



## Paul Carlson Partnership

Rooted in the gospel, through the church in the United States and the church in the Democratic Republic of Congo, creating solutions that endure over time and throughout generations.

### 2022-2023 DEMOCRATIC HIGHLIGHTS

- Fall 2022—Malnutrition initiative advanced with new comprehensive curriculum for medical professionals in DR Congo created by Paul Carlson Partnership Medical Ambassadors and Congolese doctors and nurses.
- September 2022—Paul Carlson Partnership Medical Ambassadors traveled to Congo and taught Congolese medical professionals in Maternal Health and Malnutrition.
- October 2022—Biking for Congo raised **more than \$45,000** for medical ministry.
- November 2022—Medical Ambassadors held a virtual retreat with Congolese partners.
- November 2022—Paul Carlson Partnership fall appeal for Malnutrition raised **over \$54,500**.
- January 2023—Paul Carlson Partnership held a luncheon at Midwinter featuring Medical Ambassador founder, Dr. Eric Gunnoe.
- February 2023—Paul Carlson Partnership’s Craig Anderson and board member Sheldon Gilmer traveled to DR Congo to evaluate bridges and establish the framework for Results Based Management with medical leaders in DR Congo.
- February/March 2023—Executive Director Renée Hale traveled to DR Congo with Grace Shim, executive minister of Serve Globally, and Josef Rasheed, regional coordinator of Africa, to introduce Grace to the Covenant Church of Congo.
- March 2023—FUPROCAF coffee cooperative in Karawa, DR Congo, held its second annual general assembly. Renée Hale provided keynote message.
- April 2023—Medical Ambassadors held in-person retreat in Chicago.
- April 2023—Three metric tons of Karawa Coffee arrived in Chicago.

- May 2023—Paul Carlson Partnership semiannual Board of Directors meeting in Chicago; Rev. President Théophile Duale and his wife, Josephine (Covenant Church of Congo), in attendance.

### **UCARE4CONGO: PARTNERING IN HOLISTIC HEALTHCARE**

The medical ministry of the Covenant Church of Congo includes five hospitals, more than 120 clinics, clean water sources near clinics, two nursing schools, and Paul Carlson Partnership Medical Ambassadors program.

- Virtual Medical Ambassador retreat in November 2022 advanced the involvement of health care professionals with the Medical Ambassadors through strategic plans for diabetes/hypertension engagement in DR Congo for 2023.
- The Medical Ambassador diabetes/hypertension focus group and DR Congo medical professionals are creating two training curricula for diabetes engagement in 2023—one for medical professionals and one for patient education. Medical Ambassadors traveling to DR Congo in September 2023 will work with Congolese medical partners to synthesize content for printing.
- Specialties in ophthalmology, orthopedics, and dental care are currently in development for engagement in the next three to five years.
- Karawa Hospital Malnutrition Stabilization Center was completed and dedicated as the first of such centers, built with funding from the Protein Foundation of Maine. The Protein Foundation granted a second year of funding at the same level to bolster the project's trajectory this year. Together with our partners, our goal is to reduce the childhood mortality rate from 18% to 10% within the first year and down to 5% by the second year. A second phase of expanding to other health zones (Loko, Wasolo, Bogose Nubea) will be implemented after careful evaluation of the center in Karawa.



Malnutrition Stabilization Center in Karawa (left).

Training the trainers with the new malnutrition curriculum (right).

## BIKING FOR CONGO – JOIN THE CHALLENGE TO RAISE SUPPORT FOR UCARE4CONGO!

Do you know that some people in DR Congo travel more than 50 kilometers (31 miles) on a bicycle to a hospital, while sick or injured? What is even harder to believe is that when they arrive at the hospital, limited medicines, clean water, and medical training often prevent a person from getting better. People in DR Congo face many challenges when they need medical care, but there is a way you can help. **Paul Carlson Partnership invites you to join the October 2023 Biking for Congo Challenge – goal \$50,000** as a fun way to use your bike or stationary bike to raise support for the Covenant Church of Congo healthcare system: **UCare4Congo**. Our goal in 2022 was \$50,000, and the total raised was over \$45,000. Check out one inspiring story at the link here:

<https://covchurch.org/2022/11/08/cycling-senior-supports-biking-for-congo/>



*Annalee Burton, 88, joined the Biking for Congo Challenge in 2022.*

## FUPROCAF COFFEE COOPERATIVE: HOPE FOR FAMILIES

The year 2023 is the second anniversary of coffee production for FUPROCAF coffee cooperative: Fédération de l'Ubangi des Producteurs de Café (the Ubangi Federation of Coffee Producers). This is the official coffee cooperative business registered in DR Congo. Congolese owned and operated, FUPROCAF fulfilled the goal of the 4-year Karawa Coffee Project. In 2023 there are over 2,000 coffee producers whose yields aggregate to over 450 metric tons. Harvest increases each year and is expected to reach 1,000 metric tons in 2026, placing FUPROCAF among the top 10% of coffee producing entities in DR Congo. Renée Hale serves as an advisory board member for FUPROCAF and provided the keynote message for FUPROCAF's second general assembly in Karawa, DR Congo on March 3, 2023. Three tons of Karawa coffee arrived in Chicago in April 2023. Everybody's Coffee in Chicago distributes Karawa coffee directly to you! Order at [roaster.everybodyscoffee.com/karawa.html](https://roaster.everybodyscoffee.com/karawa.html)

FUPROCAF is rooted in the Covenant Church of Congo, and the testimonies of God’s blessings are coming in! During the general assembly on March 3, a coffee producer, Kelebe, shared his thankfulness to God for the abundance of his crop and what the sale of his harvest made possible for his family. Among other things, he shared that the major purchase this year was a metal roof for his family’s home. He explained that in the past there had not been enough money at one time to provide a roof. Now, with an increasingly larger harvest anticipated each year, he can plan for expenses that help his family stay healthy and safe. Thank you for investing in DR Congo!



*Kelebe, coffee producer, and his new roof purchased with income from Karawa Coffee*

### **BRIDGES – CELEBRATION AND STRATEGIC PLANS**

When the ten bridges crossing over the Nguya River near Bogose Nubea Hospital were opened to vehicle traffic after 30 years of separation from the Karawa area, no one knew just how much traffic would increase. The 2-year project completed in 2022 promised access to commerce, health care, churches, and schools. Everyone was in for a “wow!” moment when the “before” and “after” statistics were compared: from 1,300 crossings to 3,400 crossings per day, and from 1 ton of goods to 90 tons of goods transported per day.

*Completed bridges*



Paul Carlson Partnership continues to work alongside Congolese engineers and Hope International Development Agency for the crucial infrastructure component of bridge building and repair. Strategic plans for 2023-2024 include repairs and maintenance on bridges in the area and building two new bridges.

Respectfully submitted by the PCP team,

Renée Hale, Executive Director  
 Craig Anderson, Director of Medical and Health Programs  
 Rebecca Dangel, Director of Partner Communications  
 Robert Anderson, Partner Engagement Representative

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