



2021 HERE WE COME!

As we begin 2021, we take this opportunity to wish you a very blessed New Year!

As you are aware, sadly we had to pull the Africa Mercy out of Senegal in March last year due to COVID-19.

This was very upsetting for us as it meant a number of patients not being able to receive their life-saving and life-transforming surgeries.

Over this last year as the ship has been in Tenerife, we have been putting many new policies and

procedures in place to allow for the Africa Mercy to return to West Africa. Our highest priority is for the safety of our patients and volunteers.

Although the situation with COVID-19 continues to be challenging all over the world, we are continuing to plan for our return to West Africa in April this year.

Our first port of call will be Senegal—our first patients on board will be those who did not get their surgeries last year!

Our national offices

around the world are continuing our efforts in providing both crew and funding to assist with a successful field serve in Senegal.

During this past year, we have been so very grateful to all our donors who have continued to faithfully support us. We truly could not do what we do without your support.

This year will no doubt be incredibly challenging as we continue to navigate through wave after wave of the virus, but we know that we will get through this, stronger than ever!

BANK DETAILS

BANK:
STANDARD

BRANCH:
BLUE ROUTE

BRANCH CODE:
025609

ACC NAME:
ASSOCIATION
MERCY SHIPS

ACC NO.:
270022414

REGISTRATION

REG. NO.:
2016/319051/08

NPO NO.:
181-575 NPO



Our Country Engagement Team recently visited Senegal to continue paving the way for our return.

We can't wait until the Africa Mercy is docked in Dakar right here, as is being pointed out in the photo on the left, and we are able to finish the surgical programs we started.

Our plans and prayers never left this beautiful country!

Thank you for your donation!

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Brenda

Brenda van Straten
National Director
Mercy Ships South Africa



Forty. That's how many steps make up the gangway of the Africa Mercy. It's a short distance to walk — but for patients like Diarga, who came onboard to straighten his legs — the steps of our gangway represent a journey. Forty steps to healing and transformation. Forty steps to hope.

Diarga and his aunt, Seynabou, spent three months with Mercy Ships — first on the Africa Mercy, where he underwent an operation to straighten his legs, and then at the HOPE Centre during his rehabilitation and physical therapy. Seynabou was absolutely thrilled for Diarga, saying "other children will never laugh at him again. I'm so happy and proud of him."

As Diarga left the Africa Mercy, he couldn't wait to see how his newly straightened legs would perform on the football field. He even dreamed of going professional. Now that would be the ultimate victory!

How can you help in 2021?

Being a "unique" organization means doing things differently—and we have done differently for more than 40 years!

As an organization that relies solely on donations, we are very grateful for every one of our supporters. Donations are integral to us being able to provide life-saving and life-transforming surgeries.

However, there are other ways to get involved:

Volunteer

Join us for a season on board. We have many positions available on our website: www.mercyships.co.za

Or contact us for more information:

Email: info.zaf@mercyships.org
Tel: 078-839-9985

Support

Can't go? Perhaps consider supporting a fellow South African to serve with us for a season.

Share

Tell others about Mercy Ships.

Pass our newsletter onto others or sign them up to receive their own copy.

Invite us to speak at your church/group/club/retirement

center (once the virus is over and we can do this safely again).

Pray

We always appreciate prayer!

Donate

On a monthly basis (via debit order or EFT).

A one-off donation.

Leave a legacy (add Mercy Ships in your Will).

Please note: This year, Standard Bank will charge a minimum of R60,00 for all cash deposits.

As an example, for a R100.00 cash donation, Mercy Ships will only receive R40.00.