



PRESS RELEASE
Lagos, 25th June 2014

St Kizito Clinic: Saving lives, one blood sample at a time. From 10,000 to 60,000, thanks to the Total Employee Initiative Program

Loving Gaze, an independent not-for-profit organization, has provided basic health care for the most unprivileged in Lagos for the last 25 years, through the St Kizito Clinics based in Jakande, Lekki; Idi-Araba, Mushin and Oreta, Ikorodu.

The clinics provide maternal care, ante and postnatal services, immunization, pharmacy dispensing and run two malnutrition centres for children. They also offer daily consultation and treatments of common diseases like malaria, diarrhoea, pneumonia, measles, skin infections, eye problems, non-communicable diseases, HIV and TB.

Thanks to two employees of Total Upstream Companies in Nigeria (TUCN), St Kizito Clinic was able to equip its laboratory with an Auto-Haematology Analyser. They applied to the Total Group Foundation Employee Initiative Program and decided to have St Kizito Clinic as beneficiary, identifying the Auto- Haematology Analyser as main objective.

The Auto-Haematology Analyser is a critical improvement to the service rendered to the patients, because it allows complete screening of data sets of blood cells, both qualitative and quantitative. The alteration of these cells can be caused by anemia, malnutrition, tuberculosis, HIV, leukaemia, haemorrhage, malaria, bacterial infections, and viral infections.

The machine also allows diagnosing in a complete and detailed way which particular type of anaemia or infections the patient is suffering from. It is also very useful in order to monitor the collateral effects of some drugs like antiretroviral drugs for HIV/AIDS, antibiotics etc, thereby enabling the doctors in the evaluation of the prescribed drugs. The amount of time used for blood analysis and the accuracy of the results are also greatly improved by using this equipment.

Barbara Pepoli - Loving Gaze General Manager - says, *"We are grateful to Total because the beneficiaries of this equipment for the first year will be roughly 60,000 patients. Specifically, the Auto Haematology Analyzer will support the medical care of the most vulnerable patients: children, pregnant women, HIV/AIDS and TB patients."*

Silvia Polski - TUCN, Egina Project Head of Communications adds, *"Total as a Group and TUCN in particular, have a long tradition in Corporate Social Responsibility. Via its Foundation, Total enables its employees, to commit themselves personally towards non-profitable associations. It is an honour, undoubtedly, to be able to contribute to the help given to less-privileged people, in the country we are working in".*

Kizito Care and Support Initiative RC No. 62015
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ABOUT LOVING GAZE

Loving Gaze is an independent not-for-profit organization, with 25 years of experience in Nigeria. We serve the unprivileged community in Lagos and Taraba State, through educational activities, basic health care service, women empowerment and vocational training. Run by a multi-cultural team of 150 Nigerian professionals, Italian expatriates and international volunteers. We recognize and respect each individual life and dignity without gender, religious or ethnic boundaries. We believe there is a desire for joy, hope and positive change in each of us. Our purpose is to serve with care, joy and professionalism people in need, to ignite hope and seeds for growth. For more info, visit our website: www.lovinggaze.org.

PRESS CONTACT

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