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The Kristina Chesterman Memorial Clinic

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On September 24, 2013, 21-year-old nursing student Kristina Chesterman was killed by a drunk driver. Kristina had planned to begin her nursing career caring for those in Africa who lack access to medical care and treatment. In honor of her memory and to carry out the work she was unable to complete, health care providers and nursing students came together with a clinic developer in Nigeria to build 'The Kristina Chesterman Memorial Clinic' (KCMC). The proposed focus of the clinic was determined following a review of literature and through interviews with locals from Southeastern Nigeria. The research concurred with the anecdotal evidence and clearly demonstrated the need for that diabetes care, as well as for obstetrical and pediatric medical services. Maternal-child death rates remain high in Nigeria due to inadequate training of care providers leading to ineffective problem recognition and treatment during pregnancy, labor and the postpartum period. The high death rate in children under 5 indicates that there is a need for vaccination programs and improved pediatric care. It was therefore determining the care provided at the KCMC will focus on women, children and patients with diabetes with future goals of the possible addition of dental care, ophthalmology and surgical services. Ultimately, the goal of the KCMC project is threefold: (1) To provide much needed health care for citizens of rural Nigeria, (2) to provide student nurses with a global vision of nursing.

Biography

Darcy J Hostetter-Lewis has received her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from California State University, USA and Master of Science degree in Nursing as a Perinatal Educator from Saint Louis University. She had been teaching for the past 10 years at California State University, Chicago. Further, she pursued her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Presently she is working with the Kristina Chesterman Memorial Clinic continues, with inauguration of the KCMC healthcare and teaching facility.

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