

## Motorbike for Byumba Health Centre

In June 2009, Bwindi Community Hospital opened the doors to our first satellite Health Centre in Byumba, an area that rivals the remoteness of Bwindi. Byumba is located on the edge of a Batwa settlement, about 20 kilometers from the Hospital. Byumba was identified during the course of our community work as being in great need of health services, as 20 kilometers can be the difference between a child receiving immunizations or dying from measles, a pregnant woman being able to access antenatal (prenatal) care, or someone knowing their HIV status.

Patric, the nurse in charge of Byumba, often comes to Bwindi Community Hospital in order to liaise with and collaborate with staff at BCH regarding services and future plans at Byumba. He also comes to the Hospital for staff meetings and for family planning clinics, as well as specialist clinics we have for hypertension and eye problems.



*Patric (right) and the team at Byumba*

In Byumba, reliable, safe transport is very limited. Finding a taxi motorbike to take Patric

to Bwindi Community Hospital is difficult, and finding a taxi motorbike to bring Patric to the Hospital that is safe and in good condition is even harder. For these reasons we are fundraising to purchase a motorbike for Patric to travel to BCH.

#### About Byumba Health Centre II:

Like Bwindi Community Hospital, the focus of work in Byumba will be on prevention and education of diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, and malnutrition. Initially, the treatment and investigative services will be basic but already include HIV and malaria testing, family planning, and primary treatment services, and we aim to have free immunisations at Byumba for all children under the age of five. Antenatal clinics are held each week, and midwives from BCH travel to Byumba to assist with the development of this service.



*Bwindi Community Hospital ambulance on the road to Byumba Health Centre*