

MAY - AUGUST 2018

the  
overseas  
disability  
charity

cbm  
together we can do more



PRAYER  
DIARY

MAY

Improving ear care in Zambia, Southern Africa



ENT specialist Dr Froeschl reconstructed the ear canal of 8-year-old Sakala and now he can hear again.

This year we are launching an Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) programme in Zambia, funded by the Scottish Government. It will address a chronic lack of ear health care in three of Zambia's central districts where 5% of the population have hearing loss.

**Sun 6** We pray first of all for a greater understanding of hearing loss in communities where superstitions exist around deafness. We pray people will learn about the causes of ear conditions.

**Mon 7** We pray for greater awareness for parents so that they are able to recognise the signs of hearing loss in their young children who find it hard to communicate to provide the support their children need.

Front cover: Kibret is a priest but struggled to read his bible due to trachoma. He received treatment from our trachoma outreach programme in Ethiopia, East Africa.

Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but fear your God. I am the Lord. **LEVITICUS 19:14**

MAY

Improving ear care in Zambia, Southern Africa

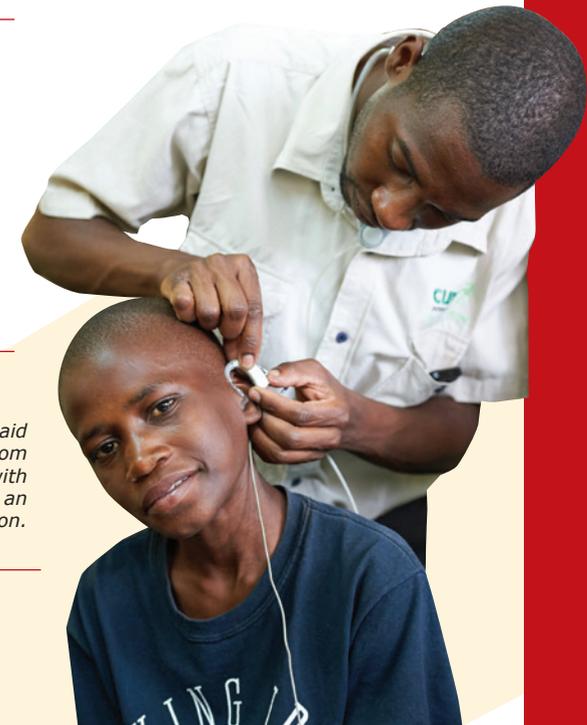
**Tue 8** Currently there is only one trained audiologist in Zambia. We pray this new project will reach its target of training 100 nurses in hearing loss treatment, to significantly strengthen ENT services.

**Wed 9** We give thanks for CBM supporters and the Scottish Government for enabling CBM to help implement Zambia's National Ear, Nose and Throat Plan, which was underfunded until now.

**Thu 10** We pray for the 100 nurses and clinicians who will be trained in identifying and treating ear conditions and hearing loss. Lord, give them strength and passion.

**Fri 11** Bless the 240 community health workers who will be trained in ear health awareness and encouraging the public to seek treatment. May you give them energy and empathy.

**Sat 12** Lord, we ask you to bless those who live with ear conditions in Zambia. We pray that our programme will reach those in need, helping them to lead fulfilled lives.



Patson, a hearing aid technician, fits John from Lusaka, Zambia with hearing aids following an operation.

Prayers provided by Julien Mwape, CBM Zambia office

**MAY**

*The importance of family*

**Sun**  
 13  
 Thank you God for the blessings and joys of family. Help us to support those families less fortunate than our own.

**Mon**  
 14  
 Lord God please bless the families of those living with disabilities. Please give relatives the strength, patience and wisdom to support their loved one.

**Tue**  
 15  
 Today is UN International Day of Families, when we focus on families and inclusive societies. Let us pray for inclusion of those stigmatised for their disability.



*A happy Sanjida and her father leave Biratnagar Eye Hospital in Nepal after being fitted with glasses.*

Prayers provided by Roy Hooke, CBM Volunteer

**MAY**

*The importance of family*



*Patrick from Zambia hugs his two daughters when he returns home from cataract surgery.*

**Wed**  
 16  
 Please God, help families so that people with disabilities of body or mind are not ostracised, but empowered to fulfil their potential.

**Fri**  
 18  
 We pray especially for those families who have members living with illness or disability, and don't have the resources to support them or help them get better.

**Thu**  
 17  
 Lord, let us help children with visual impairment in the world's poorest places to receive the right treatment, surgery and equipment to enable them to see and have a hopeful future.

**Sat**  
 19  
 In low income countries, the stigma of a mental health condition can cause isolation and suffering. We pray for greater awareness of and compassion for people living with mental health problems.

Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. **ROMANS 12:13**

MAY

*Thanking God for the Holy Spirit's guidance*



*A delighted Violet leaves Norton Eye Hospital with her daughter-in-law, following cataract surgery.*

**Sun**  At Pentecost, we think of the holy spirit filling the room where the disciples were. Let us not forget the power of your love, and let us not forget the goodness and beauty in the world.

**Mon**  We thank you for the gifted Ophthalmologist Dr Ute from Norton Hospital, for her enthusiasm and dedication.

**Tue**  Thank you for heart-warming ladies like Violet who I met at Norton Hospital near Harare, who literally jumped for joy and clapped her hands when her cataract bandages were removed.

Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. **ACTS 2:2**

MAY

*Thanking God for the Holy Spirit's guidance*

**Wed**  Today is International Day to end Obstetric Fistula, so we pray particularly for women who are affected by this debilitating condition. Pray for the success of today's CBM fundraising event in Cambridge.

**Thu**  We thank you for the voluntary health workers who dedicate a day a week to travel to rural villages, many of them on foot, to identify people with eye problems and those who may need a cataract operation.

**Fri**  We thank you God, that although many of the people we reach have so little, they are so thankful for the treatment they have received.

**Sat**  We thank God for the support given to people like Maria who had her sight restored thanks to CBM supporters. When she returned home from her cataract surgery, the first thing she did was to read her bible.

*Following cataract surgery Maria from Mutare, East Zimbabwe is overjoyed to read her books.*

Prayers provided by David Rootham, CBM UK; looking back on his recent visit to Zimbabwe with gratitude and hope.



# MAY

*Providing support in times of crisis*

**Sun**  
**27**  
Pray for the thousands of Rohingya people displaced into Bangladesh. Pray that one day they will be able to return home safely, and that their dignity and rights will be upheld by their own government.

**Mon**  
**28**  
Pray that people with disabilities and their families, who received healthcare and livelihood support in Haiti following Hurricane Matthew, are able to continue rebuilding their lives.

**Tue**  
**29**  
Pray for CBM's advocacy work, which strives to ensure challenges and barriers are overcome for men, women and children with disabilities in emergency situations.



*3-year-old Haris receives physiotherapy at the medical camp funded by CBM supporters.*

# MAY / JUNE

*Providing support in times of crisis*



*A makeshift village set up at Cox's Bazaar Bangladesh for Rohingya refugees.*

**Wed**  
**30**  
Pray for the millions of people affected by drought in East Africa, who have been facing famine and food shortages. Pray for healthy crops and a strengthened water supply.

**Fri**  
**1**  
Pray for wisdom and guidance for CBM's emergency response teams as they continue to respond to humanitarian crises throughout the year.

**Thu**  
**31**  
Pray that CBM's two health camps in Bangladesh for the Rohingya people will continue to reach those in need of medical care and rehabilitation.

**Sat**  
**2**  
Pray for the millions of people globally displaced from their homes and families each year due to conflict or natural disasters, that God's hand of protection will be upon them.

Prayers provided by Emma Pettey, CBM Emergency Response Unit

I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." **PSALM 91:2**

## JUNE

## Prayers from our volunteers

**Sun**  
**3**

Heavenly Father we thank you for all the work undertaken by CBM throughout the world. We pray that CBM staff and volunteers will be good ambassadors as we promote the work being done in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Mon**  
**4**

As it is International Volunteers week, we pray especially for those that give up their time and apply their ideas and enthusiasm to help the work of CBM.

*With grateful thanks to some of our wonderful volunteers across the UK for providing these prayers: Trevor May, Gill Godber, Sue Spoerer and Angela Somerton.*



**Tue**  
**5**

Pray for more opportunities to spread the good news about the life-changing work of CBM. For strength and stamina as we recruit helpers, organise events and raise funds that will transform lives.

**Wed**  
**6**

Pray that local church congregations will see how volunteer action can help to transform lives for people with disabilities in the poorest countries of the world.

## JUNE

## Prayers from our volunteers



*In India, Leela helps her husband Bisheshwor across their yard. He has had cataracts for three years.*

**Thu**  
**7**

Give thanks for the action of dedicated and inspired volunteers fundraising for CBM. They are encouraging others to help ensure that health services are accessible to everyone.

**Fri**  
**8**

Pray for volunteer speakers raising awareness, that they may reach the hearts of others so they may become supporters of CBM's work with the world's forgotten people.

**Sat**  
**9**

Lord, we pray that churches throughout the country will be inspired to raise awareness for the work of CBM; and that individual members of congregations will be motivated to pray and give their support.

God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. **HEBREWS 6:10**

**JUNE**

*Intercessions for people with Glaucoma*

*Dr Heiko Philippin has worked with CBM as a consultant ophthalmologist since 2006. Currently based at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) he works as a glaucoma subspecialist, coordinator of postgraduate training and researcher.*



**Sun**  
10

Thank you for this new week, which is Glaucoma Awareness Week in the UK. We pray for your guidance and inspiration as we think of people who are affected by glaucoma.

Prayers provided by Dr Heiko Philippin

Who, then, are those who fear the Lord? He will instruct them in the ways they should choose. **PSALM 25:12**

**Mon**  
11

Thank you for modern methods to detect glaucoma. We pray that people who are at risk of this disease will be diagnosed early enough to receive treatment and avoid reversible blindness.

**Tue**  
12

Thank you for health systems which are already in place to treat glaucoma. We pray that people living with glaucoma are able to receive quality care and support.

**JUNE**

*Intercessions for people with Glaucoma*

**Wed**  
13

Thank you for the wide range of treatments available for patients with glaucoma. We pray for access to these treatments for all who need them.

**Thu**  
14

Dear Lord, we pray that you give love and strength to relatives, friends and eye care providers of people with glaucoma.

**Fri**  
15

Thank you for all those who care for people with glaucoma. We pray for more awareness about glaucoma among decision makers and health care specialists.

**Sat**  
16

Thank you for the innovations in recent years to improve glaucoma care. We pray for more scientific research to further improve glaucoma care for everybody in need.

10 year old Gaston who has glaucoma is examined by a low vision therapist.



## JUNE

*Pray for positive male figures*

**Sun**  
**17**  
We thank God for community leaders like Chief Marange in Zimbabwe, Southern Africa. The Chief acts as policeman, judge and counsellor for 22 villages as well as providing for his own family.

**Mon**  
**18**  
We thank you Lord for the Chief's positivity: he received a cataract operation from a CBM-supported hospital and now is a staunch advocate for CBM, helping to spread the message about eye treatment in his community.

**Tue**  
**19**  
We pray for parents whose children have passed away; particularly in developing countries like Zimbabwe where mortality rates are high. We pray for the Chief who has lost five of his 16 children.

**Wed**  
**20**  
We pray for wisdom for fathers like Chief Marange who have many responsibilities and make decisions that affect others.

**Thu**  
**21**  
We pray that fathers and grandfathers will be good role models to their children: leaders like the Chief are looked up to in their community.

Prayers provided by David Rootham, CBM UK

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.  
**MATTHEW 5:48**

## JUNE

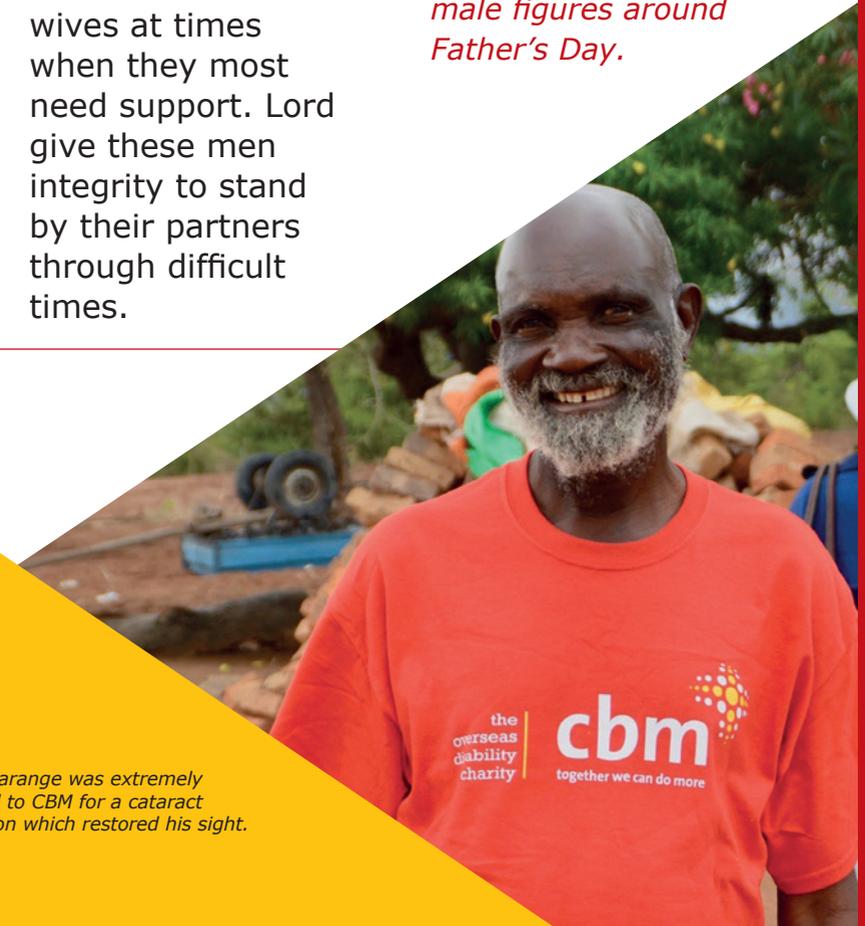
*Pray for positive male figures*

**Fri**  
**22**  
In Africa, it is not uncommon for fathers to abandon their family if their wife or child has a disability. Lord, we pray you will give these men the integrity and compassion to stay.

**Sat**  
**23**  
We pray that husbands won't abandon their wives at times when they most need support. Lord give these men integrity to stand by their partners through difficult times.

*Our Senior Legacy Officer David has recently become a grandfather for the first time. He offers his prayers for positive male figures around Father's Day.*

*Chief Marange was extremely grateful to CBM for a cataract operation which restored his sight.*



# JUNE

## Prayers from Rwanda, East Africa

**Sun 24** Almighty God, we pray that the Livelihood Programme in Rwanda, will be successful; transforming the lives of people with disability through training and a community savings and loans scheme.

**Tue 26** We are grateful for the Scottish Government who are helping to fund this fantastic new project in Rwanda. God bless everyone who has worked to make it a reality.

**Mon 25** Let us pray for CBM and its partners working on the Livelihood Programme, to be strengthened by God to achieve the aim of helping people out of the cycle of poverty and disability.

**Wed 27** Lord Jesus, we thank you for the peace Rwanda is enjoying. We pray for peace in the Great Lake Region and peace all over the world where there is insecurity.



A group of VSLA participants in Rwanda hold up their savings books.

# JUNE

## Prayers from Rwanda, East Africa

*Our new Village Savings and Loans (VSLA) programme in Rwanda will help people with disabilities earn a living and be financially independent through access to small loans, which can be used to start small businesses or income generating activities. The VSLA model is proven to help people out of poverty.*

*Edouard is a programme officer in Rwanda, helping to manage our new Village Savings and Loans programme.*



**Thu 28** God bless all who are involved in the cause of assisting, supporting and advocating for the rights of people living with disability.

**Sat 30** Our loving God, provide wisdom to families that take care of people with disabilities. Give them patience and compassion for their relatives, even when times are hard.

**Fri 29** We pray that people with disabilities are valued, respected and actively participate in community activities and have access to leadership positions within their communities.

Prayers provided by Edouard Musonera, CBM Rwanda office

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. **EPHESIANS 3:20**

## JULY

## Prayers from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)



CBM funds a mectizan distribution programme in the DRC to prevent River Blindness.

**Sun 1** We pray for those living with an illness or an impairment that can't be treated. May they be included in their community and find ways to flourish despite their challenges.

**Mon 2** During this budgeting period in DRC, we ask that God will bless us with generous supporters and funders, so we are able to help more people.

**Tue 3** Pray please for all our partners in the DRC. We hope they will receive ample resources in order to assist people with disabilities and support projects to prevent disabilities.

Even though my illness was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead, you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God. **GALATIANS 4:14**

## JULY

## Prayers from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

**Wed 4** Let mighty God bless all children of the world. It is a holiday period in the DRC and we pray that they will find this time restful but not too distracting!

**Thu 5** May God help all children who do not have the means to go back to school. We pray for resources to deliver projects that ensure children with disabilities can access education.

**Fri 6** Pray that God chooses volunteers and staff who are passionate about working for people with disabilities and want to make a difference.

**Sat 7** Please pray for peace in the DRC, particularly at times of political crisis, so that people living with disability are cared for.



Rehema, from the DRC can now walk pain free after club foot surgery.

Prayers provided by Marie-José Ngozie, CBM DRC office

## JULY

Reflecting on CBM UK's  
work in MalawiSun  
8

Lord, there is still so much misunderstanding of mental health in countries like Malawi, educating and treating people can seem like a steep mountain to climb. Give us strength and determination.

Mon  
9

We thank God for our partner in Malawi, the Mental Health Users and Carers Association (MeHUCA). We hope we can work effectively to expand and strengthen their network of support groups.

Tue  
10

God bless Immaculate and Thandiwe - two young women based in Blantyre, Malawi who are coordinating the work of our partner MeHUCA. Thank you for their passion and drive.

Wed  
11

God bless Mr Thom, a man who has struggled with mental health problems but overcame them. We thank you for his full recovery, and that he was inspired to help others by founding MeHUCA.



In December 2017 Rosi and Grace from the CBM UK team visited our new mental health support project in Malawi.

## JULY

Reflecting on CBM UK's  
work in Malawi

*Our programme in Malawi will assist people dealing with mental health issues and their families through support groups, counselling and useful information.*

Thu  
12

Thank you for the leaders of local MeHUCA groups such as Mr Saolos. These people voluntarily give their time to organise peer support meetings and are advocates of mental health awareness.

Sat  
14

We pray for mental health medical staff. For the passion and wisdom of Dr Stefan Holzer, lead psychiatrist in Malawi, and for the trainee psychiatrists; that they will excel in their roles.

Fri  
13

We pray for the staff in the CBM Malawi team, including our programme manager Maxwell. Bless them in their work and give them the skills to make this project effective.

Prayers provided by  
Grace Harper, CBM UK

If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.  
But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.  
**ECCLESIASTES 4:10**

## JULY

*Blessings for children living with disabilities*

Joseph assesses Charles vision.

*Joseph Sebwana is a Low Vision Therapist at CBM partner hospital Mengo, in Uganda. Joseph says: "Doing the work I do is from God. I love working with children, especially the disadvantaged ones. I want to help them so that they can enjoy their lives."*

**Sun**  
**15** Special prayers for children with extra needs, including those who are visually impaired, mentally ill or living with a hearing impairment. Lord, we pray for your healing hand upon children with disabilities.

**Mon**  
**16** A prayer for Mengo Hospital eye staff: Lord we pray for your strength and guidance to continue providing services of the highest quality to those in need.

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done. **PROVERBS 19:17**

## JULY

*Blessings for children living with disabilities*

**Tue**  
**17** Pray for our low vision therapy team at Mengo Hospital - for good health, strength, knowledge, wisdom and hard work to meet the needs of children with low vision.

**Fri**  
**20** Almighty Lord, we place into your hands the parents and carers who play a big role in the upbringing of children with disabilities. May you give them strength and hope.

**Wed**  
**18** Lord, use government, ministries, non-governmental organisations and other stakeholders as agents of change in the lives and well being of people with disabilities.

**Sat**  
**21**

A prayer for the teachers, particularly those helping children with specific needs, to provide specialised support so that children with disabilities can achieve their full potential.

**Thu**  
**19** Mengo Hospital Eye Department commits CBM supporters into the caring hands of the Lord for the continued support given towards the wellbeing of children with disabilities.

Prayers provided by Joseph Sebwana, Mengo Hospital, Uganda

## JULY

*Let there be Light!*

**Sun**  
**22**

We pray that through our actions we may shine a light for you so that others may have light and sight for an abundant life.

**Tue**  
**24**

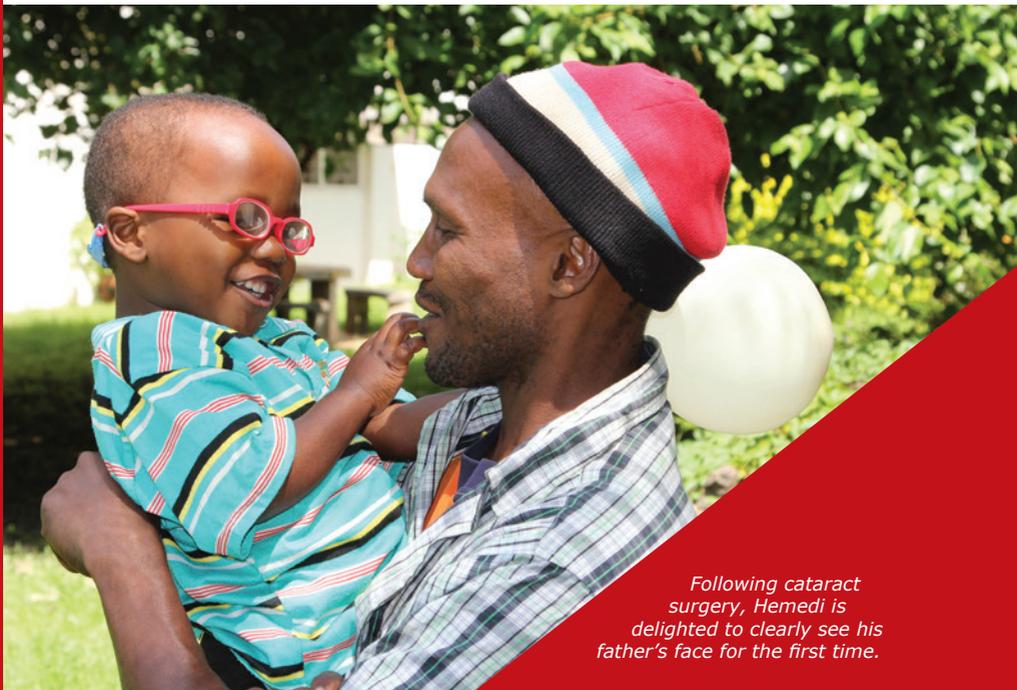
Jesus brings us his light, healing and transformation. May we reflect on all he has done for us that we may be open to all that God wants to do in our lives.

**Mon**  
**23**

Life is fragile, often painful and sometimes dark. Help us Lord, to pause in our busyness, take a fresh look at our world and its people; and enable us to bring your light into the darkness.

**Wed**  
**25**

We pray for all people with disabilities, those who are pushed to the margins of society, who are hidden, persecuted and abused. Help us to reach out to them with compassion.



*Following cataract surgery, Hemedi is delighted to clearly see his father's face for the first time.*

## JULY

*Let there be Light!*

*Sunday 14th October is Christian Blind Mission Sunday, when churches will learn, give and pray to help children in Africa with avoidable blindness. To find out how your church can get involved call 01223 484700 today.*



*Emaculate is awaiting surgery for cataracts, but her family can't afford it.*

**Thu**  
**26**

Jesus is the bread of life; he quenches our thirst. We thank you Lord that we have enough food and water to sustain us. May we shine for you and share with those who are poor and hungry.

**Fri**  
**27**

We pray for clarity and light in life, that we can weather the storms. Help us be a beacon for you when natural disasters strike, to ensure no one is left behind when aid is distributed.

**Sat**  
**28**

Thank you for the skills of ophthalmologists. May we see our talents and seek to use these to support CBM doctors to give the gift of sight to people living with avoidable blindness.

Prayers provided by Jacqueline Aktinson, CBM UK

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." **MARK 10:27**

# JULY

## Prayers for CBM UK projects in Nigeria

**Sun**  
29

Dear Lord, thank you for the hard work of the CBM team and all our partners to ensure older people and those with disabilities are included in emergency responses.

**Mon**  
30

We pray Lord, that the new Humanitarian Inclusion Standards will help organisations to ensure their emergency response reaches the world's most vulnerable people.

**Tue**  
31

May you bless the work of government officials in Nigeria working to represent people with disabilities, like Idemudia Lawrence who works for the Federal Ministry of Women and Social Development.

# AUGUST

## Prayers for CBM UK projects in Nigeria



CBM staff and partners at the launch of our new three year programme to prevent childhood blindness in Nigeria, West Africa.

**Wed**  
1

We pray for our partners at the Disability Rights Action Centre in Nigeria, who are working to end violence towards women with disabilities. Bless this important project.

**Fri**  
3

We pray for the people in Nigeria affected by the Lake Chad Crisis; a humanitarian crisis that is caused by violent conflict, under-development and climate change. We pray for peace in the region.

**Thu**  
2

We pray for community leaders like Dr. Alhaji Awal who support their community members, and give helpful and inclusive advice to those with disabilities.

**Sat**  
4

We give thanks for the launch of our new Comprehensive Child Eye Health programme. We pray that this programme will be a success and help many children in Nigeria to have bright futures.

Prayers provided by Kirsty Smith, CBM UK

Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go. **JOSHUA 1:9**



Kirsty Smith talks with chief social welfare officer Idemudia Edelifo Lawrence, who is accompanied by his sign language interpreter Kindness Okoro Simeon.

the  
overseas  
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**cbm**  
together we can do more



## Could your church mark Christian Blind Mission Sunday this 14 October?

This year's theme is **Let there be light** and our free resources include films, posters, worship ideas and more. Together, we will help your church **give thanks** for God's wonderful gifts of light and sight; **celebrate** the recovery of sight; and **join** CBM's mission of sight restoration through prayer and fundraising.

Registration for Christian Blind Mission Sunday 2018 is now open. To join the growing list of churches who are taking part, please call **0800 567 7000** or visit [cbmuk.org.uk/Sunday](http://cbmuk.org.uk/Sunday)



With grateful thanks to all the friends of CBM who have provided prayers for this diary including: Julien Mwape, Roy Hooke, David Rootham, Emma Pettey, Heiko Philippin, Edouard Musonera, Marie-José Ngozie, Joseph Sebwana, Jacqueline Atkinson and Kirsty Smith.

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**CBM reaches out to people who others leave behind, transforming the lives of people with blindness and other disabilities in the poorest places of the world.**

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