

# Hualien

## Graduating Midwives from Eswatini Improving Quality of International Maternal and Infant Care

August 22, 2022

Hualien Tzu Chi Hospital undertakes International Cooperation and Development Fund (referred to as: TaiwanICDF) “Eswatini Maternal and

Infant Health Function Improvement Project (Phase II)”. The first five graduates from Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland) have completed their medical training and received blessings at the graduation ceremony on August 22, 2022. Superintendent Lin Shinn-Zong and the faculty team blessed them before they returned back to Eswatini. They will make use of the professional knowledge and skills acquired in Hualien



Hualien Tzu Chi Hospital undertakes International Cooperation and Development Fund “Eswatini Maternal and Infant Health Function Improvement Project (Phase II)”. The first batch of five, from Eswatini, have this year completed their medical training. On August 22, the graduation ceremony was held. First row from left: Pediatric Dept. Dir. Chang Yu-Hsun, Nursing Dept. Dir. Chung Hui-Chun, Dir. of O&G Dept. Reproductive Medical Center Chen Pao-Chu, Supt. Lin Shinn-Zong, Vice Supt. Hsu Wen-Lin, Dir. of International Medicine Center Li Chi-Cheng, Deputy Dir. Teh Soon-Hian. Second row from left: Pediatric ICU HN Chang Rui-Yun, Dr. Yang Yao-Shan, Nursing Supervisor Cheng Ya-Chun, Pediatric Ward HN Lee Yi-Rong, O&G Ward HN Kao Ching-Yin, five trained midwives from Eswatini, and the interpreter Mr. Mii Chun-Chi.



**Eswatini Midwife Phinda Philip Dlamini said, “Postpartum Hemorrhage, Maternal Hypertension and premature delivery, asphyxia, neonatal sepsis, etc., are the causes of Eswatini’s newborns and pregnant women’s high mortality rates. We are looking forward to returning home after studying, so that we can save the lives of more children and pregnant women.**

Tzu Chi Hospital to improve the health care of local pregnant women and infants in Eswatini.

Those in attendance at the ceremony included: CEO of Tzu Chi Medical Foundation Lin Chin-Lon, Supt. Lin Shinn-Zong, Vice Supt. Hsu Wen-Lin, Director of International Medical Center Li Chi-Cheng, Deputy Director Teh Soon-Hian, Director of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department Reproductive Medical Center Chen Pao-Chu, Director of the Pediatric Department Chang Yu-Hsun, Dr. Yang Yao-Shan, Director of the Nursing Department Chung Hui-Chun, Supervisor Cheng Ya-Chun, Head Nurse of Pediatric Intensive Care Unit Chang Rui-Yun, Head Nurse of the Pediatric Ward Lee Yi-Rong, and Head Nurse of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Ward Kao Ching-Yin. The Nursing Department also prepared exclusive individual photos and practical souvenir items for the students, hoping they will bring their expertise back to Eswatini, and recall the good memories of Taiwan.

Supt. Lin Shinn-Zong said, “I want to thank the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department, Pediatric Department, Nursing Department, International Medical Center, and staff for diligently planning a variety of courses. Time flew by very quickly and three months passed in a blink of an eye. Whether it is the absorption of medical expertise, meeting new foreign friends or knowing more about Taiwan and Hualien, I believe they have gained a lot during this period”.

During the three months training, the International Medical Center and Nursing Department assisted these five midwives to learn the skills of checking and caring for newborns in the Pediatric Department, Neonatal Advanced First Aid, Neonatal Resuscitation, etc. They learned High Level Ultrasound, Productive and Severe Treatment, Fetal Monitoring Skills and other training in the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department. They also received High Level Simulated Human Situation Drills for pregnant women and newborns, Anatomy

Platform Training and much more solid and practical professional knowledge, thanks to the Teaching Department.

Eswatini Midwife Phinda Philip Dlamini said, “The local mortality rate of newborns within one year is 20 per thousand. The maternal mortality rate of pregnant women is 452 per 100,000. Postpartum Hemorrhage, Maternal Hypertension and premature delivery, asphyxia, neonatal sepsis, etc., are the causes of Eswatini’s newborns and pregnant women’s high mortality rates. So we look forward to returning home after studying, so we can save the lives of more children and pregnant women by improving the quality of maternal and infant care.”

Phinda said, “Thank you to the medical team of Hualien Tzu Chi Hospital for teaching us, in spite of their busy schedules.” He learned a lot at the Hualien Tzu Chi Hospital and also



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learned the spirit of Great Love from Tzu Chi. The student’s impression of their instructors are that they are very caring, both during teaching and while treating patients. It inspired them to demonstrate great love to their patients and to the people around them, when they return home to Eswatini.

Hualien Tzu Chi Hospital became Taiwan ICDF’s “Public Health Medical Plan Partner Hospital” in 2017 and joined the “Healthcare Personnel Training Program” to actively promote the Healthcare Improvement Plan of United Africa. Also, the hospital was invited to participate in the “Eswatini Maternal and Infant Health Function Improvement Project (Phase II)”. So far, Hualien Tzu Chi Hospital has trained sixteen medical staff, including two doctors, ten nurses and midwives, three Community Health Managers, including one Taiwanese technician who has been with the TaiwanICDF for quite some time. We look forward to seeing that these five future teachers, after returning to Eswatini, will target maternal and child care workers in four regions across Eswatini to offer at least twenty training sessions in the following areas: Ultrasonic Obstetric Inspection Technology, and Ultrasound and Positive Pressure Breathing Apparatus Operations. Their goal is to reduce the local maternal and infant mortality rates. (Article/Photographer Jiang Jia-Yu)