Developing Health Globally™ - Africa

Overview

Developing Health Globally™ is a GE corporate citizenship program aimed at improving access to quality healthcare for some of the world's most vulnerable populations. The program addresses critical gaps in existing developing-world healthcare facilities and provides products and expertise. In 2004, GE launched the Developing Health Globally program in Africa with its first site in Asesewa, Ghana. Since then, the Developing Health Globally program has expanded to 10 countries across the continent and has improved quality of care to over 2.7 million people. The program has also expanded to countries in Latin America and Asia.

GE is working in partnership with the Ministries of Health to leverage products, technology and knowledge from its businesses to provide sustainable, total-system upgrades to existing public hospitals. The key requirements for each solution include robust design, low operating cost and simple use and maintenance. GE field engineers and application specialists ensure that proper installation and training is completed for all donated equipment to yield sustainable, best-case results.

The GE Foundation has also made a $5 million commitment to support girls’ education programs in six countries in Africa. The GE Foundation also supports equipment training and health worker skill building in these areas.

Improved Patient Care

Since the start of the program in Africa, practitioner’s improved use of technology has increased deliveries by 50%, ultrasound scans by 200% and baby warmer use by 175%. Surgery volume also increased due to aid from modern tools, leading to 100% to 250% increase in anesthesia and monitoring and 250% increase in X-rays.

GE-Hospital Relationships for Sustainability

To make sure improvements are sustained, the GE African American Forum (AAF), an employee affinity network, selects employee ambassadors to build relationships with hospital leaders and the community, monitor equipment use and track progress.

Number of Hospitals: More than 30

Number of Products Donated: More than 2,500

Products Donated: Basic laboratory equipment, patient monitoring devices, surgical suite equipment, maternal and infant care products and diagnostic tools such as X-ray and ultrasound.

Countries:
- Ghana
- Tanzania
- Kenya
- Uganda
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- Mali
- Ethiopia
- Nigeria
- Malawi

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