



**Dear smartname**

We are hosting our Christmas Celebration on December 1st and have an anonymous donor who has pledged up to \$30K, if matched. I am reaching out to all of you this Christmas season for pledges, in advance of the dinner, to ensure we take full advantage of this donation! We just can't miss this added blessing.

**For those of you who are joining us for the dinner, please get your tickets by Tuesday, November 26.** We need to let the facility know our numbers, so they can prepare that delicious buffet dinner for us. Here are the details for the event:



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL KORLE-BU

# *Christmas* CELEBRATION

**SUNDAY, DEC 1, 2024**

AT STEAMWORKS IN VANCOUVER

**BUFFET DINNER + PROGRAM AT 6PM**

375 WATER ST. VANCOUVER, BC V6B1B8

Please [get your tickets to our KBNF Christmas Celebration](#) ASAP to hear LIVE updates from Marj on the November Mission, as well as inspiring stories to start off this Christmas season in a meaningful way. Tickets are limited and sales end Nov. 26. We'd love for you to join us!

**GET YOUR TICKETS**

## NOW ONTO OUR MISSION NEWS ...

We just completed our third week of this November Neurosurgery Mission and are pleased to report that our patients who have had pituitary tumor resections via the transphenoidal approach in Liberia are steadily recovering. Their return for dressing changes and evaluations are ongoing. These surgeries were skillfully conducted by our international neurosurgery team led by Dr. Femi Bankole (Nigeria) and Dr. Alvin Nah Doe (Liberia.)



*Dr. Alvin Nah Doe (left) and Dr. Femi Bankole (right) with Rosalyn (44) who received surgery to remove a pituitary tumor.*





*From left to right: Dr. Augustine Ballah, Dr. Alvin Nah Doe and Dr. Femi Bankole with a patient, doing post-op rounds.*

## SIX-YEAR-OLD PROSPER

Six-year-old Prosper was discovered three years ago by Ingo Neufeld, KBNF photographer, and Aaron Fedora, KBNF Board Director, during a neurosurgery mission. While walking on the grounds at JFK Memorial Hospital,

they noticed a little boy with his mother, waiting to be seen by our team. Little Prosper had a serious frontal cranial defect, causing his brain to protrude. Immediately, they embraced the seriousness of his situation and fast-tracked him for evaluation and surgery. The first stage of his surgery was followed, eight months later, by a shunt insertion and now precious Prosper has had his final surgery repair.



*Prosper, recovering in his mom's arms after his surgery, while Shirley Scharfe, our*

*Shipping and Logistics manager, watches.*

We can report that Prosper quickly returned to his spunky, rambunctious self. It seemed that his mother's phone was more important than Dr. Bankole's morning rounds evaluation! The enormous dressing on his forehead upon departure was applied due to his desire to remove it all.

We wish Prosper all the best in his future.



*Prosper with Dr. Alvin Nah Doe after his surgery.*

**The JFK Hospital elevators shutdown just prior to our arrival.** No elevators meant that all of our team, patients and families had to climb nine sets of stairs to get to surgery. (I counted them!) Thankfully, surgeries were conducted on the 4th floor and our patients were recovered on the same floor throughout their stay. When vision is impaired, however, it's quite daunting to descend that many stairs. It could take a small village to ensure a patient's safe departure!



Our KBNF Hope City presentation on Saturday evening was met with enthusiasm by Deputy Ministers of State, the Chief Executive Officer of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital and JFK'S Chief Medical Officer, along with members of the KBNF family. I shared the story of how this vision got started.

**I am grateful to report that Liberian national leaders are rising up to support KBNF's urgent needs.** Honorable Sekou Dukuly, Chair of the National Port Authority, has graciously accepted paying for the transport of a functional C-Arm from Sweden and a neuro-microscope from Finland. This will enable Dr. Nah Doe and the KBNF neurosurgery team to resume spinal surgeries of all descriptions, including fusions, as well as complex craniotomies.





*Dr. Augustine Ballah with Rosalyn after her surgery.*



*The international team for this November Neurosurgical Mission. with Dr, Nah*

*Doe. We are so grateful that two neuro nurses, Calista Adeiya and Glory Edet, joined us from Nigeria, for this mission along with Dr. Femi Bankole.*

**Dear Korle-Bu family,**

Many other achievements are being realized and we would love to update you at the Christmas Celebration and Gala Dinner. [Please do plan to attend.](#) We want to make this a tremendous year-end event, celebrating all you have accomplished.

Love to all,

Marj Ratel

President and Founder

[Korle-Bu Neuroscience Foundation](#)

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