International Geneva Directory of Geneva Global Health Actors

Dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation | Mukwege

https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/

Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2 (Maison de la Paix, Building 5) - 1202 Geneva Tel +41 22 555 09 49 | mail: info@mukwegefoundation.org

BACKGROUND AND MISSION

The Dr Denis Mukwege Foundation is an international human rights organisation, dedicated to end rape as a weapon of war worldwide. The Mukwege Foundation collaborates with all organisations of Panzi. While the Panzi Foundations work to support victims of sexual violence specifically in Congo, the Mukwege Foundation uses a global approach to connect survivors worldwide, promote the application of holistic care, and engage influential stakeholders to advocate for an end to wartime sexual violence everywhere. The foundation also supports the hospital in the DRC through fundraising and the development of international partnerships.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Psychological support
- Ending war-time rape events

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

SEMA is the Global Network of Victims and Survivors to End Wartime Sexual Violence. There are survivors of wartime rape from 21 countries in Africa, South America, the Middle East, and Europe represented in the SEMA network. They represent 2000 survivors and 90 years of conflict. Together, they are building a global network that connects survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. The foundation facilitates the creation of the movement by providing a forum to meet and exchange ideas. Through the network, contacts with the media and reach on social media, it supports the group to get their message out to a global audience.

The Foundation is creating an innovative mechanism which helps women to receive reparations to compensate for the harms suffered. Survivors of sexual violence in conflict need more than medical care. Dr Denis Mukwege and his team at Panzi Hospital have pioneered a holistic approach: survivors of sexual violence in conflict have access to medical, psychological, legal and socio-economic support in one place. In the last 20 years, more than 50,000 survivors received treatment at Panzi. With the support of the foundation, members of the team train experts in other countries organise the workshops and provide financial and logistical assistance. In the past, surgeons and psychologists from Congo travelled to Guinea to share their expertise with their colleagues in West Africa. Similar exchange visits took place in Central African Republic and Rwanda.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

Board members, 5 in total, are chaired by Marieke van Schaik, with Dr Denis Mukwege as a special advised to the board. According to the Foundation's policies, board members are not remunerated. The Mukwege Foundation is made up of an international team of experts with a variety of backgrounds and experiences. Esther Dingemans is serving as Director, with Debby Gruiters as head of operations and supported by other 7 people.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

Being a start-up organisation, it was difficult to predict growth. The total income was just over € 1.000.000, increasing with € 300.000 compared to previous year. The difference is largely the result of an increased number of grants received from other non-profit organizations. The amounts spent on fundraising were in line with budget, about 2% of total expenditure. In future it is projected to rise, but to stay below 10%. Cost for management was 8% of expenditure. This means 90% was spent on realising organisational objectives.

PUBLICATIONS

Annual reports as well as financial information can be found at https://www.mukwegefoundation/
News are available at https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/news/

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