

CCI UPDATE

LETTER FROM JAMES D. SMITH, MD
Chairman of CCI Board

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for reading our annual newsletter. We are happy to let you know that the ComCare (CCI) solar aid is still being produced and used in Low Income Countries (LIC). One of the difficulties we have had is finding out how the CCI aid stands up long term. In the last month I have received two long term follow up reports.

In 2015, the gift of hearing was provided by CCI aids that have been taken to Bolivia, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, and Romania, and we know that people are still hearing the message in several other countries around the world where the aids have been given.

In 2002, Julia Roskamp, Claudia Walters and I were invited by Dr. Bill Ardill, a missionary surgeon at Evangel Hospital in Jos, Nigeria to evaluate patients with a hearing loss and possibly needing hearing aids. Bill had seen me demonstrate the CCI solar aid at a Medical Mission conference in Kenya. His wife worked with a deaf community in Jos and they could not find reasonably priced hearing aids. He was intrigued by the CCI aid

which was solar powered as batteries in their setting were either expensive or only lasted 2-3 days. In the week we were there we evaluated over 200 patients and dispensed 25 CCI aids. One of them was given to David Audu whose story is on the next page. I reconnected with Bill Ardill at a recent medical mission conference. He had just heard from David wondering if he could get aids for some children since his aid had changed his life.

The second report was from a missionary doctor working in Kenya, who received a CCI solar aid from me in about 2004. He and his wife have since retired and although he has modern in the ear hearing aids, he prefers the CCI aid for business meetings. The problem is that after 10+ years the batteries are no longer holding a charge and need to be replaced.

I hope you find these stories as rewarding as I do. I want to thank all of you for supporting ComCare International over the last several years and hope that you will continue to do so.

Wishing all of you a Blessed Christmas and
Happy New Year,

Jim

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME

ComCare International, inc. welcomes all monetary donations which will be used to purchase the supplies and parts required to make solar-rechargeable hearing aids what will be given to hearing impaired individuals in developing countries around the world. The cost to make one hearing aid along with the cord, receiver, a case and the remainder of the supplies required is a little more than the \$125 price that we from the purchaser of each aid. These are not intended for use in the U.S., but they can be taken abroad by any individual or group that will be ministering to the hearing-impaired. Orders can be made by calling the phone number on the second page of this letter.

David Audu Testimony

In 2001, I was a student at the School of Health Technology Zawan in Jos. We got a message during a church service with ECWA student fellowship that anyone who had a hearing problem should come to Evangel Hospital for a free hearing test. The following morning was Monday I put my faith together to meet the team at the hospital about my hearing problem. I got there at about 7:00 am. I got my outpatient clinic card and went to wait in the line for the checkup. There were many waiting on line for their audiogram test. When it came to my turn to do the audiogram test, something took place but I did not understand. I was told to pay for hearing aids, but I told the leader of the team, Julia, that I was a student and didn't have money for the hearing aids, so I left the hospital in a great deal of emotional pain.

When I was just outside the hospital gate, Julia came after me calling me. I thought something was wrong but she said, "David, you were actually our only outstanding candidate of all the people we tested so we are going to help you with the hearing aids." At long last I was given hearing aids I could never have afforded.

I came to the hospital later that week to give them an appreciation letter and told them that I would love to be a missionary. Julia prayed with me

that God would help me toward that goal.

A few years later I saw Julia again when she was visiting the street children's ministry called Gidan Bege where I was helping care for the kids.

When Julia saw me she asked me what I was doing at Gidan Bege. I told her I was volunteering with Gidan Bege. She said, "Do you remember

telling me that you wanted to be a missionary?" I said, "Yes. Dr. Ardill gave the leaders my name for the training and today am using it to his glory." I am the

leader of a Transition House for street boys in a city south of Jos in Benue State, am married, and have three children. I am

so grateful for the wonderful gift of hearing aids which I have now had for 14 years.



All donations made to ComCare International, inc. are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law and will be acknowledged with a receipt for the calendar year of donation.

ComCare International, inc. has been operating as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization since 1989. Thousands of the solar-rechargeable hearing aids have been dispensed in this time, with an average of 200 individually-assembled aids benefiting the recipients each year. The supply of components is diminishing, but we will remain in operation until the last aid is given out.

Com Care International, Inc
3027 Split Rock Circle
Bulverde, TX 78163
210-317-9998

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