

The Kellermann Foundation Newsletter

Kellermanns Receive Award from Dalai Lama

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Scott and Carol Kellermann were among the 51 highly compassionate individuals honored as *Unsung Heroes of Compassion 2014* by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The honorees—24 women and 27 men—range in age from 16 to 85, work in 18 countries worldwide, and represent many ethnicities, cultures, faiths, and backgrounds. Gathered from the far corners of the earth, each demonstrates the timeless and universal human goodness celebrated by every wise culture.

The awards are sponsored by the nonprofit organization [Wisdom in Action](#). The honorees are individuals who, through their loving kindness and service to others, have made their communities and our world a better place. In sharing the stories of each year's *Unsung Heroes*, *Wisdom in Action* seeks to increase awareness and inspire others to find their own paths toward compassionate action, thus helping our world become more harmonious, just, and peaceful.

At the event held in San Francisco on February 23, 2014, the Kellermanns were honored for their role as medical missionaries to the Batwa pygmies and other tribal groups in southwest

Uganda from 2001 to 2009. Scott and Carol were also instrumental in founding Bwindi Community Hospital, five times rated the best-performing hospital in Uganda, and Uganda Nursing School Bwindi, an advanced center of learning combining excellence with compassion.

Wisdom in Action's award letter to the Kellermanns stated, "The honorees are a diverse group of men and women, representing different faiths, countries of origin, and ways of working in the world. What is important to us, and to His Holiness the Dalai Lama, are the characteristics you share with the world—your kindness, your quiet dedication to others, and your belief in the importance of caring for your underserved sisters and brothers... On behalf of the Board of Directors of *Wisdom in Action*, congratulations and our deep gratitude for all that you have accomplished."

The Kellermanns were cheered on at the special event by visiting friends and family members. [Watch the video here](#)



*The Dalai Lama at the awards ceremony
Photo by Minette Layne*

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Photo by Minette Layne



*Scott (above) and Carol (below) receive their *Unsung Heroes of Compassion* awards from the Dalai Lama
Photos from *Wisdom in Action* video*



Congratulations to Scott and Carol for this well-deserved honor!



*Scott and Carol await the awards luncheon
Photo by Briana Forgie*



L to R: Sue & Fred Brown and Cynthia Brown (Carol's relatives), Roxanne Gilpatric (who nominated the Kellermanns), Carol, Scott, and friends Susan Steinbarth, Sally Stillings, Jim Steinbarth, and Jeff Stillings

Not pictured: Charlotte von der Hude
Photo by Briana Forgie

Volunteer Corner: First Visit to Bwindi

By Lena and Sarah Kellermann

From Lena Kellermann, age 13

My sister Sarah and I went to Uganda with our grandparents, Scott and Carol Kellermann, and their friend Susan Steinbarth. It was a great experience.

I really enjoyed seeing all the kids there. They were all very happy and content. They were also always ready to play with us. If you go to Africa, you are very fascinating to the children there, especially if you are a kid.

I really liked the midwife center at the hospital in the Bwindi. It has inspired me to become a midwife when I grow up. It seems like many people come back from the Bwindi saying that they want to be a doctor, or a nurse or a

midwife, but this experience really does inspire and motivate you to go into the medical field.

This trip changed my life, and I hope you can go too.

From Sarah Kellermann, age 10

If you go to Africa be ready to do a lot of walking. It was a mile from where we stayed to where we ate every day. Every morning at the hospital there is a service. At the morning service there is singing and dancing. It is so happy and joyous and everyone is having a good time.

Another thing I enjoyed was seeing how happy the little children were even though they had

so little. They have many inventions they use for toys like paint rollers which they connect a stick to and put things inside the paint roller to make noise.

When I was there, as an assignment for my school in California, I made corn husk dolls with them. Their dolls were made of banana fibers

and were much better made than mine.

I hope that you can go and enjoy Uganda too.



Sarah with a new young friend



Lena visits with Dr. Henry Bukwirwa at Bwindi Community Hospital



Lena (far left) and Sarah (left center) make corn husk and banana fiber dolls with students at Nina Waits Mukongoro School



The Kellermanns visit a Batwa settlement

Grand Opening of Uganda Nursing School Bwindi

The official grand opening of Uganda Nursing School Bwindi (UNSB) will be held on May 23, 2014, on the UNSB campus. The nursing school, an affiliate of Uganda Christian University, is closely tied to Bwindi Community Hospital (BCH). Dr. Birungi Mutahunga, Executive Director of BCH, stated, "We aspire to produce

health professionals with clinical skills that have been practiced and refined through hands-on experience at the hospital. The nursing school will create a sustainable resource of highly qualified health professionals to provide treatment in remote underserved communities in the region."

The theme for the opening day will be "Health for All," reflecting the hospital and nursing school's vision to equip compassionate health care providers to serve this remote region of Uganda. The guest of honor will be the President of Uganda, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni. President Museveni will be accompanied by Prime Minister Amama Mbabazi and other dignitaries.

Dr. Scott Kellermann and his wife, Carol, will also attend the event. Dr. Kellermann founded BCH and was instrumental in establishing UNSB. Other key guests will include James D. Jameson and Stephen M. Wolf, major donors for the school's construction. Rotary International will be represented by Jerry Hall and Dr. Henry Bukwirwa.

UNSB's first term began in November 2013.



The Uganda Nursing School Bwindi campus

Bwindi Community Hospital Wins Awards

Bwindi Community Hospital (BCH) is widely considered one of the best hospitals in sub-Saharan Africa. Its innovative, sustainable programs are significantly improving health-care in southwest Uganda.

The excellence of their programs was recently recognized when **Sustain for Life's** garden partnership with BCH and another hospital was selected as a winner of the 2013 SEED Awards. The SEED Awards for Entrepreneurs in Sustainable Development is an annual awards program focused on the most promising, innovative, locally led start-up social and environmental entrepreneurs in countries with developing and emerging economies.

Sustain for Life's hospital gardens at Bwindi Community Hospital and St. Francis Hospital Mutolere in Kisoro District provide patients and staff with food while training communities in sustainable agriculture, nutrition, and

sanitation. This helps them become self-sufficient, using low-cost solutions to combat hunger. The program generates income by selling surplus food produced in the gardens. It also helps participants replicate the skills they have learned in their own communities, increasing the impact of the enterprise.

Another honor was bestowed on BCH when it was acknowledged in 2013 by Public Opinions Uganda for its contribution towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals. Dr. Birungi Mutahunga, Executive Director of BCH, was a recipient of Public Opinion Uganda's *Pearl of Africa Lifetime Achievement* (PALITA) Award.

BCH has also been rated the best-performing hospital in Uganda by the Uganda Protestant Medical Bureau again, the hospital's fifth year in a row to receive this recognition.



Dr. Birungi and Sustain for Life team members with the SEED award certificate

The Kellermann Foundation is honored to support this thriving institution, founded just over a decade ago by Dr. Kellermann.

Sponsor a Batwa Student at Bishops' School

In Uganda, education is not free; families must pay fees for their children to attend. School fees are far beyond the means of most indigenous Batwa pygmy families, especially for a good education at better schools.

Our Batwa Student Sponsorship Program provides support to Batwa students at Bishops' Primary Boarding School in Kanungu District, which has an excellent reputation throughout the region. Batwa students who attend Bishops' School tend to be among the brightest and hardest-working. They also receive additional teacher support to help ensure their academic success.

Sponsors may be individuals or groups. The cost is \$750 annually, 10% of which helps cover U.S. administrative costs and 90% of which goes directly to the program in Uganda.

This donation, which is tax-deductible in the U.S., covers all of a student's basic



needs, including tuition, fees, food, clothing, supplies, and transportation.

Sponsorship fees are pooled to provide assistance for all the Batwa children at Bishops' School. We ask that sponsors prayerfully consider a long-term commitment so a child has the stability of remaining in school without interruption.

To become a sponsor or to learn more, click the **Sponsor** button on our website, call our office at (972) 685-0279, or email sponsorship@kellermannfoundation.org. Thanks to KF volunteer Jacquelyn Eisenberg Nelson for coordinating the program.

Thank You for Spreading the Word

We are grateful for the countless ways you help make a difference in Uganda. Here are even more opportunities to spread the word and raise funds for our work. Choose one, two, or all—every voice helps our cause!

Great Nonprofits – greatnonprofits.org/org/kellermann-foundation Write a review and promote our work by putting a KF Great Nonprofits badge on your website or blog.

Giving Library – givinglibrary.org/organizations/the-kellermann-foundation Share the link to our videos.

GuideStar – guidestar.org As a Gold Level Participant in GuideStar Exchange, we at the Kellermann Foundation show our commitment to the highest level of transparency and accountability. You can view all our information here and share it with friends.

unite4:good – unite4good.org/causes/kellermann-foundation This group represents a global movement whose mission is to unite us all in bringing more good into the world. Share the links, donate, or volunteer.

Social media – Don't forget to Like us on **Facebook** (facebook.com/TheKellermannFoundation) and follow us on:

- **Twitter** twitter.com/KellermannFund
- **LinkedIn** linkedin.com/company/the-kellermann-foundation?trk=company_name
- **Pinterest** pinterest.com/kellermannfund/

Let us know if there are other ways you are sharing the news about our work.



Providing hope and health in Uganda

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Tidbits

- Missionaries **Paul and Barbara Thomas** are settling in at Bwindi. They are spending their first six months gaining Rukiga language skills and building relationships. Stay tuned for upcoming reports about their work.
- We are pleased to welcome **Andy Ybarra** as the Kellermann Foundation's new development director. Andy comes to us with years of experience in nonprofit fundraising and is a great addition to our staff. Welcome aboard, Andy!
- Administrative assistant **Kathleen Farmer** will be leaving the Kellermann Foundation soon to serve a two-year commitment in Uganda as a Peace Corps volunteer. Good luck, Kathleen!
- The Kellermann Foundation **Mission to Uganda 2014** will take place August 16 to September 1. The mission team will consist of board members, executive staff, and friends of the foundation. Team members will meet with partner program staff and participants at Bwindi, visit with the Batwa, assist with projects at the hospital and nursing school, build a Batwa home, support KF missionaries Paul and Barbara Thomas, and enjoy some sight-seeing and recreation.

KF Board Retreat

The board of directors and staff of the Kellermann Foundation met in Richardson, Texas, in early March for our annual board retreat. Over the course of three days, we prayerfully considered all our projects and discussed strategies to move them forward.

The annual retreat provides a time for us to examine our progress, celebrate our successes, problem-solve any challenges, and build a comprehensive plan for the coming year. Many thanks to strategic planning consultant Amanda Human for capably leading the strategic planning portion of our retreat.



Dr. Kellermann discusses foundation projects while consultant Amanda Human looks on