



*Thanks
To You*

OPERATION MEDICAL NEWSLETTER

Providing Global Healthcare

Upcoming Missions: Looking Ahead to a Year of Impact

As we look ahead to this new fiscal year, which runs from July 2026 - June 2027, Operation Medical is excited to continue expanding our reach and serving patients in communities where access to specialized surgical care remains limited. From returning to a rural hospital in Malawi to expanding an existing partnership in India, our volunteer teams will have the opportunity to provide life-changing care while building lasting relationships with local healthcare providers.

Our team is currently preparing to return to Kabudula Community Hospital in Lilongwe, Malawi. After serving at this rural hospital in late 2025, we witnessed firsthand the tremendous need for surgical services in the region, with patients arriving daily, seeking treatments they had gone without for weeks, months, and sometimes years. The impact of our work was significant, and we are eager to continue supporting both the patients and healthcare providers who welcomed us so warmly.

This year's mission will again be led by Dr. D. Marc Northern, who served as Trip Leader during last year's mission. Building on the success of that camp

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At Operation Medical, our Superpower has been Relationships

As I reflect on the first 13 years and first 22 Surgical/Medical missions of Operation Medical I conclude that the shared values, skills and camaraderie among teams of our volunteer licensed, professional doctors, nurses and ancillary support have been our keys to success and provide a sound foundation for our ongoing service for multiple years ahead.



Looking back on my first mission with Operation Medical to Valsad, India in 2014 we had a team of 32 volunteers, 26 of whom practiced in Central Pennsylvania, many of whom had been on prior mission trips with other organizations and had worked collaboratively in several local health and hospital systems. Acquaintanceships have become close and lasting friendships. *continued on pg 2*



WELCOME

Welcome Dr. D. Marc Northern to the Op Med Board of Directors

We are pleased to announce the addition of Dr. D. Marc Northern to the Operation Medical Board of Directors, effective July 1, 2026. Dr. Northern brings a wealth of experience in both military and humanitarian medicine. A military general surgeon serving in the U.S. Air Force since 2002, he has dedicated his career to providing expert surgical care in a variety of challenging environments around the world.

His passion for global healthcare and service aligns closely with Operation Medical's mission.

A longtime member of the Op Med family, Dr. Northern first traveled with Operation Medical on a mission to Haiti in 2014 and has since participated in multiple missions to India and Africa. He recently served as Team Leader for the 2025 Lilongwe, Malawi mission

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MARC NORTHERN

At Operation Medical, our Superpower has been Relationships *continued*

Reach-outs from this core group added new volunteers from near and far. Some early volunteers in surgery and anesthesiology, who have relocated their careers to other regions of the country, have stayed involved with Operation Medical, continue to volunteer on our missions and have brought new colleagues with them.

Our expanded base of volunteers has also benefitted from the early participation of doctors who received their medical training while serving in branches of the US Military. We have had physicians who served in Iraq and Afghanistan join in our missions and, while now practicing in the US, recognize the importance of gaining experience providing quality health care in austere settings where improvisation, communication with patients through interpreters (usually younger family members), power outages and lesser technology is a needed talent. They have not only come on missions but brought Chief Residents and Interns with them.



Operation Medical has established and strengthened relations with medical professionals in multiple medically underserved regions that continue to request return missions, such as in Malawi and the Dharampur region in India, both of which we will be returning to over the next 7 months. A core group of experienced volunteers, an impressive set of new applicants, an expanded Board of Directors, with the addition of surgical team leader volunteers from New Hampshire and Colorado, give me confidence that we at Operation Medical are in a good position to provide quality care where needed and preserve paths to ongoing excellence in the future.

Upcoming Missions: Looking Ahead to a Year of Impact *continued*

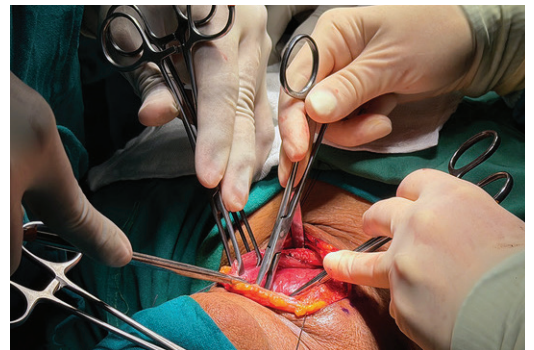
and the local team's desire for additional training, this year's effort will focus not only on performing as many procedures as possible within their 2-bed main operating theater, but also on providing hands-on education that will strengthen local surgical capacity long after our team returns home.

The second mission on our calendar is an exciting opportunity at C.U. Shah Hospital in Surendranagar, Gujarat, in January 2027. This facility is part of the Shrimad Rajchandra network, with whom we successfully partnered in Dharampur in both 2024 and 2026.



As a 600-bed teaching hospital, C.U. Shah offers a unique opportunity to make an impact on multiple levels. In addition to performing a variety of surgical procedures, our volunteers will work alongside local providers, sharing knowledge and advanced techniques. With access to four operating theaters throughout the week, we will be able to bring a larger team and serve even more patients.

It is only because of the support of our volunteers and our supportive donors that we are able to continue these good works. Together, we can continue bringing hope, healing, and surgical care to communities in need around the world.



Welcome Dr. D. Marc Northern to the Op Med Board of Directors *continued*

at Kabudula Community Hospital and will serve as the Team Leader once again during the July 2026 mission at the same location.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Northern to the Board of Directors. His leadership, dedication, and firsthand mission experience will be invaluable as Operation Medical continues to grow and expand its impact around the world.

Learn more about Dr. Northern and the rest of our Board Members by visiting our Board of Directors page at operationmedical.org/about.

Mission Trip Summary

Since our last newsletter, Operation Medical completed two successful and extremely impactful medical missions to Lilongwe, Malawi (November 2-7, 2025) and to Dharampur, India (January 18-23, 2026).

At the core of every mission is an incredible amount of planning by Operation Medical's team and our local hosts. Our network continues to blossom with new surgeons, nursing staff, volunteers and support staff who are joining Operation Medical for the first time and for some, it's their first mission experience.

It continually amazes every member of our team and local providers with how well we partner together, how strong our personal bonds become throughout the weeks of intense surgical work, and how appreciative the hosting countries, local healthcare workers, hospital staff and patients are for our efforts.

These two recent missions included procedures for 257 patients, some who had been living with health problems and conditions for years, progressing to the point of critical or fatal if left untreated. Locally, in India, but especially in Malawi, the news of medical missions are shared months ahead of time with local villages.

For example, in Malawi, with the lack of investment,

resources and medical infrastructure, there is only one physician for every 53,000 Malawians and only one surgeon per one million residents. Prospective patients save money for months to travel great distances when a mission trip, that can provide lifesaving and life-improving surgical procedures, is scheduled.

Patients are scheduled for surgery and treatment months ahead of time, while several dozen more walk-in individuals come from hours away to the hospitals on the mission dates, hoping to receive long-awaited medical care. Operation Medical also has the privilege of assisting with the births of multiple newborns delivered via C-Section surgeries, providing mother, family and baby peace of mind, to ensure a healthy start to new life!

Yet many people still remain untreated, and there are never enough providers and resources to meet the need, so our work is not complete. Operation Medical is returning to both of these regions in the next six months and we are actively finalizing our medical teams and we humbly ask for your support for our July 2026 return trip to Malawi and our January 2027 trip to Dharampur, Gujarat.

We look forward to serving new communities and providing healthcare and hope to underserved individuals and families around the world. To read more about these recent mission trips, visit www.operationmedical.org/past-missions/. To support our efforts, please consider donating at www.operationmedical.org/donate/



ABOUT US:

Operation Medical is an organization of volunteers made up of trained medical professionals and other individuals committed to promoting and providing high quality medical care and education to communities that do not have adequate access to medical care.

Our emphasis is on the medical needs of the community, with the safety of our patients and our volunteers our #1 priority. Our safety and quality protocols ensure our patients receive the best care possible. All trips are carefully coordinated with local hosts and their medical community in order to optimize the success of our visit and make certain our volunteers have a positive experience. We audit results and provide training for all of our partners.



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