



## Dear smartname

A few weeks ago, we hosted our annual Christmas Celebration in downtown Vancouver. What a delightful evening—from the warmth of glowing candles on the tables to warm hearts who gathered together for this beautiful cause. We heard stories from the most recent neurosurgical mission in Liberia. We also shared two brandnew videos to tell the story of KBNF and the humble, yet profound impact we are making.

## RUTH: A PATIENT STORY



If KBNF hadn't conducted a mission that year, Ruth likely would have been paralyzed or even died. It is humbling to consider this and it reminds us to forge ahead, plan missions—even as expensive as they are—and do the work we are called to do. It matters to a patient like Ruth.

## KBNF PILLAR: EDUCATION & TRAINING



**Education and Training is one of the core pillars of KBNF.** We do side-by-side mentorship, horizontal collaboration, as well as vertical collaboration. This happens during our missions, but also throughout the year. Kristina Faulkner, chair of the Education and Training Committee of the KBNF Board reminds us that our focus is always on improving care.

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



*Jocelyne Lapointe (on left) with me, Rose Woller.*



*Pictured from left: Kristina Faulkner, Gwen Odermatt, Marj Ratel, Paul Odermatt*



*We love that Josh Frederiks of SpiceAid (on right) came out to the event with some of his crew. We are thrilled about this new partnership. (Stay tuned for more on that soon.)*



*Herma vanderWolf with Dr. Ernie Pauls.*



*Ross Dickinson, KBNF Board member, with Marianne Muller, Corinne Dickinson and John Mwtassubi, KBNF Warehouse manager.*

## HELP US REACH \$100,000

**There are so many more patients like Ruth who need excellent neurosurgical care.** This December, an anonymous donor pledged to match all donations up to \$30K and this helped kicked us into high gear. We would love to reach \$100,000, so we can continue our work, expand our reach and be there for patients like Ruth. Currently, we've raised around \$70,000 and [we need your help to finish this year strong.](#)

**Would you consider a year-end donation?** We know many of you already give and already made your commitments, but for those of you who are still looking for a place to make a meaningful difference this year, we would love your support.

You can [donate right here.](#)



IN MEMORIAM



**We are so sad to share the news that one of our beloved volunteers, Sharon Klassen, passed away at the end of November.** Sharon started volunteering on Fridays in 2023 and loved to help Jocelyne sort medical supplies. When we moved to the new KBNF Centre in Ladner, she started helping Carolyn with the perinatal boxes. Sharon was a gentle and loving presence and she is deeply missed.





*Sharon (on left) is pictured with some of our other beloved volunteers. This picture was taken on the first day she volunteered with us in November 2023.*

## WAREHOUSE DATES



THE KBNF CENTRE IN LADNER WILL BE  
CLOSED FROM DEC. 20–JAN. 6



**Our warehouse in Ladner will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 20 through January 6.** We will still be receiving beds and mattresses next week, so if you'd like to come give a hand, we'd love that.

**Tomorrow is our final Volunteer Saturday for 2023.** We'll be folding and sorting linens, cleaning equipment and prepping the warehouse for a delivery of hospital beds and mattresses next week. Please bring your own lunch and dress warmly. We'd love to see you!.

**Mark your calendars for next year: our first Volunteer Saturday is on January 11, 2025.**



Korle-Bu  
Neuroscience  
Foundation



## VOLUNTEER SATURDAYS:

👉 Tomorrow, Dec 14

👉 January 11

10AM - 2PM

Dear Korle-Bu family,

Every flannel sheet that is folded, every syringe that is sorted, every bed that is prepped for shipping and every item entered into inventory, has an impact. Every time you give of your gifts, the ripple effect is far and wide. **As we stand *together* and give together, however, we make not only ripples, but we can make waves for neurosurgical care in West Africa.**

Thank you for who you are and how you stand with our community.

Love,

Rose Woller

Executive Director

[Korle-Bu Neuroscience Foundation](#)

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