

Financial Report: The Basankusu Speedboat Ambulance Initiative

Introduction

Dear Esteemed partners,

With deep gratitude and unwavering respect, we present this report, which chronicles the extraordinary journey we have undertaken together to bring a speedboat ambulance to the people of Basankusu. This achievement is not merely the result of financial contributions, it is a manifestation of compassion, humanity, and collective hope for a better future.

The need for this project was urgent and clear. The people of Basankusu have long faced the daunting challenges of inaccessible healthcare. In this region, difficult terrain and unreliable transportation have turned minor medical emergencies into life-threatening crises. Your support has turned these challenges into an opportunity to create profound change.

Today, through your generosity and shared vision, we celebrate the realization of this impactful project and its potential to transform countless lives.

1. Narrative Report

The Basankusu Speedboat Ambulance Project is a shining example of what we can achieve when people from around the world come together with a shared purpose.

The journey had its share of challenges. One of the biggest obstacles was finding a suitable speedboat that fit our budget. We started by looking at options in Europe, but the high transportation costs from the UK or Europe to the DRC made it unfeasible. It was tough to locate an affordable vessel that met our requirements. For a while, we had to wait for a viable solution. Finally, a businessman named Jimmy KOGADA NGAMBI, residing in Kinshasa, helped us buy a speedboat from South Africa, enabling us to get a well-suited vessel that stayed within our financial constraints. The conversion of currency from Euros (sent from the Dutch Region) to Pounds and then to Dollars led to some financial losses, challenging our determination. Nevertheless, your unwavering commitment helped us navigate these difficulties and reach this significant milestone.

Your contributions enabled us to purchase and adapt a speedboat, transforming it into a fully equipped ambulance: a lifeline for Basankusu.

The modifications included:

- Additional seating to accommodate medical staff and patients.
- Enhancements to the electrical system to support medical equipment.
- Repainting the vessel to signify its role as an emergency medical transport.
- A maiden operational ride to ensure its readiness for deployment.

Every step, from securing documentation in Kinshasa to adapting the boat for its new purpose, was carried out with diligence, care, and unwavering commitment to meeting the urgent needs of the community.

This project is not just a logistical success, it is a testament to the power of unity, generosity, and the belief that access to healthcare is a fundamental human right.

2. Financial Overview

Contributions Received:

- **Fr. Willen Claver:** \$200
- **St. Joseph Parish, Maidenhead:**
 - First transfer: £14,225.60 → \$17,070.72
 - Second transfer: £2,147.47 → \$2,576.96
- **Dutch Region:** £18,579.69 → \$22,481.62
- **Fr. Nol Voerhoevem and Fr. Ben Beemster:** £3,723.22 → \$4,505

Total Contributions: \$46,834.30

To ensure maximum transparency and avoid any legal complications, I made the deliberate choice to associate our legal counsel (lawyer) in overseeing all expenditures. This measure guaranteed that each beneficiary of funds had to receive and sign for the money in the presence of the lawyer. As a result, you will find comments and documents attached to support the justification of these expenditures.

Expenditures:

1. Speedboat Purchase: \$35,000
2. Required Documents, registration in Kinshasa and Legal costs: \$1,800
3. Modifications for Ambulance Use: \$3,250
 - Installation of additional seating/stretchers position
 - Electrical system enhancements
 - Repainting to signify medical use
4. Labor (*main d'œuvre*) and maiden operational ride: \$1,600
5. Accessories and Essential Equipment: \$ 800
 - Additional fuel tank, paddles (*pagaei*), *bush avant*, trim, protective fenders (*ballons de protection*), and tow rope (*longe*) and safety jackets

Total Expenses: \$42,450

Remaining Balance:

\$46,834.30 (Total Contributions) – \$42,450 (Total Expenses) = \$4,384.30

Allocation of Remaining Funds:

1. Transportation of the speedboat to Basankusu:
2. Insurance and additional documentation in Mbandaka: complying with the local region regulations
3. Initial fuel costs for deployment:
4. Emergency medical kit and evacuation bed.
5. Fire extinguishers

Attachments: Please find attached copies of receipts related to the project expenditures. These documents provide a detailed financial record, ensuring transparency and accountability in the use of funds.

Gratitude

Dear partners,

This speedboat ambulance is more than a vessel: it is a beacon of hope, a lifeline, and a testament to the power of compassion. It represents lives saved, futures restored, and communities uplifted.

Your generosity has brought light to a place that desperately needed it. Every life touched by this project is a reflection of your kindness and vision.

This is not the end of our journey but the beginning of an inspiring story of resilience, hope, and transformation. We invite you to remain part of this mission as we continue to bring sustainable healthcare and renewed hope to Basankusu.

We thank you from the depths of our hearts. May your lives be enriched by the knowledge of the profound difference you have made.

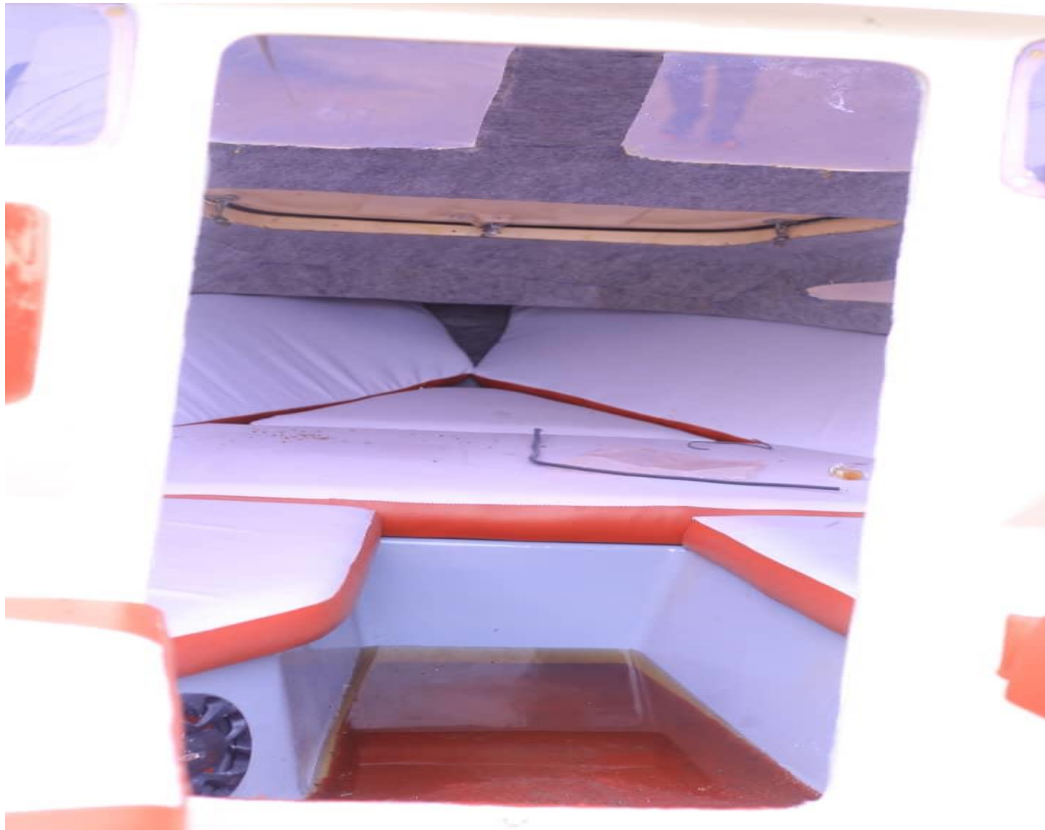
With deep gratitude,

Rev. Patrick Lonkoy Bolengu, mhm (On behalf of the people of Basankusu)

Pictures









3. Future Perspective: Opening a Medical Bureau in Basankusu

While the speedboat ambulance addresses the urgent need for emergency medical evacuation and care, we have also been inspired to consider a more sustainable, long-term solution for access to medicines.

We envision establishing a modest medical bureau in Basankusu. This facility would make essential medications readily available to the local population at cost price. Our plan is to transport medicines from Mbandaka using the speedboat ambulance and sell them to residents of Basankusu without profit. This initiative will ensure that people who need treatment for common and chronic illnesses can obtain medications reliably and affordably.

We are currently studying the feasibility of this project and looking for people of good will who can accompany us in making this vision a reality. This bureau could be a critical step toward building a more resilient, accessible, and community-rooted healthcare system for the region.

Fr. Patrick Lonkoy Bolengu, mhm