated in before i.e. Albertine, Northern and West Nile. To extend the programme's services and continue strengthening collaboration with other stakeholders in different regions of the country, the team managed to carry out 4 outreaches in the districts of (Lira, Alebtong, Kibaale, Mubende, Kakumiro, Hoima, Masindi, Moyo, Yumbe, Otuke, Oyam, Omoro, Dokolo, Amolatar, and Kaberamaido while observing the COVID 19 SOPs.

**4**  
outreaches  
in the  
districts



### Achievements

A total of 188 community mobilizers, village health teams from 15 districts were further educated about the different disability conditions handled at CoRSU, disability management, prevention and referral pathways

**188**  
community  
mobilizers  
from 15  
districts  
educated

A total of 7 partner organisations were involved in the joint outreach activities from which 155 persons with disability were screened to benefit from different rehabilitation services offered at CoRSU.

**155**  
persons with  
disability were  
screened

Positive engagement to staff and awareness done in 30 health centres in 15 districts on services offered by CoRSU, disability management, prevention and referral pathways.

Two radio talk shows were conducted to create awareness on CoRSU services, and referral pathways.

A number of our clients are needy to the extent that they struggle to afford transport to the hospital even though our services are already heavily subsidized.

Positive  
engagement  
to staff in  
**30**  
health  
centres



### Future plans

Conduct joint outreaches with partner organisations and also try out MDT approach when carrying out outreaches.

Creation of a mechanism on following up of patients who always default reviews due to social and economic challenges which leads to relapse of the rehabilitation process



## SAFE GUARDING

We are happy to report that the new safeguarding procedures were approved and disseminated throughout CoRSU Hospital.

Awareness on reporting, risk identification as well as case management of reported cases has been on going to ensure a safe environment.



### Future plans for safe guarding

Continuous capacity building of new committee members and staff on the new safe guarding policy.

Dissemination of the new policy to all CoRSU staff.

*Irene Adero (Social Worker) during a safeguarding training.*







*Cleft patient after surgery*

## PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE



The Programme and Management Office comprises of 7 staff that is the Team Leader/Monitoring and Evaluation office Public Relations Officer, Programmes and Communications officer, Assistant Programmes and Communications officer, Grants and Fundraising Officer, BMZ Coordinator and BMZ Project Officer.

The department is dynamic and its impact cuts across the hospital. We are a link between other stakeholders and the hospital. Through the grants and proposal writing, M&E and communication/ training/ sensitization roles, we are able to touch lives by ensuring access to treatment and rehabilitation.



*Patients share a light moment*



## Achievements;

1. Efforts towards improved CoRSU – donor relations. This was achieved through timely submission of reports (both Financial and Narrative reports).
2. Developed various funding proposals to subsidise the treatment of children with disability.
3. The Team provided efficient and effective management to all programmes being implemented at CoRSU hospital.
4. Commenced and coordinated the implementation of the Community Based Inclusive Development (BMZ). The consortium project is being managed by three implementing partners in 10 districts in Uganda.
5. Provided leadership in the planning and budgeting for 2021



## Future prospects:

1. Timely planning and budgeting for the hospital
2. Improved donor relations in terms of reporting.
3. Sustainable funding to ensure that subsidized services are provided to children with disability.





*Ms. Kirsty Smith, CEO CBM UK, facilitates a Customer Care training.*

## HR AND ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT



The vision of the CoRSU HR department is to connect with all other departments and other stake holders to provide HR management leadership and excellence with a mission of delivering innovative and quality Human Resources practices.

The HR team values are:



**Client (Staff)  
Centeredness**



**Competitive  
success**



**Team Work**



**Accountability and  
Compliance**





## Achievements;

1. Supported a 6-year (2016-2021) NSSF Audit starting from Feb 2021 and completed in May 2021 which required detailed staff information and reported on under the COVID-19 restrictions.
2. Organized a team building activity in March- marking 12 years of CoRSU (re: check photos from Media Officer)
3. Handled major recruitments for key programs e.g. Miracle feet, CBM/BMZ, Hope & Healing
4. Staff Trainings:
  - o A targeted training on "Time Management", "Confidence building", "Being an effective team member" and "Presentation skills" was held in April 2021 facilitated by Kirsty Smith from CBM (UK);
  - o A number of other on-line trainings to improve knowledge and skills were undertaken by many staff during the course of the year. Zoom meeting arrangements were widely used due to the COVID 19 restrictions on gatherings.
  - o Five (5) Nurses were upgraded from Enrolled to Registered Nurse grading after completing studies and obtaining the award of Registered Nurse.
  - o Two Orthopaedic Technologists (partly supported by CBM) are upgrading for an internationally recognized award of Associate Prosthetics and Orthotics-ISPO-CAT 2.
  - o COSECSA Trainings were carried out at CoRSU for two Fellow under the Plastics & Reconstruction Surgery department.
5. Despite COVID-19 challenges, low scale internships and Volunteers continued to take place at CoRSU in different disciplines.
6. Organized work scheduling and transport arrangements under the COVID-19 new-normal, continued self-care and COVID-19 guidelines awareness trainings with staff and enforced 99% vaccination against COVID-19.
7. The review process of "on-going employment contracts" geared towards "termly contracts" for all staff holding on-going contracts started in May and ended in November, 2021 with the technical facilitation by the Federation of Uganda Employers (FUE).
8. Coordinated the transition from Africell network to the MTN network in September



*Davide Naggi, CEO, welcoming staff during induction.*



### Challenges that still exist include

1. Inability to process real-time HR reports due to lack of a Human Resource Management Information System (HRMIS).
2. Non-compliance levels (increased cases) of resignation without adequate notice by exiting staff.

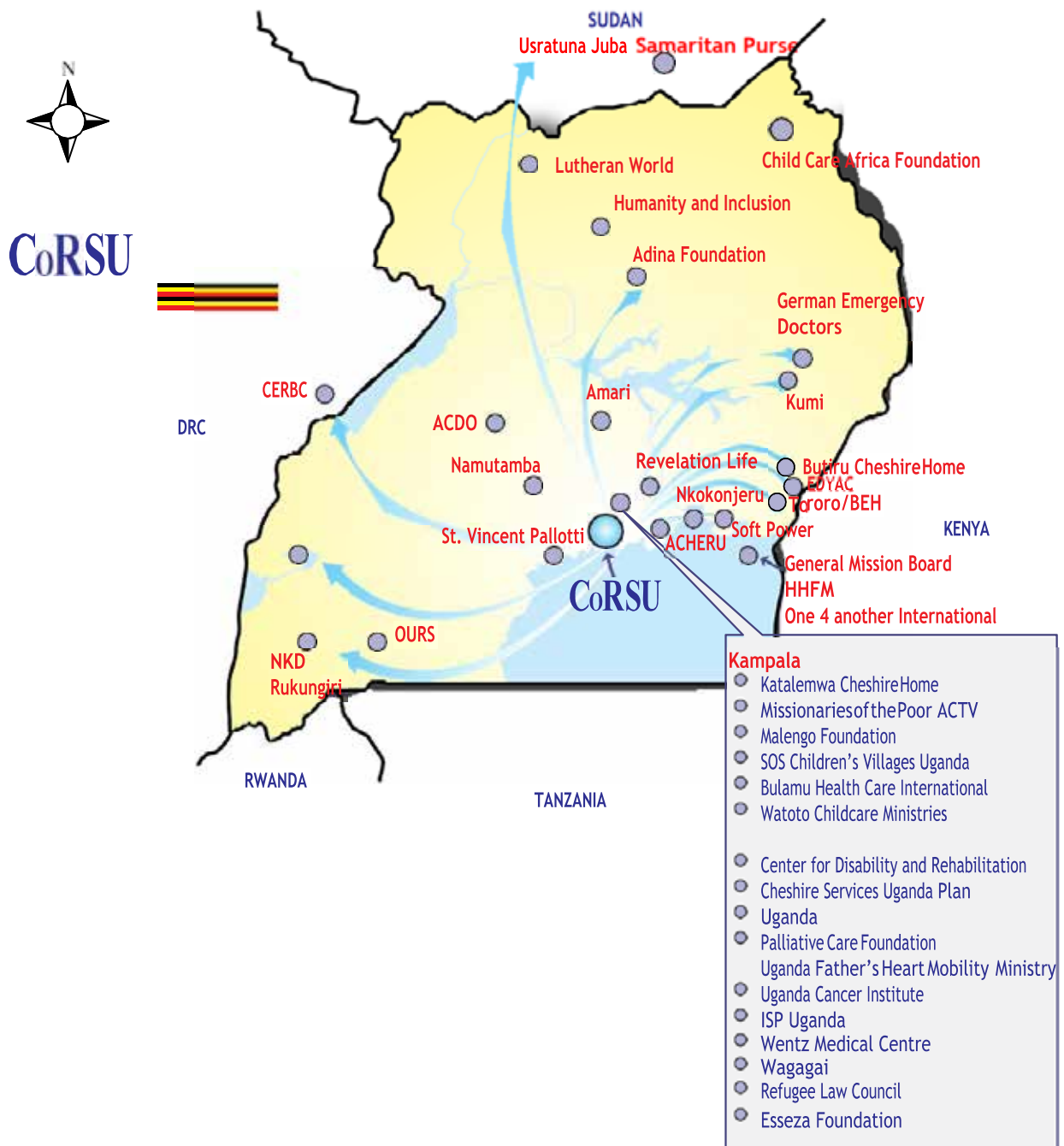


### Future prospects:

1. To have a time and attendance (biometric) machine that can provide real time analytical data on attendance to improve flextime management.
2. To roll out the Flextime policy and termly contracts for all staff.
3. To improve on staff retention, capacity building, training and development by hiring of a dedicated HR Officer for that purpose in the HR department.

## Our Partners

### CoRSU Partners and their areas of service provision





## OUR DONORS





*Davide Naggi, CEO, communicating financials during a staff meeting.*

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2021



| DETAILS                              | 2021             | 2020             |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                      | UGX ('000')      | UGX ('000')      |
| <b>Incomes From Patients</b>         | <b>6,606,156</b> | <b>6,147,415</b> |
| <b>Realised Grant Income</b>         |                  |                  |
| CBM Germany                          | 1,868,323        | 1,278,859        |
| CBM Switzerland                      | 1,594            | 69,084           |
| BMZ Consortium Incomes               | 995,187          |                  |
| CBM Canada                           |                  | -                |
| CBM Italy                            | 232,634          | 317,968          |
| BMZ Income                           | 105,253          |                  |
| CBM New Zealands                     |                  | 282,867          |
| CBM UK                               | 325,617          | 447,915          |
| Total Dimension                      |                  | 17,326           |
| Smile Train USA                      | 545,013          | 644,969          |
| Hope and Healing International       | 1,564,861        | 1,231,718        |
| Sports Medicine                      |                  | -                |
| Interface Income                     |                  | -                |
| VVF Fistula Programme                | 412,274          | 583,553          |
| Miracle Feet                         | 622,834          | 448,943          |
| Transforming Faces                   | 252,546          | 138,961          |
| Wheels For Humanity                  | 609              |                  |
| Kids OR                              | 184,400          |                  |
| 3D Project Income                    | 32,869           |                  |
| A Leg to Stand on                    | 30,099           |                  |
| A Spoon Foundation                   | 3,509            |                  |
| Etalo Prooject                       | 344,700          |                  |
| <b>Total Grants Income</b>           | <b>7,522,322</b> | <b>5,462,163</b> |
| Incomes From Donations               | 9,530            |                  |
| Direct Relief                        | 6,227            |                  |
| Cedar Palms                          | 4,808            |                  |
| CUSEM Incomes                        | 150              |                  |
| International School of Uganda       |                  |                  |
| Keep CORSU Open Fundraising Campaign |                  | 122,534          |
| Critical Care                        |                  | -                |
| Care International                   |                  | -                |
| Sales for Fundraising                | 660              | 300              |
| Local Donations                      | 1,638            | 29,672           |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>23,013</b>    | <b>152,506</b>   |
| <b>Diverse Income</b>                |                  |                  |



| DETAILS                                  | 2021              | 2020              |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | UGX ('000')       | UGX ('000')       |
| Guest House Incomes                      | 4,667             | 1,896             |
| Other Sundry Incomes                     | 78,482            | 59,460            |
| Research Cordination                     |                   | 4,188             |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>83,149</b>     | <b>65,544</b>     |
| <b>Indirect Incomes</b>                  |                   |                   |
| Foreign Exchange Gain                    |                   | 35                |
| Discount Received                        | 8                 | 1,126             |
| Interest Earned                          | 36,170            | 42,620            |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>36,178</b>     | <b>43,781</b>     |
| <b>TOTAL INCOMES</b>                     | <b>14,270,818</b> | <b>11,871,409</b> |
| <b>EXPENDITURES</b>                      |                   |                   |
| Direct Expenses                          | 2,118,491         | 1,796,796         |
| Employment expenses                      | 6,517,212         | 6,441,508         |
| Administrative                           | 1,183,687         | 1,165,935         |
| Project Expenses                         | 3,193,735         | 969,661           |
| Establishment Expenses                   | 808,151           | 780,100           |
| Unrealised Exchange loss                 | 99,271            |                   |
| Differed Grants - Unspent Donor Balances | 350,271           | 461,788           |
| Other Indirect Commitments               |                   | 255,621           |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>                 | <b>14,270,818</b> | <b>11,871,409</b> |









# CoRSU

## Rehabilitation Hospital

*.. For people with disability*

### WHAT WE DO

- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
- Therapy services
- Orthopaedic Workshop for producing prostheses (artificial limbs) and orthoses
- Nutrition Rehabilitation
- Vesico-Vaginal Fistula
- Psychosocial Services

### CONTACT US

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Twitter: @Corsuhospital