

NEWS FROM THE BU



Korle-Bu
Neuroscience
Foundation

Dear smartname,

Since our last conversation, we've shipped two containers filled with hospital beds, baby warmers, life-giving medical supplies and more. We've also received 34 nursing carts—ready for some fabulous volunteers to come clean so we can ship them out—and we've just launched our annual Walk for the Bu campaign.

In this edition of News from the Bu, we invite you to:

- get a glimpse into our **two loads** that were shipped out—one was our first ever shipment to The Gambia—and a few weeks ago, a shipment to Sierra Leone.
- get to know one of our **volunteer families**
- see what is happening at the **warehouse in Liberia**
- sign up to **join us for the Walk for the Bu** on Saturday, September 23.
- And **remember** why we do all of this together.



2 MONTHS
2 LOADS



THE GAMBIA : JULY 2023



On a hot Tuesday night in July, we gathered at our Surrey warehouse to load our first every shipment to The Gambia. Our volunteers felt the significance of the load—a historic one for our organization and our excited partners on the receiving end—and they lifted and hauled and drank lots of water to make it all happen. Included in the shipment were:

- a baby warmer
- an X-Ray machine
- hospital beds
- mattresses
- an examination table
- rehabilitation equipment
- medical supplies
- linens
- and more!



SIERRA LEONE: AUGUST 2023



In August, we gathered on a Thursday night and loaded hospital beds, along with mattresses, a baby warmer, an examination table, a pharma fridge, an ultrasound machine, patient monitor, wheelchair, linens and more! This time our load was done in under two hours. Shirley, our beloved shipping and logistics manager chose to celebrate her birthday that day by doing a load and so we celebrated with ice cream cake. What a night!

We are so grateful for our team and every volunteer who make these shipments happen—from the faithful sorting, building crates, prepping beds, filling boxes, folding linens, keeping careful track of inventory and even holding the elevator, to the actual lifting of hospital beds and pallets—we need each of our volunteers to get that container out of the dock.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

MEANWHILE IN LIBERIA ...

Last Monday, our container to Liberia was delivered and we received this beautiful response from Dama Yekeson-Koffa, Deputy Administrator of the John F. Kennedy Medical Center (JFK):

... the JFK Medical Center's leadership and staff are extremely grateful and tremendously excited for the incredible gift of beds (48), mattresses, linens, etc. from KBNF. The container was delivered late afternoon on Monday. The beds are in pristine condition!!!

We have already designated at least 20 of them for the soon-to-be-opened private ward. Other areas to benefit will include Maternity Hospital, the ICU, semi-private rooms and also the surgical unit. Again, we are most grateful.

Thank you all so much for prioritizing JFK for this incredible gift. We promise to care for and protect these beds and use them for the specific purpose of caring for our patients.

THANK YOU ALL!!!!

Dama Yekeson-Koffa



TEAM NEWS

Nurse Teinein Bernard, one of our KBNF team members in Liberia, is implementing much of what she'd seen and learned during their three-week education trip to Ghana earlier this year. Working alongside Dr. Harry Akoto and the team at Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra, Teinein learned lots of tips and skills that she is now putting to beautiful use in Liberia.



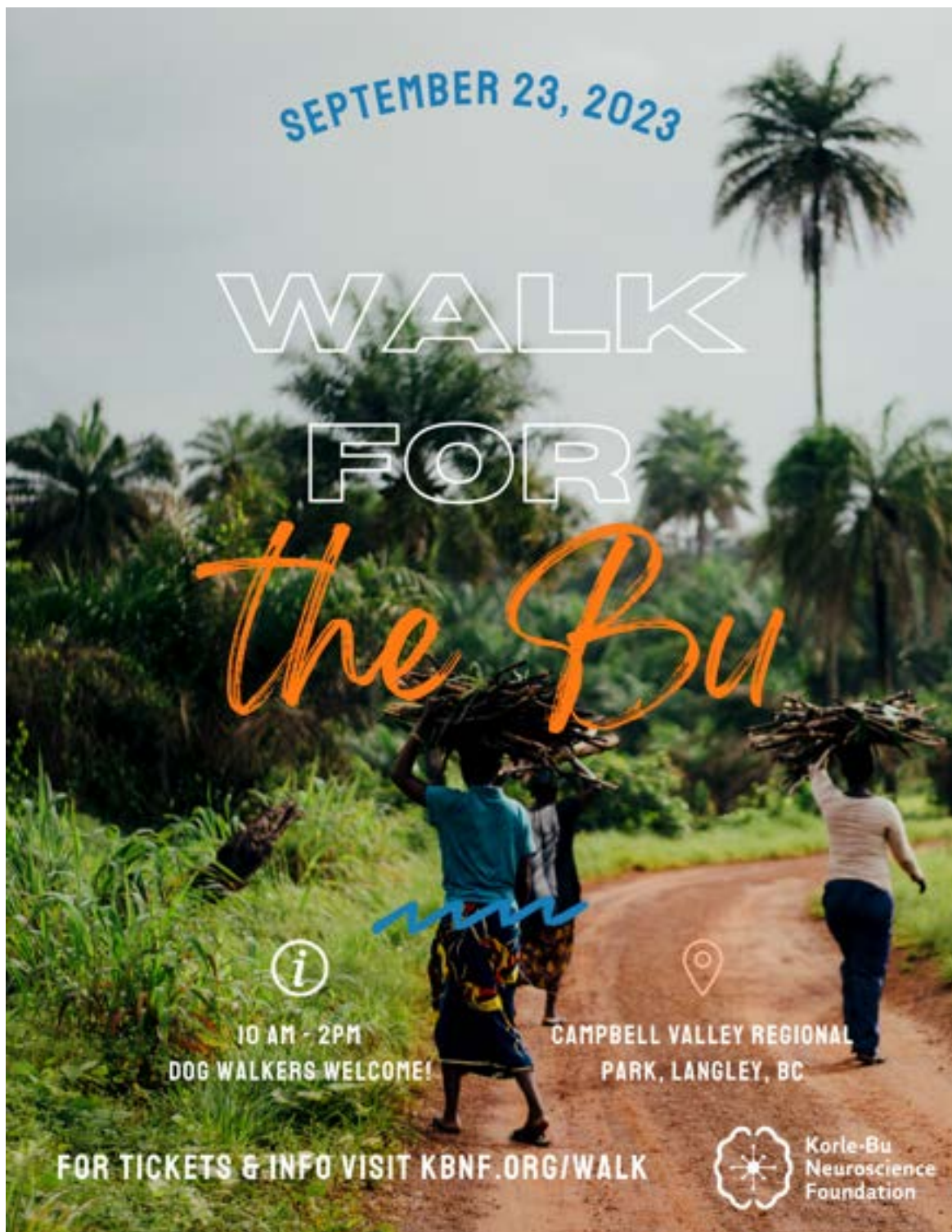
Post -Operative
Spina bifida wound
care.

Here Teinein is caring for a baby after spina bifida surgery.



In Ghana, Teinein noticed how the nurses prepared for surgeries ahead of time and now she's implementing what she's seen. Here are some neuro prep trays she's created which includes a bowl for providone solution, two transferring forceps, gauze and a towel.

UPCOMING EVENTS



It's time for our annual Walk for the Bu! Join us on Saturday, September 23 from 10am-2pm for the walk along the beautiful Campbell Valley Regional Park in Langley, BC and stay for a fun BBQ.

[Buy your ticket for the BBQ here](#), so we can know how many people to plan for.

You can also register a team for the Walk and help us raise much-needed funds for KBNF. Our goal this year is an audacious \$100,000. Can you help us get there?

- [Register a team.](#)
- Want to ask for donations the old school way? [Download a donation form here.](#)
- [Donate here.](#)

We hope to see you on September 23!

Donate to the Walk for the Bu

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



The Kuei family is pictured here with Idelette McVicker, our KBNF volunteer coordinator. They are, from left to right: Natalie, Jayden, Julia, Adrian and Josiah Kuei.

Meet the Kuei family. In May this year, Julia, Adrian, Natalie, Jayden and Josiah began joining us on Fridays at our Surrey warehouse to give their time, energy, expertise and Love.

It didn't take long before they'd enlisted Adrian's parents as well and soon the warehouse was buzzing on Fridays. For 2.5 months, they served and loved, sorted, folded and lifted and basically helped with anything that needed to get done. **Volunteering is a core ethos of their family.** They homeschool their kids, live in an RV and spend part of their summer in Surrey, while they also travel, play pickleball and love and serve people wherever they find themselves in the world.

"We're not in a season where we could get on a plane," said Julia, "so we were looking for something that involved everyone and where we could make an impact across the world."

“

"Adrian and I have so many fond memories of us volunteering with our own parents when we were kids. It's what makes us look for ways to serve with our kids as we've become parents. Having three generations working together is such a gift.

Julia Kuei



Julia believes volunteering changes everyone. "I think you learn a lot about each other when you're doing something that has no direct benefit to yourself and I love that ... Every time you do something that is not self-serving, it changes you."

Their family has learned that volunteering doesn't require a plane ticket. "You can either cross the ocean or you can cross the road."



One thing that surprised their family, was how much stuff would be wasted, if Korle-Bu didn't give it a second life. "The environmental impact is huge," she said.

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Give your children the gift of serving with you.

JULIA KUEI



Julia and Adrian are thinking a lot about how to raise the next generation. For them, being hands on in serving others is key. "Encourage (your children) to do the behind the scenes jobs with joy. Don't just write a cheque, though that helps!"

Julia adds: "You don't have to cross an ocean to serve meaningfully."

The Kuei family will be back at the warehouse in September for a short time, before going south for the winter. We are so grateful for the many ways they serve and come alongside KBNF.

IMPORTANT DATES



Dear Korle-Bu family,

Our next Volunteer Saturday is September 9 from 10am-2pm. We have 34 nursing carts that need scrubbing and prepping. The sooner they are ready, the sooner we can ship them! Of

course, we also have plenty of other things to do around the warehouse, so come for an hour or come for four.

Be sure also to join us on September 23 for the Walk for the Bu. We love gathering as a community in Vancouver, remembering that we are deeply connected to our KBNF family around the world.

Let's get walking for change!

Rose Woller

Executive Director

[Check out the Walk for the Bu here](#)

You don't have
to cross an
ocean to serve
meaningfully.

—Julia Kuei

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