

Supporting Students in Healthcare

COD-PAN-SSH-P13



Bukavu, Dem. Republic of Congo



Education



Tax deductible

Total Budget: \$25,000

Project Timeline

1 YEAR



POPULATION

86.8 million

POVERTY

63.9% of the population below poverty line

HEALTH

Life expectancy at birth: 60.7 years

EDUCATION

Mean years of school (adults) 7 years

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

Ranking out of 189 nations DR Congo 175 (Aust 8)

**2020 Human Development Report*



Overview

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is a really difficult place to live. Life expectancy is low and trained health professionals are rare, particularly outside the capital city. Training general practitioners (7 years) and nursing staff (4 years) in one of the worst-affected areas will bring about long-term benefits to this African nation. The project co-funds medical/nursing students in their second year of study onwards, once students have proven their commitment and reliability. Funding covers 80% of the cost of a year's tuition, leaving students to also contribute to the cost of their education.

Why support this:

DRC needs more locally trained healthcare workers to rebuild the nation and serve its people. DRC is a nation fraught with political instability, riots and senseless violence. Rape and gender-based sexual violence is often used to destabilise communities. The hospital specialises in the treatment of traumatised women. DRC has 0.11 physicians per 1,000 compared with Australia's 0.25 per 1,000, and 0.5 nurses compared to Australia's 10 per 1,000. The need is huge.

Objectives Include:



16 doctors to be trained each year



12 nurses to be trained annually



80% of funds to support students from Year 2



Some doctors and nurses to finish as qualified graduates annually

Expected life Change:

- Committed and competent medical staff will be released to attend to people's healthcare needs, with subsequent improvement in the health of the entire community
- The traumas of war-instability can begin to be healed, leading to restoration at a personal and community level
- Students will be trained in a vocation that will provide income and skills to look after their own people