Perth medicos share skills with Tanzanian friends

The RAFiki surgical team makes a real difference to lives. Blake Johnson joins them.

The small clinic in town is overflowing with patients. A mother cradles her child as she waits for her turn. Theynn, a young girl, lies on the operating table, her face pale, her eyes wide with fear. She needs a new kidney.

But there’s no kidney available, and the clinic is running out of medical supplies. The team from RAFiki, a humanitarian organization, has come to help.

“We’re working on creative solutions,” said the team leader, Dr. Sarah. “We’re using local resources and improvising to save lives.”

As the sun sets over the clinic, the team works tirelessly. Nurses pass out medications, surgeons perform life-saving procedures, and volunteers offer emotional support.

“This is what we do,” said Dr. Sarah. “We bring hope where there is none.”

You can support our work by donating to RAFiki at RAfiki.com/Donate.

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Medical mission: Members of the RAFiki Surgical Mission have been bringing their medical skills to Tanzania twice a year for the past 10 years.

You just don’t see these injuries in Australia... the healthcare system would never let this happen.

Physiotherapist David Crocker

It’s tough, ungrateful work in a hospital that has barely changed since it was built in 1965. A government hospital in a remote area where people die of preventable diseases, lack of access to healthcare is the norm. The team’s goal is to leave a lasting impact.

One of the team’s priorities is to train local nurses and doctors. They offer workshops on wound care, infection prevention, and pain management. The trainees are keen to learn.

“We’re teaching them what we know,” said Dr. Crocker. “The more they learn, the better their community will be.”

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Good news! Surfers Bridge Corrallat was guided to safety by Taka and Andrew Wild.

Driving force: Didier Murora organizes the arm of medical volunteers.

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Recovering: Mike Johnson with Colfax who had a blast injury.

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