

Insights
February 2024

OHANAONE
INTERNATIONAL SURGICAL AID & EDUCATION

Welcome to the latest Ohana One Newsletter!

In this edition, we celebrate our 2023 journey, filled with growth, innovation, and community. From expanding our reach to 144 hospitals in 52 countries to working on our impactful documentary, "The 10,000 Mile Bridge" we've achieved incredible milestones together.

2024 is off to a good start with the documentary being accepted into two film festivals!

I hope you will watch the video from Dr. Dimuthu Tennakoon from Sri Lanka, who has shown remarkable progress through the Surgical Sight Program, especially in pediatric foot and ankle surgeries.

Welcome Biruk Zex Bekele, a medical student from Ethiopia, into our Ohana One family. His addition marks another step towards our global vision of accessible surgical care.

We are also overjoyed to celebrate the remarkable achievements within the Ohana One Surgical Sight Program, spearheaded by the dedicated Dr. Jafrul Hannan, a general surgeon from Bangladesh, and his NGO, Hello Surg. Four exceptional surgeons - Najeebullah Sherzad, Salman Saleem, Fatma Bchini, and Alamgir Hossain - have been recognized for their outstanding commitment to advancing their skills in pediatric laparoscopy.

Don't forget to follow us on social media for the latest updates and stories from our community. Your support amplifies our mission and helps us reach further. Thank you for being a part of our journey. Here's to making even more impact together in 2024!

Warmly,


Marchelle Sellers
Executive Director

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Looking Back, Looking Ahead

As we reflect on Ohana One's accomplishments of 2023, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of our supporters. Your support, generosity, and belief in our mission have made all of this possible. It is not an understatement to say we couldn't have done it without you.

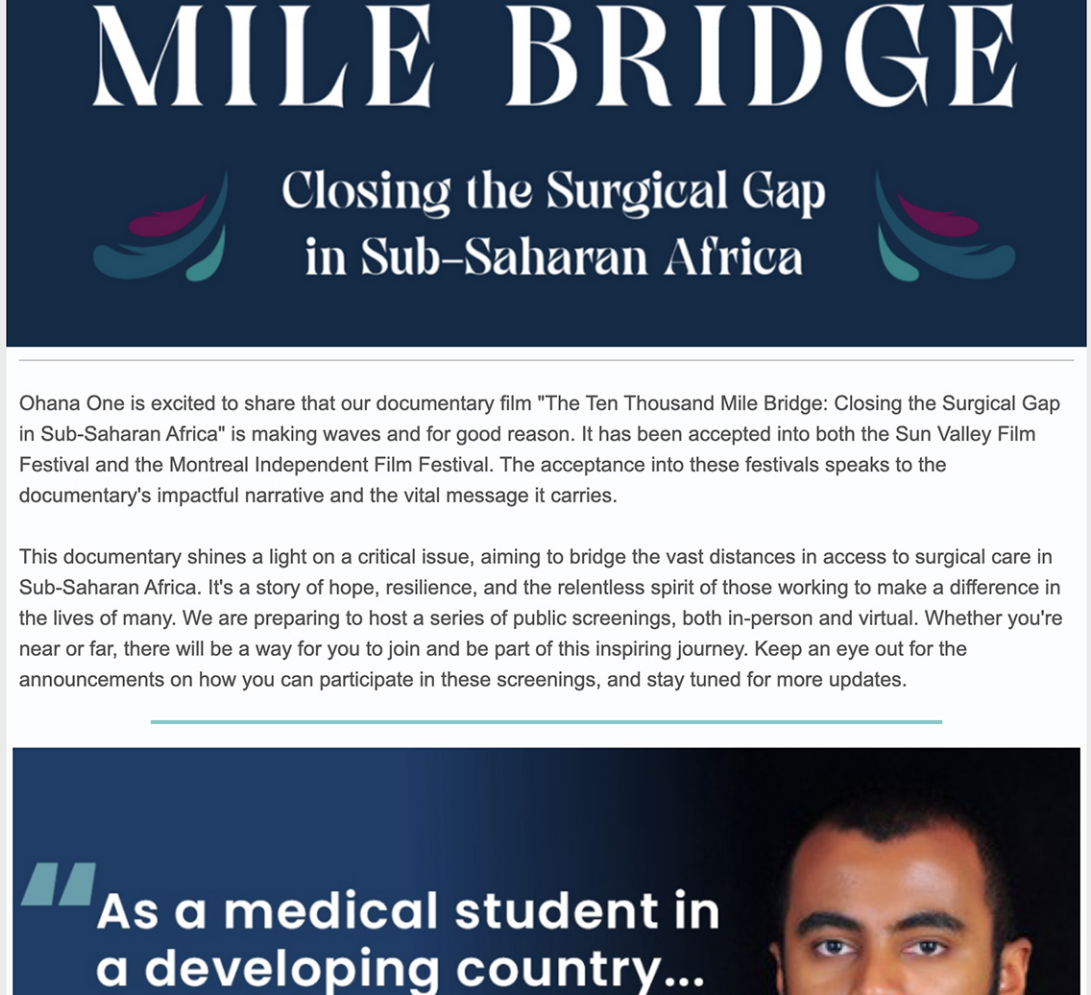
In addition to the accomplishments listed above, Ohana One is thrilled to share our first documentary film "The 10,000 Mile Bridge" was completed. The film highlights the importance of Ohana One's work in Mozambique. We also hosted four webinars last year, offering insights and fostering discussions that are crucial to the advancement of surgical care worldwide. In addition, Ohana One team members attended three conferences on two continents. These opportunities to connect with like-minded individuals and organizations have been instrumental in expanding our reach and impact.

In our continuous effort to support the well-being of our community, we've embarked on a new mental wellness initiative for surgeons. Recognizing the intense pressures and challenges faced by medical professionals, especially in the surgical field, this initiative is close to our hearts. We're committed to providing resources and support to ensure the mental and emotional well-being of those who give so much of themselves to care for others.

Looking ahead to 2024, we're filled with excitement and optimism. We have more mission trips planned, aiming to support even more surgeons in their learning and practice. We're focused on making more grants to support remote learning, ensuring that surgeons around the world have access to the knowledge and skills they need to excel in their field.

But that's not all—we have many more initiatives in the works designed to further our mission and impact. Your continued support will be crucial in bringing these plans to fruition. Together, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of patients, surgeons, and communities around the world.

Thank you once again for being a part of our Ohana One family. Your support makes all of this possible. Here's to a 2024 filled with even more achievements, collaborations, and life-changing moments.



Dr. Dimuthu Tennakoon of Sri Lanka

Dr. Dimuthu Tennakoon of Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children in Sri Lanka recently achieved his goal in the Ohana One Surgical Sight Program. His success highlights the transformative power of mentorship and technology in healthcare. It's heartening to hear how the program has not only enhanced his surgical skills but also his approach to treating foot and ankle conditions, especially in pediatric patients. Dr. Tennakoon came to Ohana One through partner agency Steps 2 Walk.

Dr. Tennakoon's focus on pediatric foot and ankle correction surgeries and his dedication to improving decision-making, planning, and execution in these complex procedures is commendable. The use of smart glasses and TeleVU software for case discussions and live surgery sessions demonstrates the power of remote mentoring. It's amazing how these tools can bridge gaps, allowing for real-time learning and collaboration across continents.

Dr. Tennakoon's gratitude towards his mentor, Maryse Bouchard, for the invaluable guidance and support further underscores the importance of mentorship in medical practice. It's wonderful to know that Dr. Tennakoon is eager to pass on the knowledge and skills he has acquired to his junior colleagues at LD GPA Hospital in Sri Lanka. This cycle of learning and teaching is crucial for the continuous improvement of healthcare services and patient outcomes worldwide.

Let's celebrate Dr. Tennakoon's achievements and his commitment to sharing his newfound expertise. His story is a powerful reminder of how programs like Ohana One are making a significant impact on the global medical community, one surgeon at a time. Here's to more success stories like this, as we continue to support and uplift each other in our mission to provide the best care possible. We hope you enjoy watching Dr. Tennakoon sharing his story in his own words in the video above.



Ohana One is excited to share that our documentary film "The Ten Thousand Mile Bridge: Closing the Surgical Gap in Sub-Saharan Africa" is making waves and for good reason. It has been accepted into both the Sun Valley Film Festival and the Montreal Independent Film Festival. The acceptance into these festivals speaks to the documentary's impactful narrative and the vital message it carries.

This documentary shines a light on a critical issue, aiming to bridge the vast distances in access to surgical care in Sub-Saharan Africa. It's a story of hope, resilience, and the relentless spirit of those working to make a difference in the lives of many. We are preparing to host a series of public screenings, both in-person and virtual. Whether you're near or far, there will be a way for you to join and be part of this inspiring journey. Keep an eye out for the announcements on how you can participate in these screenings, and stay tuned for more updates.



Dr. Jarful Hannan, a dedicated participant in the Ohana One Surgical Sight Program and the founder and Executive Director of the NGO Hello Surg, has recently honored four surgeons for their dedication and skills mastery. Najeebullah Sherzad, Salman Saleem, Fatma Bchini, and Alamgir Hossain have dedicated over 30 hours across 20 weeks to master the intricacies of pediatric laparoscopy. Their commitment to learning and improving their skills in procedures such as laparoscopic inguinal hernia repair, appendectomy, cholecystectomy, and orchiopexy is nothing short of inspiring.

This celebration acknowledges the hard work and dedication of these surgeons, and also recognizes the impact of their efforts on improving healthcare and surgical outcomes for children. The knowledge and skills they have acquired through their work with Hello Surg and Ohana One's Surgical Sight Program will contribute to improving the quality of care for young patients, making a significant difference in their lives and the communities they serve.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Najeebullah Sherzad, Salman Saleem, Fatma Bchini, and Alamgir Hossain for their achievements.



Did you know that Ohana One's social media provides real-time updates and insights of our life-changing work? Stay in the loop with the latest developments in the Surgical Sight Program, discover heartwarming stories of impact, and delve into profiles of our amazing partner organizations.

If you're eager to learn more about the incredible mentor and mentee surgeons who are revolutionizing global surgical education one smart glass surgery at a time, then subscribing to Ohana One's social media accounts is a must. Connect with us on [LinkedIn](#), engage with us on [Facebook](#), and discover inspiring visuals on [Instagram](#).

Join us online and be part of the journey towards a brighter future in global healthcare.



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