

February 18, 2013

Dear Friends of the Global Links Suture Program:

My name is Jennifer and I am the new manager of the Suture Donation Program. I have been working at Global Links since 2004, first as our volunteer program manager and then as our community outreach manager. I received my degree in International Development at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs in 2003. Before working for Global Links, I worked at the University of Pittsburgh Study Abroad Office for over six years, managing study abroad programs and advising students. Ellen Wilson, whom many of you know well, is now serving as Global Links' Communications Manager.



I wanted to let you know that your efforts at recovering sutures for Global Links, sorting and packing sutures, financially supporting the Suture Donation Program, or agreeing to carry sutures overseas makes all the difference in this world.

Let me share one story of how sutures from Global Links saved two lives this past year. Loisi is a young woman who lives in a Tanzanian camp for refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo. When she went into labor, it became clear that she needed a C-section – and in Makere, Tanzania, **if a woman needs a C-section and the nearest medical facility lacks sutures**, she has nowhere to turn. Luckily, Global Links had recently sent sutures to the Tanzanian Red Cross clinic at Makere – the right kind of sutures for Loisi's life-saving C-section. And here she is, with her healthy daughter Ajuaye, born earlier this year.

We don't know very much of Loisi's story, although she did give permission to share her name and her photograph. But as a refugee from war-torn Democratic Republic of Congo, we can imagine that her journey in motherhood with her daughter Ajuaye is off to a more hopeful start than it would have been without Global Links sutures.

I look forward to getting to know all the hospitals enrolled in our Suture Donation Program and the amazing volunteers and supporters who keep the program going! Please consider following our [blog](#) or [Facebook page](#) to learn more about how Global Links makes a positive difference in this world.

Warm regards,

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