

HOPE

beyond borders

&

HEALING

beyond measure



MERCY SHIPS AUSTRALIA
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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(COVER) Musu, reconstructive plastic patient, with Dieke van Tuijl, volunteer nurse from The Netherlands.

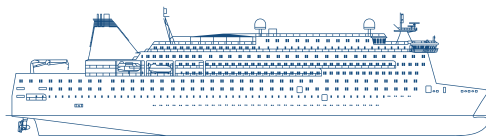
(RIGHT) Dr. David Chong, volunteer maxillofacial/head and neck surgeon from Australia, mentors Dr. Nirina Adrien Mandrano, plastic surgeon from Madagascar, on board the *Africa Mercy*.





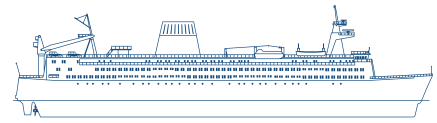
OUR TWO SHIPS

THE WORLD'S LARGEST CIVILIAN HOSPITAL SHIPS



The *Global Mercy*™

- 6 operating theatres
- 199 patient beds
- 640 crew capacity
- 37,856 gross tonnage



The *Africa Mercy*®

- 5 operating theatres
- 85 patient beds
- 470 crew capacity
- 16,572 gross tonnage



Mission

Bringing hope and healing to the world's forgotten poor.



Vision

Mercy Ships uses hospital ships to transform individuals and serve nations.



Values

- Love and serve others
- Be people of integrity
- Strive for excellence in all we say and do.

Impact since 1978:

- 128,800+** Life-changing surgical procedures
- 588,800+** Dental procedures
- 56,500+** Professionals trained in their area of expertise
- 2.92 million+** Direct beneficiaries

Letter from the *Managing Director*



“

“Thank you for standing with us. Your generosity, prayers and partnership are helping bring hope, healing and lasting impact.”

Dear Friends,

As I look back on 2025, I am struck not only by the scale of what was achieved but by the strength of what is being built for the future. Behind every number is a person restored, and a local health worker better equipped to serve their community with skill and compassion.

For Mercy Ships Australia, 2025 was not only about helping sustain Mercy Ships' surgical and training impact across Africa, but also about strengthening the practical foundations that help care reach communities more effectively. Alongside mobilising Australian supporters, volunteers and partners, we deepened our work beyond the ship through medical supply and resilience initiatives across the Asia-Pacific, Small Island Developing States, and the Caribbean.

This included coordinated shipments of essential supplies and equipment, progress towards sustainable medical oxygen in Sumba, Indonesia, and field-based initiatives in places such as Samoa and Sierra Leone that support longer-term health and community resilience. These are practical investments, but they are also expressions of care, dignity, and a commitment to stand with communities facing fragility and constraint.

What encourages me most is that this work is not only changing lives today but helping strengthen systems for tomorrow.

As we look to 2026, we remain committed to building on what is working well, supporting Mercy Ships' surgical and training impact across Africa, and strengthening practical, resilient pathways for care in vulnerable settings.

Thank you for standing with us. Your generosity, prayers and partnership are helping bring hope, healing and lasting impact.

Warm regards,

Alan Burrell

Managing Director, Mercy Ships Australia

Letter from the *Chairman*

Dear Partners and Supporters,

As we reflect on 2025, we do so with deep gratitude for a year marked by hope and healing that truly reached beyond borders and beyond measure.

Across Africa, Mercy Ships' two hospital ships were central to this work, with the *Global Mercy* serving in Sierra Leone and the *Africa Mercy* returning to Madagascar, delivering critical surgical care alongside hands-on training for local healthcare professionals.

In 2025, that effort translated into 6,860 surgical procedures for 4,554 unique surgical patients, and 31,863 dental procedures, while also building long-term capability through 305,400 hours of education and training, equipping 1,061 healthcare professionals from 18 African nations.

A defining milestone for the year was the commencement of construction of *Africa Mercy II*, a significant investment in Mercy Ships' future capacity to provide life-changing surgery and training across Africa for years to come.

Here in Australia, we are proud of the way Mercy Ships Australia continued to mobilise supporters, volunteers and partners for this global mission, while also strengthening "beyond the ship" initiatives that support continuity of care in vulnerable contexts.

In 2025, Mercy Ships Australia expanded medical supply and resilience work across the Asia-Pacific, SIDS, and the Caribbean, coordinating shipments and building a platform to help frontline services operate when supply chains are fragile or disrupted.

None of this is possible without you. Thank you for your prayers, your generosity and your commitment to serve the world's most vulnerable. As we look ahead, we do so with confidence in the strength of this movement and in what we can achieve together through compassion, excellence and shared purpose.

With heartfelt thanks,



Richard Wankmuller
Chairman, Mercy Ships Australia



“

None of this is possible without you – thank you for your prayers, your generosity and your commitment to serve the world's most vulnerable.”

About Mercy Ships

Globally, 5 billion people lack access to surgery

As a result of this lack of access to surgical care, more than 16.9 million people die each year. Every day, children and adults in some of the poorest communities die from causes that can easily be treated in hospitals in nations like Australia. 1 in 8 children will die before they have the chance to go to school.

Founded in 1978, Mercy Ships is an international development organisation, using hospital ships, in-field services and volunteers to deliver:

1. **Direct medical care, dental care and surgery to those without access**
2. **Education, training, and mentoring of local healthcare workers**
3. **Improvements to healthcare infrastructure**
4. **Humanitarian aid, PPE supplies and medical equipment**

Our model is based on transformational development and as a result, we have

witnessed thousands of changed lives for more than 47 years.

We believe transformed lives can, and do, change nations. We witness the profound impact of free surgeries, as our volunteers restore hope to patients and their families.

We see the potential of local medical professionals to inspire, build up, and transform their surgical systems and take care of their populations.

This Mercy Ships International Programs Strategy is based on current global health frameworks. It describes our theory of change and oversees the direction of our programs.





IMAGE:
Alya Lopez,
volunteer
paediatric ICU
nurse from
Australia, with
an orthopaedic
patient on the
veranda.

As a surgical, non-governmental organisation working across eight different surgical specialties, our programs focus on improving the quality of life for people living with disease, disfigurement, and disability.

We achieve this through direct medical services, whole person care, and building the capacity of surgical systems to meet the needs of the future.

We have a unique part to play in the attainment of key Global Goals, such as Sustainable Development Goal 3: Good health and wellbeing. We will achieve this by directing our programs to three key strategic aims:

- 1. Decreasing the burden of unmet surgical need;**
- 2. Improving outcomes for patients by supporting surgical systems to become more effective, efficient, and responsive;**
- 3. Engaging with governments and policymakers at local and national levels.**

To achieve these aims, we align our transformative work with the World Health Organisation (WHO) Health Systems Strengthening (HSS) approach.

This approach strives to strengthen health systems in a uniform way so that they improve community health, are responsive to the needs of their populations, have

social and financial risk protection, and are efficient and well-governed.

We will align activities to contribute to one or more of the 6 WHO HSS 'Building Blocks' in our country engagement strategies:

- 1. Service delivery**
- 2. Health workforce**
- 3. Health information**
- 4. Medical products and technologies**
- 5. Health financing**
- 6. Leadership and governance**

To achieve this, we create 5-year Country Engagement Plans based on 3 areas of operational focus: direct medical services; medical capacity building; and engagement with governments and policymakers at the national and local level.

These plans enable Mercy Ships to walk alongside host nations in their journey towards health systems strengthening, working in partnership to understand the existing capacities and developmental needs of surgical care systems. Based on our level of relationship and partnership with each country, plans allow for longer-term capacity building to strengthen the surgical system.

We believe that transformed lives lead to transformed systems and communities. Moreover, when communities are transformed, so are nations.

We know all too well that for people living in most developing nations, access to essential surgery is often limited.



What We Do

Within the Global SDG Context

The signing of the WHO's Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015 has given all nations a road map within which to grow and thrive. The ambitious goals seek to promote mutual flourishing of all peoples, economies, and environments by 2030, placing equal importance on the health and wellbeing of individuals, populations, and the earth and her resources.

Of the 17 goals, Good Health and Wellbeing (SDG 3) is a key priority to Mercy Ships. From maternal, infant, and child mortality, to accidents and non-communicable diseases, surgery has an indispensable role to play in attaining SDG 3 targets. As surgical and anaesthesia specialists in eight specialties – plastic reconstructive, maxillofacial, paediatric orthopaedic surgery, general surgery, paediatric general surgery, women's health (including obstetric fistula), ophthalmic, and dental – our programs focus on attaining the greatest health outcomes for patients requiring surgical treatment in the countries in which we work. We accomplish these outcomes through direct medical services and medical capacity building to meet the needs of the future.

We know all too well that for people living in most developing nations, access to essential surgery is often limited, unaffordable, and carries high risks with variable outcomes. Too many people live with their ailments for longer than they need to, because the service they need is not available or too expensive. Our programs provide relief from suffering through direct medical services, while also investing in the health infrastructure and workforce to develop surgical skills and expand surgical service provision nationwide.



The WHO 'Building Blocks' Of An Effective Health System

- 1. Service delivery:** Good health services are those which deliver effective, safe, quality health interventions to those that need them, when and where needed, with minimum waste of resources.
- 2. Health workforce:** A well-performing health workforce is one that works in ways that are responsive, fair, and efficient to achieve the best health outcomes possible, given the available resources and circumstances. This means having sufficient staff, fairly distributed, who are competent, responsive, and productive.
- 3. Health information:** A well-functioning health information system is one that ensures the production, analysis, dissemination, and use of reliable and timely information on health determinants, health system performance, and health status.
- 4. Medical products and technologies:** A well-functioning health system ensures equitable access to essential, scientifically-sound medical products and technologies of assured quality, safety, efficacy, and cost-effectiveness.
- 5. Health financing:** A good health financing system raises adequate funds for health in ways that ensure people can use needed services and are protected from financial catastrophe or impoverishment associated with having to pay for them.
- 6. Leadership and governance:** A well-managed health system ensures strategic policy frameworks exist and are combined with effective oversight, coalition-building, and regulation, with appropriate attention to system-design and accountability.



**World Health
Organization**

IMAGE:

Dr. Rachel Buckingham, Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon, Dr. Belen Carsi Lluch, Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon, and Dr. Herbert Kallon, ETA Student, straightening patient Ruth's bowed legs

HOPE beyond borders & HEALING beyond measure

In 2025, Mercy Ships' impact reached across communities and countries. Alongside thousands of life-changing surgeries, vital education and training programs supported long-term improvements to surgical and anaesthesia systems. This year marked continued momentum toward lasting, sustainable impact.

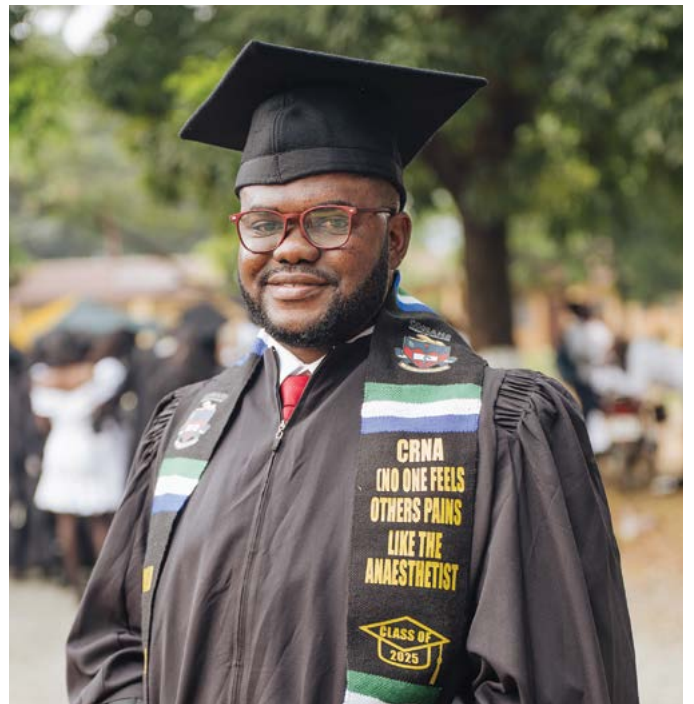
Mercy Ships' two hospital ships were at the heart of this work. The *Global Mercy* continued serving Sierra Leone, while the *Africa Mercy* resumed operations in Madagascar, delivering critical surgical care and hands-on training to healthcare professionals on board. Thanks to collaboration with national partners, lives were transformed and healthcare systems changed for good.

The impact also reached beyond the ships and spanned Africa. Mercy Ships launched a number of new partnerships to further strengthen medical education and training, funded continent-wide surgical dialogue and diplomacy events, and supported critical healthcare infrastructure projects. In partner nations like Guinea, Mercy Ships also built upon existing relationships to deepen the impact of student sponsorships and surgical education programs. Off-ship initiatives ensured even more healthcare professionals are equipped to serve their communities with competence and confidence.

A defining moment of 2025 was the start of construction on a new hospital ship, the *Africa Mercy II*. Sister vessel to the *Global Mercy* and future successor to the *Africa Mercy*, the new ship will boost the organisation's ability to provide life-changing surgical care and education across Africa for years to come. Made possible by a significant anchor donation from the MSC Foundation, the vessel is anticipated to enter service by 2029.

2025 stands as a powerful reminder of what is possible when people of compassion, excellence, and faith come together to bring hope and healing.





IMAGES:

(CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) Abubakarr, reconstructive plastic patient from Sierra Leone, playing with Joanna Immendorfer, paediatric ICU nurse from the USA, in the hospital corridor; Bek Purcival, volunteer physical therapist from Australia, works with Adrien, reconstructive plastic patient, in rehab alongside Hosea Rakotondrafara, rehab day crew from Madagascar; Graduate Mohamed Bangura during the Nurse Anaesthesia Diploma Swearing-In Ceremony, a multi-year program developed in partnership between Mercy Ships, the Ministry of Health and the University of Sierra Leone; Patients and crew during Celebration of Sight, an event to commemorate successful eye surgeries.

2025

By the Numbers

DIRECT MEDICAL SERVICES



4,554

TOTAL UNIQUE SURGICAL PATIENTS



5,019

TOTAL SURGERIES



6,860

TOTAL SURGICAL PROCEDURES



5,117

TOTAL UNIQUE DENTAL PATIENTS



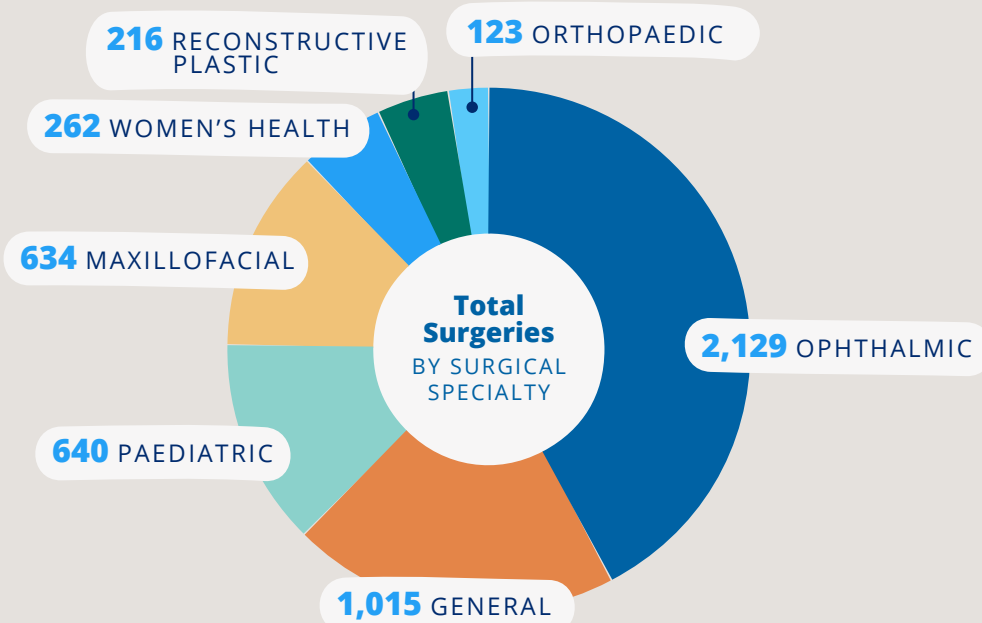
9,731

TOTAL DENTAL VISITS



31,863

TOTAL DENTAL PROCEDURES



NOTE: A patient often has multiple procedures as part of a single surgery or dental visit and may also have multiple surgeries or dental visits.

EDUCATION & TRAINING



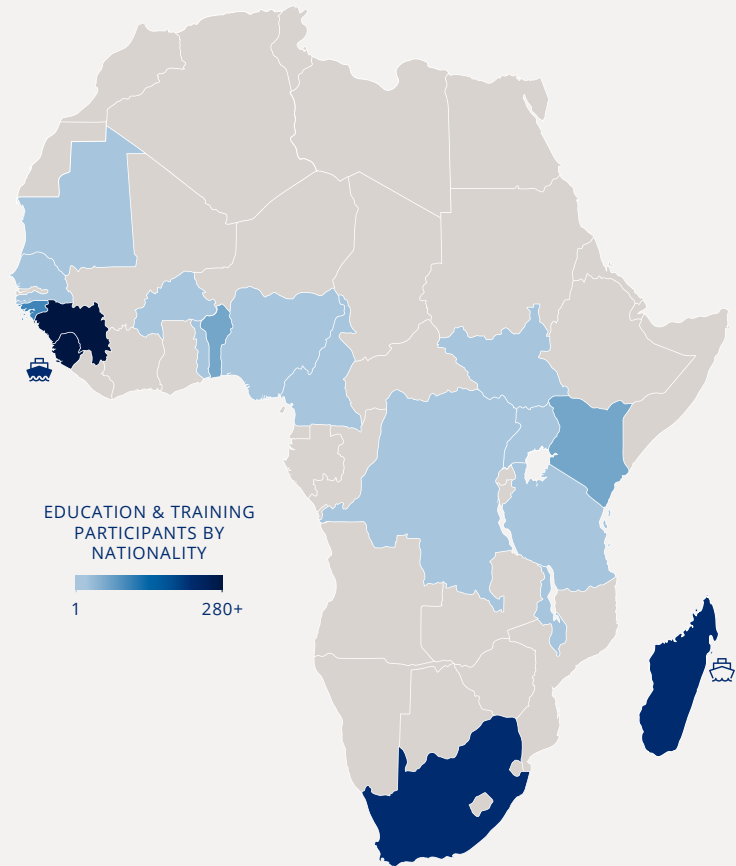
1,061

TOTAL UNIQUE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS TRAINED FROM 18 AFRICAN NATIONS



305,400

TOTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING PARTICIPANT HOURS

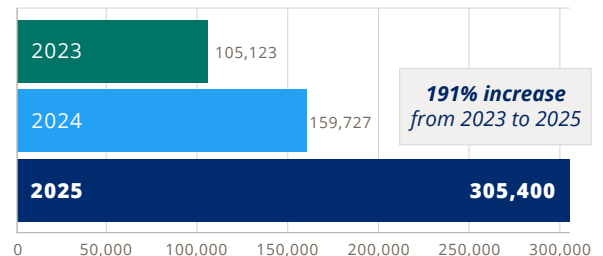


Africa's surgical future

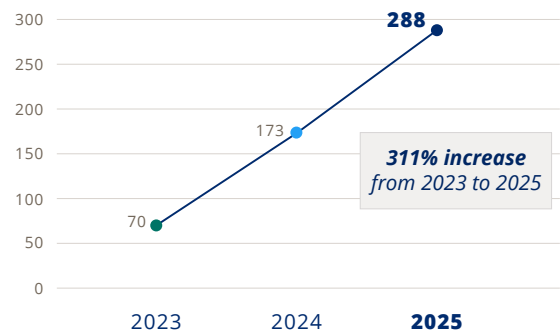
In 2023, Mercy Ships expanded its education and training approach to include long-term investment in individual learners, reflecting the commitment to addressing Africa's critical shortage of specialised healthcare professionals. Access to specialised education remains limited due to scarce training programs and significant financial barriers. By sponsoring students over time, Mercy Ships helps remove these obstacles and strengthen pathways into specialised care.

Alongside this, Mercy Ships is supporting current healthcare providers through continuing professional development, delivering immediate impact while building lasting sustainable capacity. As Africa's population grows rapidly, strengthening today's providers while investing in the next generation of specialists is vital to expanding access to safe surgical care across the continent.

Total Education & Training Hours



Average Hours of Training Per Participant



NOTE: A participant may be involved in more than one education and training project.



Patients, caregivers,
and crew celebrate
Christmas at the
Hope Centre.

1,998
UNIQUE SURGICAL
PATIENTS

2,124
SURGERIES

3,071
SURGICAL
PROCEDURES

1,421
UNIQUE DENTAL
PATIENTS

2,348
DENTAL VISITS

6,231
DENTAL
PROCEDURES

386
UNIQUE EDUCATION &
TRAINING PARTICIPANTS

49,957
EDUCATION & TRAINING
PARTICIPANT HOURS





Sierra Leone

Global Mercy Field Service

“What [Mercy Ships] has done is give the government the breathing space to build capabilities, and ensure that even as we’re building, we’re filling the void of providing services. So, the ship has been a blessing to Sierra Leone, and we are eternally grateful.”

DR. AUSTIN DEMBY,
MINISTER OF HEALTH
SIERRA LEONE

After another successful field service in Freetown completed in June 2025, the President of Sierra Leone invited the *Global Mercy* to return for a third consecutive visit. Taking place August 2025 through June 2026, this marked the eighth Mercy Ships field service to the country over the course of 30 years.

The need in Sierra Leone is great and the government remains committed to improving its healthcare system. To help achieve this goal, Mercy Ships provided surgical education and training programs alongside the Ministry of Health, the University of Sierra Leone, and Connaught Hospital. Many medical professionals grew their skills through practical mentorship on board. Meanwhile, the Safer Surgery program done in partnership with Connaught Hospital brought critical education to participants in areas like sterile processing, infection prevention, nursing, and physiotherapy. Support for dental education also continued through the sponsorship of Sierra Leonean dental students studying in Guinea.

Many patients received life-changing safe surgery across maxillofacial, paediatric, orthopaedic, general, reconstructive plastic, and ophthalmic specialties. Skilled and dedicated crew on board the *Global Mercy*, including more than 300 Sierra Leonean national day crew members, brought healing to thousands this year.

Mercy Ships is thankful to partner with the Government of Sierra Leone to provide a positive, lasting impact for future generations.

Memunatu's

Miracle Journey

Everything changed the moment Anne-Marie van Tonder met Memunatu.

Volunteering at a children's hospital in Freetown, Anne-Marie, a crew clinic administration assistant on board the *Global Mercy*, was struck by a fragile baby staring back at her.

"It felt like she was speaking directly into my life," she said.

At just ten months old, Memunatu had a rapidly growing tumour on her neck. What began as a small lump at five months had been treated as a cold, but it continued to grow, threatening her ability to swallow, eat and even breathe.

Determined to help, Anne-Marie arranged for Memunatu to be seen on the *Global Mercy*, docked just a few blocks away.

After careful assessment, surgeon Dr Leo Cheng confirmed the tumour was not cancerous, but urgent surgery was critical. Without it, Memunatu's condition would have continued to worsen and could have become life threatening.

The operation was complex and delicate, lasting several hours. Working with extraordinary precision, Dr Cheng carefully removed the tumour while preserving vital nerves and blood vessels. For the volunteers on board, Memunatu left a lasting impression.

"When she was discharged, it was pure joy," Anne-Marie said. "Her face, once hidden, was full of light."

Back home in Sierra Leone, her recovery has been remarkable. The swelling has gone, her neck has healed, and her smile has returned, brighter than ever. She plays with her mother, Aminata, who now watches her daughter with relief instead of fear.

Memunatu is too young to remember the journey that saved her life. She will never know the fear in her mother's eyes, or the prayers whispered for her as she lay in surgery. She may never know how one small moment, a volunteer delivering meals, changed everything.

But those who met her will never forget.





“My hope for Memunatu is that she realises that her life is sacred and precious. And that she gets to live a long, fulfilling life now because of the generosity of other people.”

KRYSTAL, NURSE.



IMAGES: (ANTI-CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT)

Memunatu with her mother before life-changing surgery; Memunatu, and her mother on the day of her discharge; Memunatu, with Anne-Marie Van Tonder, Crew Clinic Administrative Assistant, and her mother at the veranda during patient recreation time; Dr. Leo Cheng, Global Medical Staff Member, and Dr. Brad Aebi, Maxillofacial Head and Neck Surgeon, during Memunatu’s, maxillofacial patient, surgery assisted by Esther Kim, Operating Room Nurse; Memunatu during a home visit with her mother.



Farah's Story

A Reason To Smile Again

For over 15 years, Farah, a 65-year-old farmer from Sierra Leone, lived with a painful tumour that began with a decayed tooth. After the tooth fell out, he was left with a persistent sore. He sought help any way he could, but his condition worsened. The sore grew into a large mass, forcing him to give up the work that supported his family.

When he heard about the *Global Mercy*, he knew it was his chance for healing. “[the] tumour was benign but had grown for more than a decade; something that would have been removed in minutes elsewhere,” explained Dr. Georg Eggers, a volunteer surgeon from Germany.

After surgery, Farah’s transformation was immediate. He finally claimed victory over the growth that had altered his life. When he returned home, his village gathered to celebrate. “I thought my father would die,” said his daughter, “When I saw him [when he returned], I was surprised.”

Today, Farah can live with dignity and hope. “I just have to say thank you to Mercy Ships. They’ve given me peace of mind.”



IMAGES:
Farah's village welcomes him home after surgery; Farah before and after surgery.



Nurse Betty Koker

Turning Loss Into Lifesaving Care

For Betty Koker, nursing is more than a profession... it's a life purpose. Her journey began with heartbreak when she lost her mother due to medical negligence. "From there, I decided to become a nurse so that I can help people, especially children, not become orphans," she said.

That vow carried her to Freetown, where she earned a nursing qualification in 2016. Afterwards, she volunteered at Connaught Hospital until she was hired full time. Her compassion and determination quickly set her apart.

When Betty learned about the mentorship program at Connaught through Mercy Ships, she jumped at the opportunity. Under the guidance of UK nurse mentor Katie Henderson, Betty refined her skills, learning structured patient care protocols and emergency response techniques, strengthening her confidence and precision.

Her time on board the *Global Mercy* expanded her hands-on experience even further from orthopaedic rehabilitation to hands-on emergency simulations. But what resonated most was the culture of dedication and empathy she witnessed. "The main thing I've learned here is whatever you are doing, you should be compassionate about it," said Betty. "You should do it with love, confidence, and teamwork."

At Connaught, Betty now applies her new skills daily, helping strengthen patient care and inspiring her colleagues to do the same. For her, the program provided more than training; it created lasting change in how care is delivered. "We learned a lot.

"There are things we were not doing before, but now we are putting them into practice, and it has helped a lot of patients."

IMAGE:
Nurse Betty Koker at
Connaught Hospital.

Connaught Hospital SAFER SURGERY

“We want this training to contribute to strengthening the entire healthcare system in Sierra Leone and make sure that the nurses who will be trained during this period will not only serve in Freetown, but will go on to impact the entire healthcare system in the country.”

MASSIAMI SOUMAHORO, PROGRAM OFFICER

At Freetown’s Connaught Hospital, big changes were underway in 2025. Ongoing, multi-year training initiatives, all designed to deliver sustainable impact, strengthened the foundations of surgical care. Co-designed by Mercy Ships and Connaught Hospital leadership, the Safer Surgery program enhanced surgical safety by improving nursing practice, infection prevention, and sterile processing standards, ensuring safer outcomes for patients.

NURSE MENTORSHIP

In 2025, the Nurse Mentorship project equipped surgical nurses through intensive four-week modules that blended classroom learning, simulations, and supervised ward practice. By focusing on patient assessment, infection prevention, wound care, and specialty surgical knowledge, the program strengthens the largest workforce in the hospital. Nurses bring these skills directly into their daily practice, driving improvements in pre- and post-operative care.

INFECTION PREVENTION

Through a partnership with Lifebox, the Infection Prevention component introduced the Clean Cut project to reduce surgical site infections. Teams received training in antibiotic timing, sterile field maintenance, instrument sterility, skin preparation, and use of the WHO

Surgical Safety Checklist. By strengthening essential processes and supporting data collection on patient outcomes, the project reduces infection rates without requiring major infrastructure upgrades.


STERILE PROCESSING

The Sterile Processing project, delivered in partnership with SPECT, trained hospital staff how to decontaminate, clean, inspect, and sterilise surgical instruments. Standardising these procedures will help to reduce infection risk and equip participants to successfully train others.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

In addition to the Safer Surgery program, the Physiotherapy project brought Sierra Leonean physiotherapists to work alongside the *Global Mercy* rehabilitation teams to expand their clinical and technical skills. Building national rehabilitation capacity helps reduce disability, improve patient recovery and quality of life, and decrease long-term healthcare burdens.

These efforts are all part of a larger, long-term strategy for safer surgical care. By upskilling local professionals, strengthening systems, and fostering a culture of quality improvement, Safer Surgery at Connaught is laying the groundwork for lasting improvements in Sierra Leone and beyond.



Nurse Betty Koker cares for a patient at Connaught Hospital, under the mentorship of Katie Henderson, volunteer nurse from Great Britain.



1,430
UNIQUE SURGICAL
PATIENTS

1,588
SURGERIES

2,472
TOTAL SURGICAL
PROCEDURES

1,292
UNIQUE DENTAL
PATIENTS

2,286
DENTAL VISITS

8,266
DENTAL
PROCEDURES

169
UNIQUE EDUCATION &
TRAINING PARTICIPANTS

23,825
EDUCATION & TRAINING
PARTICIPANT HOURS



Pierre, reconstructive plastic patient, and crew celebrate his discharge from the hospital.



Madagascar

Africa Mercy Field Service

“The surgery activity is not just a single event; it reflects the collective spirit of teamwork, compassion and excellence that defines all of us.”

**DR. CELESTINE VAVY RAZAFIARISOA,
REGIONAL HEALTH DIRECTOR
MADAGASCAR**

In February 2025, the *Africa Mercy* returned to Madagascar for her second consecutive field service. This stay marked the fifth time Mercy Ships visited the island nation since 1996.

Throughout the year, Mercy Ships focused on providing direct medical services and expanding upon surgical education and training programs. Working with the Ministry of Health, Mercy Ships selected patients from multiple regions across Madagascar.

Crew on the *Africa Mercy* performed more than one thousand successful surgeries in areas like maxillofacial, ophthalmic, reconstructive plastic, paediatric orthopaedic, and general surgery.

Hundreds of healthcare professionals received instruction in areas like comprehensive cleft care, clubfoot, and surgical and anaesthesia training. Additional programs included Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) residency rotations and on-ship education for student nurses.

These initiatives meet participants where they are and equip them with essential skills to improve surgical conditions nationwide. These programs also make safe surgical care more accessible and support the long-term, sustainable development of Madagascar’s surgical and anaesthetic systems.

Lasting change is only possible thanks to the ongoing support of the Government of Madagascar, and Mercy Ships is grateful to continue the partnership into 2026.

Alfredo's Story

Against All Odds, Alfredo Finds His Smile

When Alfredo was born, his family feared showing him to his mother because of his cleft lip. But when Doxie saw him, she was overcome with love. As a first-time mother, she vowed to do everything she could for her baby. "I said to the Lord, 'What should I do for this baby since you have given him to me?'"

After she heard about Mercy Ships from a midwife, she carried Alfredo to the Mercy Ships screening centre in hopes of finding healing for her son.

The medical team explained that, at just a few days old, Alfredo was still too small for surgery and needed time to grow stronger, and they gave her an appointment date to return.

Doxie returned to her village with guidance on his feeding from the medical team. As they waited to return, she did everything she could to help Alfredo gain strength. Due to his cleft, he could not latch and breastfeed properly, so she relied on formula to nourish him. But she could not afford the formula for long.

Without consistent access to nutrition, Alfredo grew weaker. He was thin and fragile as she made the journey back to the *Africa Mercy*.

When the team met the six-month-old, he only weighed 2.6 kgs. Surgery was too risky, so he was placed on the Mercy Ships infant feeding program, which gives malnourished babies the sustenance they need to safely receive care. Alfredo received specialised nutrition and close medical support to help him gain weight. As Alfredo grew stronger, he was finally ready for his life-changing surgery.

Today, Alfredo's cleft lip is healed and Doxie is at ease about his future: "My wish for him is that he will study like every other kid and have a better future." A future that was made possible by a mother's love and the hands of mercy.

"My wish for Alfredo is that he will study like every other kid and have a better future."

DOXIE, ALFREDO'S MOTHER





IMAGES:
(CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT)
Alfredo (18 months old), fully healed after surgery; Dr. Emmanuel Kyobe, PAACS resident from Uganda and Dr. Stavan Patel, volunteer maxillofacial surgeon from the USA, examine Alfredo during ward rounds; Alfredo after surgery with Alana Donkin, volunteer ward nurse from New Zealand; Alfredo at one year old, now healthy enough for surgery; Doxie and Alfredo (6 months old) before beginning the Infant Feeding Program.

One Path, Two Chapters

How Training Helped Brothers Walk Forward

At Hôpital Analakininina in Toamasina, two brothers sat side by side, their legs wrapped in white casts. Born with the same condition, they shared a journey shaped by two moments in time.

Both boys were born with clubfoot, a congenital condition that causes a child's feet to twist inward and downward. Without treatment, walking is often painful and limited. When the older brother, Fanirisoa, was born, his parents couldn't access specialised care, so they tried traditional massage and bandaging. While there was some improvement, walking remained a struggle.

When Vonjy was born with the same condition, the family's worries grew. "Before, walking was painful for them," their father said. "They used to cry and say, 'It hurts.'" In their community, the boys were sometimes given nicknames

because of how they walked. Their parents stayed silent: "That was just how things were."

Hope came through a radio announcement. After hearing about Mercy Ships, the family travelled from their home near Antananarivo to a screening in Toamasina, where their story became part of a much bigger legacy.

Mercy Ships began supporting clubfoot care in Madagascar in 2015, mentoring local teams in the Ponseti method, a gentle, evidence-based approach using weekly casting, careful manipulation, and, when needed, a small surgical procedure. The first mentoring program focused on babies and young children, training Malagasy health professionals to provide long-term care.

Dr. Saholy Razafindranaly, a Malagasy general practitioner and Ponseti trainer, remembers the beginning clearly. "2015 marked the start of clubfoot treatment using the Ponseti method here in Madagascar, with support from Mercy Ships," she said. Since then, she estimated that more than 3,000 children had been treated and healed.

When Mercy Ships left in 2016, the work continued. Through partnerships with the Ministry of Health and organisations like MiracleFeet, clubfoot clinics spread across the country. Despite challenges like long travel distances and too few specialists, Malagasy clinicians continued providing care year after year.

IMAGE:
Dr. Saholy (left)
removes one of
Fanirisoa's casts;





Vonjy's treatment reflected that success. He was treated entirely by Malagasy health professionals at a Ponseti clinic established through that original training. His care was the outcome of a program that prioritised sustainability from the start.

Fanirisoa's care, however, represented a new chapter. While Madagascar had a strong national clubfoot program, many children missed early treatment. As they grew older, untreated clubfoot became more complex to manage.

When Mercy Ships returned in 2025, the organisation launched a new Clubfoot Mentoring Project under the leadership of Nick Veltjens, the physiotherapist who led the 2015–2016 efforts. The focus was on strengthening care, especially for older children, and mentoring clinicians who could carry this work forward for the next generation.

"When you see a child improving, and at the same time you see a local team gaining confidence...that's sustainability. The treatment will finish, but the knowledge will stay," said Veltjens. The principles of the Ponseti method remained the same, but treatment took

"When you see a child improving, and at the same time you see a local team gaining confidence...that's sustainability. The treatment will finish, but the knowledge will stay."

NICK VELTJENS, PHYSIOTHERAPIST AND MENTOR

longer and needed greater expertise. Weeks of casting gradually stretched stiff feet, reducing the need for invasive surgery and improving outcomes.

For Fanirisoa, that meant careful correction, a small but crucial procedure, and close follow-up. For the clinicians, it meant hands-on mentoring to gain skills and build confidence.

For the boys' father, the impact was already clear. "Now their feet are straight, and they can walk normally," he said. "They can do everything the others can do."

Two brothers, treated side by side, carried the impact of two moments in time: one shaped by training planted ten years earlier, and the other helping to train what came next. Their story reflects what's possible when care is locally led, knowledge is passed on, and hope is built to last.

IMAGE: (ABOVE)
Fanirisoa and Vonjy with their parents after their surgeries.

SENEGAL

GUINEA

TOGO

GHANA



SOUTH AFRICA





ACROSS AFRICA

Hope Beyond Borders

Mercy Ships' work across Africa throughout 2025 was shaped by long-term partnerships, local leadership, and a shared vision for stronger, more accessible healthcare systems. In multiple countries, ongoing education and training programs continued to meet urgent surgical needs and invest in lasting, sustainable solutions.

At the heart of this strategy is a commitment to close critical gaps in surgical care. Free, life-changing surgeries, while core to Mercy Ships' mission, represent just one part of a broader approach. Mercy Ships places equal emphasis on strengthening the people, institutions, and systems that make safe surgery possible.

Through sustained collaboration with ministries of health, hospitals, and local universities, Mercy Ships supports the training and professional development of surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses, and other essential healthcare providers.

These investments build local capacity, expand access to safe care, and enable program graduates to return to their home countries to train others and serve their communities with greater skill and confidence. In addition, Mercy Ships is committed to strengthening systems through infrastructure renovation and construction projects, as well as providing equipment and equipment training, to ensure nations have the resources they need to offer quality care.

Over time, this integrated approach creates a multiplying effect. Patients regain health, providers gain expertise, hospitals improve standards of care, and countries move closer to self-sustaining surgical systems that can meet the needs of their people. Across the continent, Mercy Ships is honoured to walk alongside nations and be part of supporting healing today and strengthening the healthcare systems of tomorrow.





Guinea

Long-term Partnership

In 2025, the long-term partnership between Mercy Ships and the Université Gamal Abdel Nasser de Conakry (UGANC) expanded to sponsor more students from across Africa to receive dental and surgical training. Following the completion of a new clinical training space in late 2024, Mercy Ships increased the number of international students participating in UGANC programs. Students came from across the region, including Madagascar, Benin, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau, and more.

2,404

UNIQUE DENTAL
PATIENTS

5,097

DENTAL VISITS

17,366

DENTAL
PROCEDURES

284

UNIQUE EDUCATION
& TRAINING
PARTICIPANTS

189,022

EDUCATION
& TRAINING
PARTICIPANT
HOURS

HANDS-ON TRAINING WITH REGIONAL IMPACT

The partnership supported clinical training, administrative systems, and pedagogical guidance for UGANC's dental curriculum, alongside surgical and anaesthesia programs.

Dental students and recent graduates received simulation-based and hands-on training while also providing basic oral health education to patients and caregivers.

"These growing partnerships with other countries are an important part of what we do," said David Ugai, Mercy Ships Country Director for Guinea. "Some students come because they don't have dental schools in their own countries. Others come for one year, and we sponsor their residencies so they can return home as future educators."



IMAGES: Dr. Mariama Camara, Dr. Guirassy Il Mariama, Dr. Diallo Mariama Cire, and Dr. Soumah Yalikhathou, the first female general surgeons trained in Guinea.



EXPANDING SURGICAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS

Since 2024, Mercy Ships has partnered with the Faculté de Sciences et Techniques de la Santé (FSTS) to support their existing suite of surgical education programs, including anaesthesia, general and visceral surgery, ENT, plastic and orthopaedic surgery, trauma, neurosurgery, paediatric surgery, OB-GYN, and urology.

This year, the medical education sponsorship program broke new ground in Guinea as four participants earned their diplomas of specialisation, becoming the first female general surgeons trained in-country. "Their achievements mark a historic turning point, and we are honoured to have supported these leaders as they step forward as specialists in general and visceral surgery, inspiring others to follow their path," said Estelle Mouadeu Toualeu, Mercy Ships Medical Education Sponsorship Manager. Mercy Ships also supported them to do international internships to broaden their experience in Morocco, Tunisia and France.

BUILDING FACULTY FOR THE FUTURE

Beyond technical instruction, these partnerships emphasise faculty

development, curriculum strengthening, and practical simulation. By sponsoring future educators and supporting specialty-specific training, Mercy Ships continued to invest in sustainable surgical systems and local capacity.

"There are significant gaps in the surgical workforce across Africa," Ugai said. "Without strong surgical education programs, those gaps will widen as the population grows."

RENOVATING FACULTÉ DE SCIENCES ET TECHNIQUES DE LA SANTÉ (FSTS)

Mirroring its collaboration with Gamal's Dental School, Mercy Ships grew its partnership with FSTS, which houses the UGANC Departments of Nursing and Medicine. In late 2025, candidates were selected to participate in the UGANC FSTS Faculty Development project, which encompasses a range of master's degrees in the medicine, nursing, and pedagogy fields.

As part of this partnership, Mercy Ships also launched a key infrastructure project. Renovations began for what will become a new Faculty of Science Simulation Centre, to be completed in 2026.

IMAGE:

A dental student and Dr. Ana Filipa, Mercy Ships education and training program officer, treat a patient in the UGANC clinic.

MEDICAL EDUCATION

Sponsorships

Mercy Ships partnered with universities in 13 African nations to sponsor students for specialised education in dentistry, surgery, anaesthesia, nursing, biomedical engineering, and ancillary services. Students received training through various specialised medical partnerships, including UGANC in Guinea and PAACS. These projects are managed by the Mercy Ships Guinea country team.

The Medical Education Sponsorship Program aims to:

- Create specialists that can go on to become educators.
- Support faculty who can strengthen health professions education programs.
- Grow the specialised workforce in underrepresented and under-resourced specialties and geographical regions.

The vision is big and the journey's only beginning. Moving forward, Mercy Ships plans to continue building new partnerships with universities and institutions across Africa so that more students can receive specialised education. Mercy Ships intentionally selects programs in Africa so students can receive context-relevant education, promoting the growth and development of existing specialisation programs.



"This training program, made possible through the sponsorship of Mercy Ships, has profoundly transformed the way I view orthodontic practice. It has enabled me to move beyond a purely technical approach and embrace a more holistic one, integrating quality of care, social responsibility, and a commitment to ongoing learning."

DR. AMADOU OURY DIALLO
RESIDENT IN ORTHODONTICS

	UNIQUE MEDICAL ED. PARTICIPANTS	MEDICAL ED. PARTICIPANT HOURS
GUINEA*	60	87,544
SIERRA LEONE†	16	19,207
GUINEA-BISSAU	12	10,137
MADAGASCAR‡	10	13,308
BENIN	9	9,527
KENYA	3	9,792
MAURITANIA	3	864
CAMEROON	2	4,035
TANZANIA	1	3,264
BURKINA FASO	1	632
SOUTH SUDAN§	1	116
UGANDA§	1	116

Data is included in the following totals:

*Guinea (pg 30), †Sierra Leone (pg 14),
‡Madagascar (pg 22), § South Africa (pg 34)



897

UNIQUE SURGICAL PATIENTS

1,073

SURGERIES

1,075

SURGICAL PROCEDURES

5

UNIQUE TRAINING PARTICIPANTS

619

TRAINING PARTICIPANT HOURS



IMAGE: Dr. Nestor Avia from Sight.org performs surgery at a clinic in Elavagnon, Togo.

TOGO

In 2025, Mercy Ships began partnering with the University of Lomé to advance dental education in Togo. This multi-year project aims to increase the number of qualified Togolese dentists through infrastructure improvements to equip the dental clinic and simulation space.

Mercy Ships also continued supporting surgeon mentoring through Lumière Divine, the NGO founded by Dr. Abram Wodomé, Mercy Ships Ophthalmic Specialty Consultant.

In addition, Mercy Ships sponsored 1,000 cataract surgeries in northern and rural Togo through the Christian NGO, Sight.org. These efforts will help improve access to ophthalmic surgical care in the region for years to come.

MADAGASCAR

229

UNIQUE SURGICAL PATIENTS

234

SURGERIES

242

SURGICAL PROCEDURES

MADAGASCAR & SIERRA LEONE



Freedom From Fistula is a key long-term partner of Mercy Ships, providing free fistula surgeries and free maternity care to ensure safe childbirth. In 2025, Mercy Ships supported the organisation by funding surgeries at the Madagascar obstetric fistula clinic, which Mercy Ships supported the establishment of in 2015.

In Sierra Leone, Mercy Ships provided funding for paediatric consultations at the Aberdeen Women's Centre, which was built and established by Mercy Ships in 2005. This ongoing partnership has been instrumental in transforming the lives of women and girls across Africa.

186UNIQUE TRAINING
PARTICIPANTS**3,725**TRAINING
PARTICIPANT
HOURS

SOUTH AFRICA

In 2025, Mercy Ships continued to support the Society of Anaesthesiologists of South Africa (SASA) to deliver SAFE Paediatric and Obstetric Anaesthesia courses nationwide. Several courses featured a “Training the Trainer” component to equip participants to pass on their knowledge, strengthening surgical and anaesthesia systems across South Africa.

Mercy Ships also sponsored two surgeons, from Uganda and South Sudan, to attend an executive leadership course in South Africa.



GHANA

Mercy Ships provided funding and content for the Ghana Surgical Dialogue 2025. This was a prominent national-level forum where key leaders gathered to support the government’s efforts to enhance surgical, obstetric, trauma, and anaesthetic care.

In addition, Mercy Ships has been in Ghana conducting local assessments in preparation for the Global Mercy’s arrival to the Port of Tema for field service in 2026.



SENEGAL

In 2025, Mercy Ships began supporting the Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar’s (UCAD) dental school expansion. This partnership strives to increase training capacity so that more students can receive high-quality instruction. Mercy Ships’ investment in the dental school includes providing prosthodontics equipment, addressing the need to enhance specialised instruction. In addition, Mercy Ships procured medical simulation equipment to donate to the university’s simulation centre, allowing more students to receive high quality theoretical and practical instruction.

Dakar is also home to the Mercy Ships Africa Service Centre, a strategic base that supports the organisation’s operations, enhances logistics, and fosters relationships with local communities and government partners across Africa.

PAN-AFRICA

Healthcare Diplomacy

NATIONAL SURGICAL, OBSTETRIC, AND ANAESTHESIA PLAN (NSOAP)

In 2025, Sierra Leone launched its NSOAP (2026-2030) in collaboration with partners like Mercy Ships. Led by the Ministry of Health, the plan demonstrates the government's commitment to strengthening the country's surgical care. This actionable and measurable plan will provide a strategic roadmap to expand access to safe, timely, and affordable surgical care nationwide, while also leading to improved coordination and accountability.

Mercy Ships also supported NSOAP development in Ghana, and is now part of the nation's NSOAP implementation committee. Together, these resolutions are designed to deliver lasting, Africa-led solutions for surgical care.

AFRICAN DENTAL EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM

In Morocco, deans, program directors, and faculty from across Africa gathered for the inaugural African Dental Education Symposium. The event culminated in the launch of the African Education Dental Association (AEDA), the continent's first collaborative association committed to advancing dental education.

Supported by Mercy Ships, the symposium assembled Africa's dental educators, committed to building stronger academic program, sharing resources, and increasing access to training across borders. Inspired by similar associations in the United States and Europe, the AEDA supports curriculum development, faculty exchange, and student training, while advocating for stronger dental health systems in Africa.

As partnerships deepen, this collaboration marks a hopeful turning point for the future of dental care across Africa.



PAN-AFRICAN SURGICAL HEALTHCARE FORUM (PASHEF)

In 2025, Mercy Ships advanced Pan-Africa Diplomacy efforts by helping African leaders turn political commitment into practical action. This included partnering with Smile Train to fund PASHeF, now in its third year and firmly established as a continental platform where solutions are shaped for Africa, by Africa.

In attendance was the African Union, the Africa Centre for Disease Control (CDC), the World Health Organisation (WHO), and representatives from 42 Ministries of Health and Finance. The forum focused on showcasing scalable national models, innovative financing approaches, and collaborative pathways to strengthen surgical, obstetric, and anaesthetic care.

The formal strengthening of partnership with the Africa CDC marked another milestone. As the African Union's technical health arm, the Africa CDC is positioned to elevate PASHeF priorities onto the AU agenda and support implementation at scale.

IMAGE:

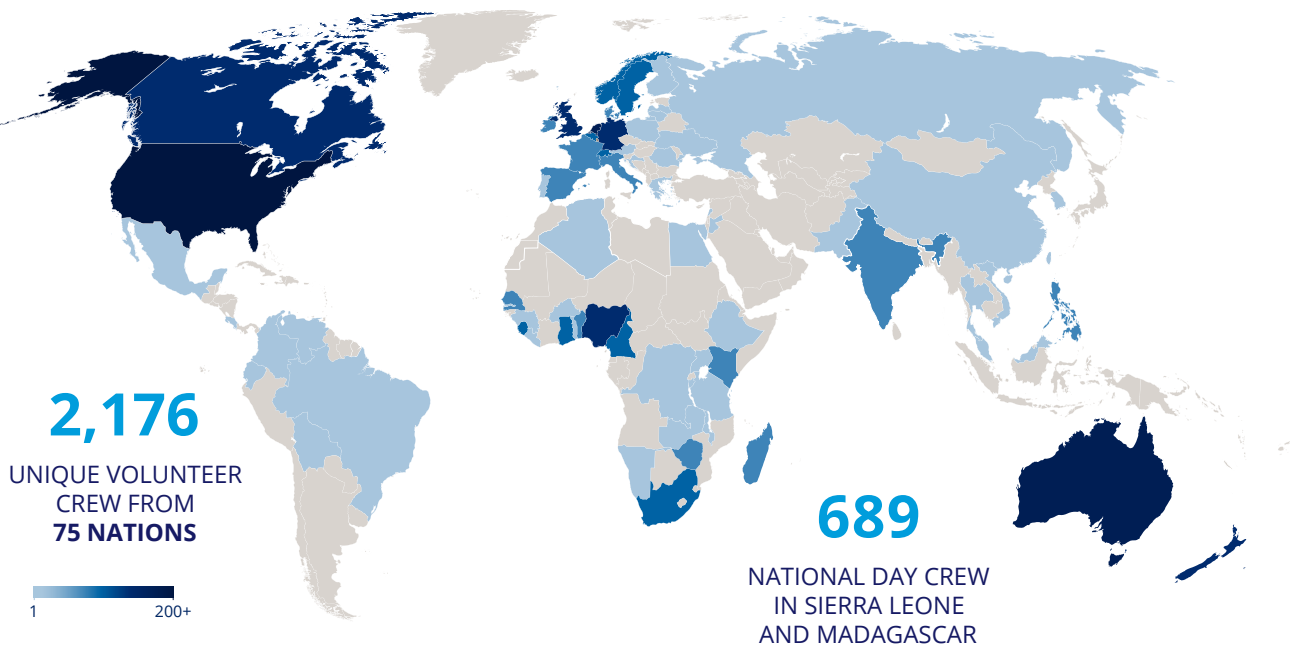
Dr. Mustapha Kabba, Sierra Leone's Deputy Chief Medical Officer for Clinical Services in the Ministry of Health, presents at PASHeF.



The volunteer crew of the *Global Mercy*.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Serving with Purpose



Mercy Ships volunteers are the heartbeat of the organisation. They come from around the world, selflessly donating their time and expertise to provide life-changing medical care to those who need it most. Without them, the hospital ships wouldn't be able to operate. Year after year, they lead by example bringing hope and healing to those in need. Mercy Ships is forever grateful for our generous and compassionate volunteers.

ESG INITIATIVES

Environmental, Social and Governance

In 2025, Mercy Ships continued its mission of improving access to safe surgery and strengthening health systems across sub-Saharan Africa through the deployment of its hospital ships and close partnership with governments, ministries of health, training institutions and local stakeholders. Mercy Ships' ESG approach is embedded in the way it operates: delivering social impact, stewarding resources responsibly, and maintaining governance structures that support accountability across a complex international model.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Mercy Ships is committed to operating its vessels responsibly and in line with international maritime safety and environmental standards. Both ships operate within recognised frameworks such as MARPOL, the International Safety Management Code, and classification requirements that support safe, compliant and environmentally responsible operations. The *Global Mercy* was designed with energy efficiency as a core consideration, incorporating modern systems for power, water and air conditioning that improve operational reliability while reducing overall energy demand.

SOCIAL

Mercy Ships exists to create positive social impact by restoring health and dignity to people who lack access to safe, affordable surgical care. In 2025, that impact extended beyond direct service delivery to include education, mentoring and training initiatives designed to strengthen local capability and support more resilient health systems over time. This work is made possible by a global community of volunteers and staff serving on board and across Mercy Ships' international network.

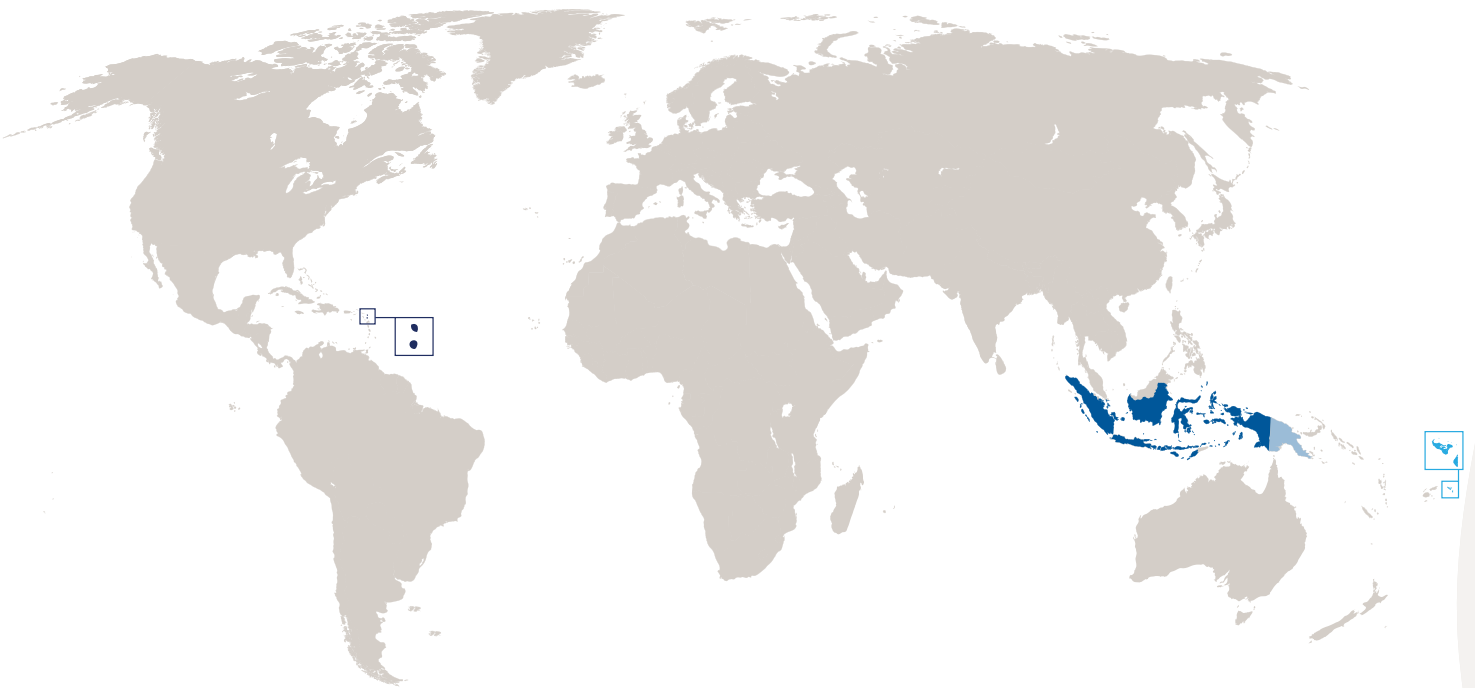
GOVERNANCE

Mercy Ships maintains a governance model that combines international coordination with national accountability. The organisation operates through Mercy Ships International, a two-ship fleet, an Africa Service Centre in Dakar, and 16 affiliated national offices around the world. Each national office is an independent charity governed under the laws of its own country, with its own board and regulatory responsibilities. This structure supports local responsiveness while maintaining alignment across the wider Mercy Ships network.

LOOKING AHEAD

Mercy Ships sees ESG not as a separate reporting exercise, but as part of how it pursues mission with excellence, responsibility and long-term intent. As the organisation looks ahead, it remains committed to responsible vessel operations, investment in people and partnerships, and governance practices that support trusted and sustainable service in under-served settings.





BEYOND THE SHIP:

Building Healthcare Resilience

ASIA-PACIFIC | CARIBBEAN | SIDS | WEST AFRICA

These initiatives extend Mercy Ships' health mission beyond the ship by strengthening the essentials that make safe care possible: medical supplies and equipment, food and nutrition, and resilient infrastructure.



MEDICAL SUPPLY ACCESS AND READINESS SIDS + WEST AFRICA

Alongside our ship-based surgical and training programs, Mercy Ships Australia is building a complementary platform to strengthen access to medical supplies and readiness in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and to build a West Africa resilience stream. The aim is straightforward: ensure frontline facilities can maintain safe, continuous care when supply chains are fragile, disrupted, or unaffordable.

In 2025, our work expanded in the Pacific beyond ad hoc shipments to a more integrated approach that combines essential medical supplies with broader systems-strengthening solutions. Through collaboration with corporate and institutional partners, Mercy Ships Australia coordinated international shipments of medical supplies, equipment and, where appropriate, enabling infrastructure goods to help remote communities build long-term resilience.

WHAT WE DELIVERED IN THE PACIFIC IN 2025



SAMOA: SUPPORTING NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CAPACITY

In consultation with Samoa's Ministry of Health, Mercy Ships Australia responded to a formal request to support national preparedness and healthcare capacity. Working with partners including MUN Australia, the WA Department of Health, 2SAN and Gateway Care, we coordinated multiple shipments of essential supplies and equipment, including:

- Medical equipment to enhance hospital service delivery
- Hospital beds
- Infection prevention and control supplies
- Sanitisers and essential consumables



SHIPMENTS IN PROGRESS

(being consolidated for dispatch):

- Tonga
- Bougainville (Autonomous Region of Papua New Guinea)
- Lae, Papua New Guinea
- Kundiawa, Papua New Guinea
- Kimbe, Papua New Guinea
- Nonga, Papua New Guinea
- British Virgin Islands
- Grenada
- St Vincent and the Grenadines



PAPUA NEW GUINEA: INTEGRATING HEALTH AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

In November 2025, Mercy Ships Australia partnered with Future Value to deliver medical supplies and renewable energy equipment to Papua New Guinea, reflecting a broader systems-strengthening approach. Medical supplies were distributed to Kikori District Hospital and surrounding communities, while the renewable energy component supports the design and demonstration of solar energy storage solutions tailored to remote settings where infrastructure constraints directly impact healthcare delivery. This initiative addresses infrastructure constraints that affect healthcare delivery, including power reliability for cold chain, lighting, communications and basic services.



INDONESIA: EMERGENCY SUPPORT

Following severe flooding across parts of South-East Asia, Mercy Ships Australia is also providing support to Indonesia (Sumba), including food assistance and priority medical supplies, in coordination with local partners for delivery pathways and distribution arrangements.



OTHER SHIPMENTS: ASIA-PACIFIC AND THE CARIBBEAN

In addition to Samoa and Papua New Guinea, Mercy Ships Australia supported a broader pipeline of medical supply shipments across the Asia-Pacific and the Caribbean in 2025. These consignments included essential medical supplies and equipment (including infection prevention and control items and core consumables), coordinated with local partners and aligned to receiving facility needs, country requirements and clear receiving arrangements.



JAMAICA: EMERGENCY SUPPORT

Following recent hurricane impacts, Jamaica was prioritised for emergency support. Coordination with in-country partners confirmed priority healthcare needs and logistics pathways.

STRENGTHENING HEALTH

from the Ground Up

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Mercy Ships Australia's commitment to health systems strengthening increasingly includes field-based development initiatives that address root causes of vulnerability: food insecurity, fragile supply chains, and limited access to essential health inputs. In partnership with global and local stakeholders, we are developing scalable models that strengthen resilience at the community and national levels.

Sierra Leone

SIERRA LEONE FOOD FOR LIFE (CULTIVATING GOD'S WAY - AGRICULTURE AND PROTEIN)

In Sierra Leone, Mercy Ships Australia's "Cultivating God's Way" initiative is transforming agriculture and livestock systems in Falaba District, combining food security, livelihoods and community stability. The model includes inland valley rice farming, sweet potato cultivation, improved ruminant breeds, and women-led cooperatives, addressing intercommunal conflict and food insecurity through climate-smart, regenerative practices.

In 2025, supported by *Margo Hartley Foundation* the program advanced as an integrated resilience platform with measurable components: 50 hectares of irrigated rice cultivation, training for 625 women in climate-smart farming, introduction of orange-fleshed sweet potato to strengthen nutrition, and market linkages (including pathways aligned to school feeding). The livestock component includes women-led co-operatives, improved small ruminant breeds, disease monitoring, and a digital livestock surveillance system designed as a scalable model.

Indonesia

SUSTAINABLE MEDICAL OXYGEN (SUMBA)

In 2025, Mercy Ships Australia progressed the establishment of a medical oxygen production plant at Lindimara Christian Hospital in Sumba. The initiative is designed to provide a sustainable, reliable local oxygen supply for more than 779,000 people across Sumba, strengthening clinical readiness for emergency care, inpatient treatment, and surgical services.

From the outset, the project has been structured for long-term sustainability: local ownership arrangements, local maintenance capability, staff training, and integration with health system processes. Implementation is milestone-driven with defined construction and commissioning steps and joint supervision.

Samoa

FOOD FOR LIFE (REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE FOR HEALTH RESILIENCE)

In Samoa, Mercy Ships Australia's regenerative agriculture program focuses on restoring degraded land, establishing organic farming co-operatives, and expanding school garden programs to embed food security education at the grassroots level.

In 2025, this work continued to mature into a multi-year resilience platform, improving food security, soil health, and biodiversity through reduced chemical overuse, efficient irrigation, agroforestry, and diversified crops, supported by stronger markets and supply chains. The program also supports lower non-communicable disease risk through community and school-based nutrition education, delivered with government and local partners through to December 2027.

A significant enabler of this program has been access to land to support demonstration, training, and scale (including a Samoan Government grant of land for the agricultural project).

CORPORATE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



CARGO DAY 2025

Mercy Ships' impact would be greatly reduced without the support of our corporate partners. These partnerships take many forms, including workplace and customer fundraising campaigns, donations of equipment, supplies and professional services, and initiatives that help customers learn about and support the mission. Many partners also encourage and support employees to volunteer with Mercy Ships.

Alongside partners in the medical and health sectors, Mercy Ships is also strengthened by long-standing relationships within the global shipping industry. In addition to support from Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) in multiple ways, Mercy Ships is the Cruise Line International Association's charity of choice. The cargo shipping sector also partners with Mercy Ships through an annual global fundraising initiative held each November, known as Cargo Day.

Cargo Day began 10 years ago as a concept developed by Tim Webb, a senior broker from Barry Rogliano Salles (BRS), to mobilise the cargo shipping industry to raise funds for Mercy Ships. Events are held in multiple locations around the world to raise awareness and inspire companies and individuals to participate.

Cargo Day's model is both practical and powerful. Companies that charter vessels to move cargo participate by offering "Mercy Cargoes" to brokers who pledge to donate 50% of their commission to Cargo Day. Charterers often amplify this by contributing an equivalent amount, matching broker donations, or making an additional fixed contribution. Across the sector, shipowners, agents and service providers also pledge donations in support of the initiative.

IN 2025, CARGO DAY RAISED MORE THAN \$2.5 MILLION GLOBALLY FOR MERCY SHIPS.

Looking ahead to 2026, we would like to see the Australian shipping industry play a larger role in Cargo Day and other partnership initiatives that bring meaningful engagement for management, staff and customers while delivering life-changing impact for people in greatest need.

If you would like to explore a partnership with Mercy Ships Australia, please reach out to us at: corporate@mercyships.org.au

IMAGE:

Cargo Day committees around the world hold events to rally the shipping industry to support the work of Mercy Ships.



LOOKING FORWARD

Projects in 2026

In 2026, Mercy Ships Australia will continue to build on the momentum of 2025 across Africa, the Pacific and other vulnerable contexts, with a clear focus on strengthening health systems and resilience. Our priority is to complement ship-based surgical programs with practical, scalable platforms that improve continuity of care, strengthen local capability and reduce avoidable disruption caused by fragile supply chains and infrastructure gaps.

MEDICAL SUPPLY ACCESS AND READINESS

SIDS + WEST AFRICA

In 2026, we will move from successful proof points in the Pacific to a more structured, repeatable model that can scale. Key priorities include:

- Expanding the “core basket” approach (standardised specifications and predictable replenishment for high-impact items)
- Establishing stronger procurement pathways and partner pricing structures to reduce volatility and improve value for money
- Strengthening end-to-end traceability, documentation and reporting across handover points
- Building receiving-site capability (stores systems, stock management, and equipment readiness) so supplies translate into sustained service delivery
- Extending the model to additional SIDS locations and advancing the West Africa resilience stream, where supply continuity is most at risk

SUPPORTING MERCY SHIPS IN AFRICA

CAPACITY BUILDING AND SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

In 2026, Mercy Ships Australia will continue to support Mercy Ships’ work across Africa, with an emphasis on strengthening the systems that multiply impact beyond each procedure and each port visit. This includes:

- Continued investment in training and mentoring approaches that build clinical and operational capability in partner health systems
- Strengthening partnerships that support safe surgery, workforce development and sustained quality improvement
- Supporting pathways that enable continuity of care, including improved readiness of facilities and supply chains that underpin surgical and medical services

SAMOA - FOOD FOR LIFE

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE FOR HEALTH RESILIENCE

In 2026, the program will continue its multi-year trajectory toward stronger food security and long-term health resilience, with priorities including:

- Expanding demonstration and training activity and strengthening co-operative capacity
- Continuing improvements in soil health, biodiversity and water management through regenerative practice
- Deepening school and community pathways that strengthen nutrition knowledge and practical food security
- Building stronger market and supply-chain linkages that support long-term viability

SUSTAINABLE MEDICAL OXYGEN

INDONESIA - SUMBA

In 2026, the priority is to progress the oxygen plant from installation milestones through commissioning readiness and into sustained, locally managed operations. We will focus on:

- Completing outstanding commissioning and operational readiness steps
- Strengthening local maintenance and technical capability so the plant is durable and resilient
- Embedding governance, monitoring and supply planning to support consistent oxygen availability for hospitals and surrounding facilities

SIERRA LEONE - FOOD FOR LIFE

CULTIVATING GOD'S WAY - AGRICULTURE AND PROTEIN

In 2026, we will build on foundations in Falaba District by strengthening scale, market pathways and the protein component supported by *Margo Hartley Foundation*. Including:

- Expanding adoption of climate-smart agriculture and irrigation-enabled production where feasible
- Strengthening women-led co-operatives and market linkages, including pathways aligned to community nutrition and school feeding
- Continuing to develop the livestock component (breed improvement, disease monitoring and the digital surveillance model) to strengthen protein access and household resilience
- Consolidating learning to support replication to additional communities over time

Across these projects, our approach remains consistent: practical delivery, local ownership, strong partnerships, and a disciplined focus on measurable outcomes. We are committed to ensuring that each initiative strengthens resilience and leaves behind enduring capability.

How Supporters and Partners can help in 2026

In 2026, we are scaling practical, high-leverage initiatives that strengthen continuity of care and long-term resilience across the Pacific, SIDS, West Africa and priority development settings. Supporters and partnerships enable us to move faster and more sustainably, combining immediate delivery of critical inputs with the systems, capability and accountability that ensure lasting impact.

- **FUND THE MEDICAL SUPPLY "CORE BASKET" FOR SIDS AND WEST AFRICA:** underwrite priority, high-rotation items (including essential consumables and IPC lines) plus freight and consolidation, ensuring predictable replenishment to agreed facilities.
- **ENABLE END-TO-END TRACEABILITY AND STRONGER ACCOUNTABILITY:** support the rollout of tracking, documentation and reporting across key handover points, improving forecasting, reducing wastage and strengthening audit readiness.



- **SCALE PROVEN RESILIENCE PLATFORMS:** invest in durable capacity-building initiatives, including sustainable medical oxygen in Indonesia, Samoa Food for Life (training and scale), and Sierra Leone Food for Life (women-led co-operatives, market pathways and protein resilience).

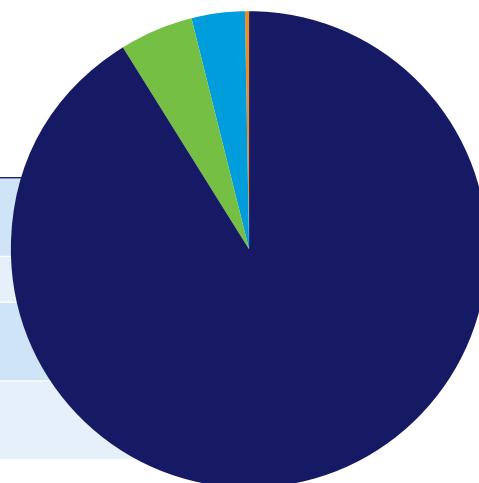
INCOME STATEMENT

Year ended (31/12/2025)

REVENUE	2025	2024
Donations and gifts		
Monetary	\$10,011,285	\$9,646,927
Non-Monetary	\$14,736,712	\$10,160,458
Bequests and Legacies	\$3,363,910	\$2,774,783
Grants		
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	\$48,791	-
Other Australian	\$98,076	\$237,689
Other Overseas	\$130,858	\$591,313
Other Income		
Investment Income	\$403,247	\$347,995
Commercial Activities Income	\$1,329	\$1,687
TOTAL REVENUE	\$28,794,208	\$23,760,852
EXPENDITURE	2025	2024
International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure		
Funds for International Programs	\$4,054,135	\$8,637,148
Program Support Costs	\$1,127,673	\$946,239
Community Education	\$771,094	\$631,476
Fundraising Costs	\$1,060,542	\$947,213
Accountability and Administration	\$870,572	\$831,226
Non-Monetary Expenditure	\$14,736,712	\$10,160,458
Commercial Activities Expenditure	\$2,786	\$688
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$22,623,514	\$22,154,448
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$6,170,694	\$1,606,405
Other Comprehensive Income	\$44,048	\$23,231
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR	\$6,214,742	\$1,629,636

2025 EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN (% OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE)

Expenditure	Cost	% of Total Expenditure
Programs and Community Education	\$20,651,176	91.28%
Fundraising Costs	\$1,098,981	4.86%
Accountability and Administration	\$870,572	3.85%
Commercial Activities Expenditure	\$2,786	0.01%



BALANCE SHEET AS AT (31/12/2025)

ASSETS	2025	2024
Current Assets		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$16,681,486	\$12,481,487
Accounts receivable and other debtors	\$169,665	\$84,550
Inventories	\$6,782	\$7,718
Other current assets	\$51,739	\$19,323
Total Current Assets	\$16,909,672	\$12,593,078
Non-Current Assets		
Financial Assets	\$419,536	\$385,488
Property, plant and equipment	\$13,848	\$18,651
Intangible assets	\$6,223	\$12,920
Right-of-use assets	\$502,560	\$133,404
Total Non-Current Assets	\$942,167	\$550,463
TOTAL ASSETS	\$17,851,839	\$13,143,541
LIABILITIES	2025	2024
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and other payables	\$220,877	\$232,027
Lease liabilities	\$96,032	\$43,373
Employee provisions	\$339,516	\$272,799
Total Current Liabilities	\$656,425	\$548,199
Non-Current Liabilities		
Lease liabilities	\$425,050	\$103,373
Employee provisions	\$153,537	\$118,335
Deferred project funding	\$5,688,945	\$7,660,493
Total Non-Current Liabilities	\$6,267,532	\$7,882,201
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$6,923,957	\$8,430,400
NET ASSETS	\$10,927,882	\$4,713,141
EQUITY	2025	2024
Retained Earnings	\$5,927,883	\$4,713,141
Overseas Projects Reserve	\$4,000,000	-
Capital Reserve (New Ship Build)	\$1,000,000	-
TOTAL EQUITY	\$10,927,883	\$4,713,141

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED (31/12/2025)

RETAINED SURPLUS	2025	2024
Balance at 1/01/2025 (commencing balance)	\$4,713,141	\$3,083,505
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$6,170,694	\$1,606,405
Other comprehensive income	\$44,048	\$23,231
Balance at 31/12/2025 (year end balance)	\$10,927,883	\$4,713,141

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