

# BAWA HEALTH INITIATIVE NEWSLETTER

March 2025

Reflecting on a Successful 2024  
Alena Camarata, BHI Treasurer

## Thank you to everyone who supported Bawa Health Initiative!

Your generosity helped us provide healthcare, sustain clinic operations, and share vital health information with Bawa and surrounding communities.

We are grateful for individuals, businesses, and nonprofit partners who have stood with us on this 20-year journey. Don't forget—many employers offer matching donations through Benevity Causes, so check if your gift can go even further!

A special thank you to our monthly donors—our dedicated supporters ensuring lasting healthcare for Bawa. Your commitment makes a difference every day!

We deeply appreciate all who have given. May you be richly blessed for your kindness.

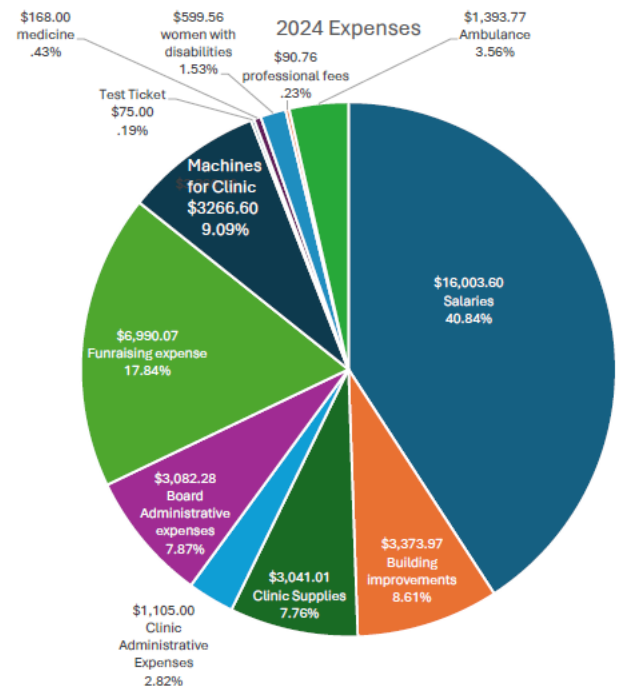
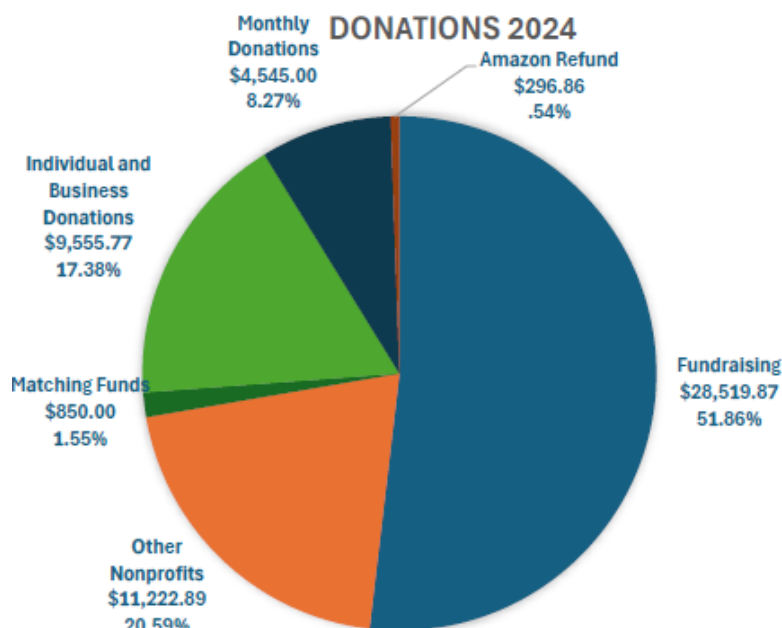
## CELEBRATING 20 YEARS



OUR MONTHLY DONORS ARE OUR SPECIAL ANGELS

OUR GOAL IS TO TRIPLE THE NUMBER OF MONTHLY DONORS

WILL YOU WALK WITH US ON THIS JOURNEY



*Awounke Community Health Center in BAWA*



Baby born at the clinic



Dr. Christophe Akazong, Pediatrician and Chief of Pediatrics at Douala General Hospital Volunteered at the clinic in February 2025



Professor Francois Kaze (in blue), Nephrologist at Yaounde Teaching Hospital saw patients at the clinic in August 2024

Staff wages range from \$250 - \$400 per month per staff



Ambulance



Baby born at the clinic



Patients at the clinic waiting to see Prof. Kaze

A special thank you to the visiting doctors that travel to BAWA and donate their time and medical knowledge to support the needs of the BAWA Community



### Strengthening Infrastructure for Better Healthcare

#### The Homecare Program is Up and Running!

Established in 2024, the Homecare Program is now providing vital care to those unable to visit the clinic. A nurse and a village council member are traveling to patients' homes, ensuring they receive the care they need.

To avoid depleting clinic supplies, we aim to create dedicated **homecare bags** stocked with essential items. The health team has identified the necessary supplies, and a tracking system is in place to monitor visits and plan future care.

As resources grow, we will expand homecare services. We also hope to incorporate water filter inspections during visits.

With your support, we can continue bringing healthcare directly to those in need!



Michele Tarantino, Ph.D.,  
MPH, OTR/L, CVLT





# A Ride No Mother Should Take: How Your Support Is Saving Lives

In one of the most harrowing journeys imaginable, a husband held his laboring wife on his lap as they rode on the back of this motorcycle, navigating miles of treacherous terrain to reach the nearest hospital. Their baby had already begun to arrive and was a footling breech one, and every moment was critical. When Blaise shared this story, it became clear—no mother should ever have to endure such a journey.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we were able to raise the funds to provide the ambulance that now serves BAWA and neighboring villages. This year, while visiting BAWA, Blaise was sharing how that story provided the visual context for so many donors. One of the men said, "That was my wife."

He was able to meet the mother and her beautiful son—living proof of the impact we can make together. Your support changes lives. Help us continue this vital work by becoming a monthly donor today.



**Beautiful  
Blessings**





# BAWA

## Health Initiative

### SUPPORT BAWA WITH MONTHLY DONATIONS

Easier access to clean water. Medical services without the miles of travel. Sanitation that prevents re-infection. Supporting BAWA Health Initiative has, does, and will continue to change the lives of the people of this vibrant West African community.



#### *\$10 per month*

Provides one bed net, which protects from insects carrying diseases such as malaria. Bed nets need to be replaced yearly.



#### *\$30 per month*

Provides home-based water filter.



#### *\$50 per month*

Provides salary for clinic janitor. 30 monthly donations of \$50 will cover ALL monthly salaries at the clinic.



#### *\$100 per month*

3 monthly donations of \$100 covers the salary for the chief nurse.

*Any amount per month helps!*

Use Zelle to save transaction fees.  
Mail checks to the address below.  
Set up PayPal via the BHI webpage. (BHI pays 3% transaction fee)



CONTACT BAWA



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[www.bawahealth.org](http://www.bawahealth.org)



# Expanding Care Mission Trip to BAWA

More than a decade ago, Eric Davis took his first trip to Cameroon to support the construction of a medical clinic that would serve the village of Bawa. That visit in 2013 allowed him to work alongside the village health committee, gaining a deep understanding of their hopes and needs. Since then, his commitment to the clinic has helped it grow into a vital resource for the community.

In 2017, through partnerships with local healthcare facilities and emergency medical services, Davis and his team collected enough medical equipment and supplies to fill a 20-foot shipping container, ensuring the clinic was stocked for its opening. They spent three weeks setting up the facility and providing care more than 1,100 people, witnessing firsthand the impact of their work.

This summer, Davis and a team of physicians and nurses are returning to Bawa with a renewed focus: Women's Health, Home Health, Dental, and Optical Care. These areas were identified as critical during the 2017 visit, and the team is determined to provide essential services that will significantly improve the quality of life for the villagers.

## Why These Services Matter

- **Women's Health:** Women in Bawa face serious health risks, from exposure to smoke while cooking in homes without chimneys to giving birth without medical support.
- **Home Health:** Many residents, especially the elderly and sick, struggle to reach medical facilities due to a lack of transportation. Bringing healthcare directly to them is crucial for improving their quality of life.
- **Dental Care:** With no local dental services, extractions are often the only solution for dental issues. This can lead to infections and serious health complications. Providing restorative dental care can improve overall health and longevity.
- **Optical Care:** Preventable blindness due to cataracts and other conditions is common. Access to eye care can restore vision and independence for many in the community.

As preparations for the trip continue, support is needed to ensure success. *Every donation goes directly toward this goal—none of us on the team take payment for the services we provide,"* Davis emphasizes.

If you are interested in contributing, whether through financial support, medical supplies, or spreading the word, your help can make a tangible difference. Together, we can continue to expand care and create lasting change for the people of Bawa and surrounding communities.

**We have setup accounts through Zelle,  
Paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1297043 or directly to Bawa Health  
Initiative 103 W 26th Ave Ellensburg WA. 98926.**

*Seeing the vision of Blaise and the people who have supported him over the years accomplish this goal of providing medical care to a village that previously had none has been the most rewarding part of this work.*

Eric Davis, Reflecting on the journey

Scan this code in your bank's app to pay  
BAWA HEALTH INITIATIVE, INC.  
b\*\*\*6@gmail.com



**Zelle**



FUNDRAISING EVENTS 2024



Bawa Summer Soccer Camp Fundraiser, Ellensburg, WA



Dinner & Bingo Night at St. Andrews, Ellensburg, WA



Bawa Dinner Fundraiser, Issaquah, WA

DONATION CARD  
AND QR CODE

**BAWA**  
*Health Initiative*



☐ Enclosed is my donation of \_\_\_\_\_ to  
support BAWA Health Initiative

☐ I would like to set up on-going monthly donations  
with Zelle to support BAWA Health Initiative

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

103 W. 26th Ave.  
Ellensburg, WA, 98926  
[www.bawahealth.org](http://www.bawahealth.org)

## JOIN US FOR BAWA'S

### *20th Anniversary Dinner and Celebration!*

Celebrate two decades of impact with an unforgettable evening featuring a traditional Cameroonian dinner, live auction, inspiring updates on BAWA Health Initiative, and an opportunity to support our ongoing mission.

Proceeds support our Community Health Clinic Project and other initiatives in the village of Bawa, Cameroon, and surrounding areas.

**Date:** Saturday, May 17, 2025

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** 291 Aviator Lane, Ellensburg

**Tickets:** \$65 per person, \$20 per child (5-13 years)  
Includes a delicious dinner and free wine!

**Purchase Tickets:**

<https://form.jotform.com/250155132320036>



**Can't Attend?** You can still make a difference!

**Donate:** [www.bawahealth.org](http://www.bawahealth.org)

**Sponsors:** Advantage Dirt Contractors, Kelleher Motor Company & CWU Pre-Medicine Club

