

## Improving Maternal/Infant Care in Guyana

Long-term, sustainable improvement in health is the goal of every Global Links undertaking. One recent project made an immediate improvement in maternal/infant healthcare, and supports OB/GYN speciality training in a way that should improve care for decades.

Working with the Guyanese Ministry of Health and with the WONDOOR program at Cleveland's MacDonalld Women's Hospital, Global Links provided furnishings and equipment for two operating rooms in the labor and delivery suite at Georgetown Public Hospital. Before this project was complete, there were no operating rooms in the maternity ward. If a woman needed an emergency C-section, she had to be taken across a busy street to a separate building, a perilous journey.

Having ORs in the labor suite allows the first residency program in Ob-Gyn in Guyana to move forward. Doctors in training work at the Georgetown hospital and take their specialized knowledge back to their home communities.



**Transporting a patient needing an emergency c-section across a busy street to have surgery - a perilous and uncomfortable journey.**



**The first baby born by c-section in the new OR.**

Supporting training for medical residents raises the level of maternal/infant care available in the entire country for the long term.

About 90% of the population lives in Georgetown, and this hospital is by far the largest and busiest in the country. Projects such as this one bring us closer to reaching the Millennium Development Goals of improved maternal/infant care- and give countless babies a safer and healthier start in life.