This month's newsletter reflects something that sits at the heart of Ohana One's mission: the power of connection.

Whether it is a child receiving life-changing surgery in Guatemala, a surgeon in Ethiopia sharing the impact of mentorship on a national stage, healthcare leaders collaborating in Geneva to strengthen global surgical systems, or medical professionals connecting through the OO App, every story in this issue demonstrates what is possible when knowledge, technology, and compassion come together.

Across continents and specialties, we continue to see the impact of investing in people. Through mentorship, education, innovation, and partnership, healthcare professionals are gaining access to new opportunities, expanding their skills, and improving care for patients in their communities.

This month, we are proud to share highlights from our Guatemala Surgical Outreach Trip, our participation in the G4 Alliance Permanent Council Meeting and World Health Assembly activities, Dr. Biruk Bekele's inspiring presentation at Ethiopia's national surgical conference, and our continued efforts to connect providers through the growing OO App community.

None of this work happens alone. It is made possible by our volunteers, mentors, partners, donors, and supporters who believe that geography should never determine a person's access to quality healthcare.

Thank you for being part of the Ohana One family and for helping us build a future where mentorship, education, and surgical expertise can reach every corner of the world.

Warmly,

Marchelle Sellers
Executive Director

DONATE TODAY!

G4 Alliance PC Meeting

Innovation, Partnership, and Purpose at the G4 Alliance Permanent Council Meeting

Ohana One was proud to participate in and sponsor the 19th G4 Alliance Permanent Council Meeting in Geneva, held alongside the 79th World Health Assembly. The gathering brought together global health leaders, clinicians, policymakers, and advocates to explore how technology, innovation, and sustainable financing can strengthen surgical, obstetric, trauma, and anesthesia care worldwide.

Jeanne Bray, Cecilia Ronoh, Dr. Angela M. Sailer-Torres, Peter Ronoh, Katie Osborn

Prof. Emeritus Katie Osborn and Cecilia Ronoh

Representing Ohana One were Jeanne Bray, Peter Ronoh, Cecilia Ronoh, and Katie Osborn, who shared updates on the organization's expanding initiatives, including new nursing education programs, innovative technology partnerships, and the growing impact of mentorship across Africa and beyond.

The meeting reinforced a core belief at Ohana One: sustainable change happens when local healthcare professionals are empowered through education, technology, and long-term partnerships. We were honored to support conversations that are shaping the future of global healthcare and advancing access to quality surgical care for all.

Read the full story to learn more.

Photo Credit: Kelly Fogel

Healing Beyond Borders: Guatemala 2026 Surgical Outreach Trip

In May 2026, Ohana One partnered with the Moore Pediatric Surgery Center in Guatemala City to provide life-changing surgical care to 60 children and adolescents from communities across Guatemala.

Over four days, volunteer surgeons, anesthesiologists, and healthcare professionals performed specialized pediatric urology and reconstructive plastic surgery procedures, helping children overcome conditions that impacted their health, mobility, and quality of life. Just as importantly, the trip strengthened local partnerships and provided opportunities for education and knowledge-sharing with healthcare providers in Guatemala.

From children receiving corrective surgeries to families gaining access to care that would otherwise be out of reach, the mission demonstrated the power of collaboration, compassion, and sustainable partnership.

We are grateful to the Moore Pediatric Surgery Center, our volunteer team, donors, and supporters who helped make this mission possible.

Read the full story and watch for our upcoming Guatemala Trip Report featuring patient stories, outcomes, and reflections from the team.

Mentorship Without Borders: Dr. Biruk Bekele Represents Ohana One in Ethiopia

This spring, Dr. Biruk Bekele represented Ohana One at the 30th Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference of the Surgical Society of Ethiopia in Addis Ababa.

Through a conference support grant provided by Ohana One, Dr. Bekele had the opportunity to share his experience as an Ohana One mentee and highlight the impact of mentorship, technology, and global collaboration on surgical education. Alongside Dr. Gelila S. Kassa, he presented how his ongoing mentorship with Prof. Milind Chitnis has helped shape his growth as both a surgeon and a leader.

Using Ohana One's mentorship platform and smart-glass technology, Dr. Bekele and Prof. Chitnis have built a meaningful educational partnership across continents, demonstrating how technology can expand access to surgical training and professional development.

"We are incredibly proud of Dr. Bekele and grateful for his dedication, leadership, and commitment to advancing surgical care through education and collaboration."

Read the full story here.

Advancing Global Children's Surgery at GICS VI in Bogotá

In April, Ohana One was proud to sponsor the sixth biennial Global Initiative for Children's Surgery (GICS VI) meeting in Bogotá, Colombia. The conference brought together 263 participants from 48 countries, including surgeons, anesthetists, nurses, trainees, researchers, and global health advocates dedicated to improving surgical care for children worldwide.

A highlight for Ohana One was seeing our work represented by Dr. Meghan McCollough, who presented research on the use of virtual reality technology to reduce pre-operative anxiety in pediatric patients. Throughout the conference, attendees shared research, participated in workshops, and explored innovative approaches to strengthening pediatric surgical systems, education, and access to care.

The meeting also provided valuable opportunities to build partnerships, exchange knowledge, and celebrate 10 years of progress by GICS in advancing global children's surgery. Ohana One was honored to support the conference through sponsorship and the efforts of our own Maggie Bohlman, who worked alongside GICS leadership and organizers to help make the event a success.

As we continue our mission of connecting surgeons through mentorship and technology, gatherings like GICS VI remind us of the power of collaboration to improve care for children around the world.

Read the full story to learn more about the conference.

Connect with mentors, colleagues, and surgical experts from around the world

Designed specifically for surgical professionals, the OO App brings together mentorship, education, collaboration, and case management in a single secure platform. Whether you're seeking guidance on a challenging case, looking to connect with peers in your specialty, or participating in a live educational session, the app helps bridge geographic barriers and expand access to knowledge.

Through the app, users can connect with a growing global network of surgeons, trainees, nurses, and healthcare professionals, participate in mentorship opportunities, join specialty groups, share insights, schedule training sessions, and collaborate in real time.

The platform also supports secure messaging, case management tools, file sharing, and live video collaboration, creating a powerful ecosystem for ongoing learning and professional development.

At Ohana One, we believe that no healthcare professional should feel isolated because of where they practice. The OO App helps create meaningful connections that strengthen skills, build confidence, and ultimately improve patient care.

Whether you are an experienced surgeon looking to mentor others or a trainee seeking guidance and community, the OO App offers a place to learn, collaborate, and grow.

Join the global surgical community that is redefining mentorship without borders.

Download the OO App today and discover how technology can connect you to a world of expertise, collaboration, and opportunity.

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