



THE NIGERIAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

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HOSPITAL PROJECT

Medical Technology has advanced at an unprecedented rate to unexpected levels in this century alone. We've gone from treating infectious disease with antibiotics, to making intricate diagnosis using equipments like the CAT Scan & MRI. Also, we are able to perform the most complex surgery with the use of laser equipment; and managing cancer with radiotherapy. In many countries of the world, all these have contributed to the increase of life expectancy of the population to over 75 years of age.

Nonetheless, it is difficult to believe that in many developing countries where the majority of the world lives, most of the people do not have access to even the most basic health care technology.

Our country Nigeria, is one of such countries. A country with the population of over 100 million people, for many years had only one CAT Scanning equipment, one Radiotherapy center, and one center for Renal dialysis. One can only imagine the difficulty of being on the waiting list for any of these services and the number of lives lost in the process. Even the more basic technology like x-rays and ultra sound are still hard to come by because of the long waiting list. It is not uncommon in many of the general hospitals to wait for six months for non-emergency x-ray. Even a simple complete blood count might take a couple of days because of the out-dated equipment being used. Many small hospital supplies are also very scarce in Nigeria.

The problem of economic instability is a major contributor to the situation. In the disbursement of funds, health care gets a very small piece of the budget. However, we as human beings know that this deplorable state of affairs should not be allowed to continue. Therefore, as Nigerian and Friends of Nigeria, if the government cannot provide these equipment, it is our duty to seek other means of obtaining the needed medical equipment and supplies, in order to improve the quality of life of our fellow brothers and sisters.