

# **Fencing Project at Bwindi Community Hospital**

Bwindi Community Hospital (BCH) is located South Western Uganda, 10 hours drive from Kampala along poor roads and 2 kilometres from the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The Hospital was founded in 2003 and began as an outreach clinic under a tree, and has since grown into a Hospital servicing a local population of over 60,000 people in Kanungu district.

As the Hospital has increased in size, it has become more and more difficult to keep track of people moving about the facility, and thefts from staff members living on Hospital grounds have increased dramatically over the years. People in the area know that money and supplies are kept at the Hospital (although we do make weekly bank deposits), and unfortunately, this makes BCH a target for people who are desperate. Additionally, BCH has had issues with vendors trying to sell food and other items on Hospital grounds, which is a health and safety hazard. Bwindi Community Hospital employs 3 night watchmen, and there are two Government of Uganda soldiers who watch the facility during the night as well. However, the Hospital covers a very large area, and it is nearly impossible for 5 people to adequately cover the perimeter of the Hospital at night. A fence encircling the Hospital would be the best way to secure the Hospital premises during the day and night by allowing BCH staff to monitor who is admitted, especially during the evening. A fence would make obvious to the guards the people who should and should not be on the premises at nighttime; those who the guards have not let in would easily be identifiable. Finally, there is confusion in the area regarding the boundaries of the Hospital, and a fence would clear any remaining confusion as to the Hospital perimeter. For the safety of the patients and the staff, Bwindi Community Hospital would like to build a fence encompassing the perimeter of the Hospital at a cost of \$14,500, and is looking for funding to complete such a project.

The project manager at Bwindi Community Hospital, Richard Opira, is of the opinion that the most secure type of fence would be made from chain link, with metal poles for support. While BCH is eager to utilize natural and eco-friendly materials for the creation of the fence, from a security standpoint a chain-link fence would be far superior to natural materials. Additionally, the cost of wood in the area is very expensive, and would far outweigh the cost of creating a fence from chain link. However, we do want the fence to look as nice as possible, and for this reason have included in this proposal the costs of landscaping around the fence, as we would like to plant flowers and trees along the line of the fence, improving the aesthetic appearance as well as providing the Hospital and its' patients with a bit of privacy from those outside of the Hospital.

For a more detailed proposal or to view a bill of quantities for this project, please send us an email at:

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