



## In the Midst of Healing

There have been some exciting happenings at Healing Touch the past few months. There have been many new patients referred for pressure garments from the plastic surgeon at the government hospital. There are also about five or six patients that have been wearing their garments for three or four months and are showing improvement. It has been exciting to work with these patients and see how the garments are helping in their healing.



Matthew

Matthew came to Healing Touch after being burned when his house caught on fire. He was trying to save his wife and children and sustained burns to his face and hands. After his burns healed, the doctor told him to get pressure garments to help prevent scars. He looked and looked but could not find any pressure garments in Nigeria until he heard about Healing Touch. He was so excited to finally find a place that made pressure garments. He developed contractures on both hands, so he is in the process of having surgery on his hands. We made a face mask for him to help reduce the scars that had formed on his face and hope that it will be beneficial in his healing.

Florence is a young girl who accidentally caught her shirt on fire when she was lighting a fire to cook food. She sustained burns to her neck, chest and right hand. She came to Healing Touch right after the burn had healed, so she had not developed any scars. We made a shirt and a face mask that extended down to cover her neck. We also made a glove for her right hand. I gave her exercises to do to keep the skin on her neck stretched out so she would not develop a contracture. Burns on the neck are very challenging, as it is difficult to make a garment that applies pressure evenly

over the neck and the neck is one of the most likely areas to develop a contracture. She has been wearing the garment for three months and it has prevented any scars from forming. We are still doing the stretching exercises and pray that the exercises and the pressure garment will help prevent any contracture at the neck.

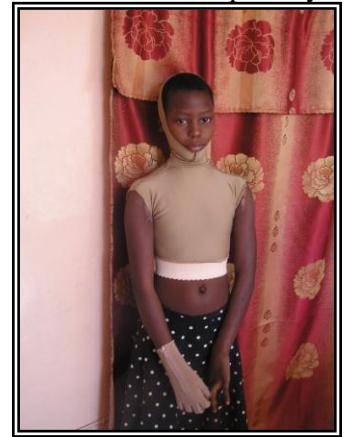
Ibrahim is a young boy who was playing with fire with his friends. One of his friends yelled to him that the back of his shirt was on fire. Instead of dropping and rolling, he ran which made the fire spread. He sustained burns to his back, buttocks and right hand. When he came to Healing Touch, he was about four months post healing and had developed bad scars on his back and buttocks. We made a shirt, pants and glove for him. He has been wearing the garments for three months and we have seen some reduction in his scars. He will have to wear the garments for up to a year and we pray that they will continue to reduce his scars.



Ibrahim

These are just a few of the many patients who are in the midst of healing and I hope that Healing Touch can be a blessing to many more in the months to come. I have just finished designing a poster for Healing Touch that I hope will help spread the word about what pressure garments are and how they can help burn patients. I have also had the poster and brochure translated into Hausa and will get those printed soon. I then plan to have them distributed throughout the churches in Jos and post them in hospitals. I am in the process of meeting with the plastic surgeon at the government hospital and I hope to be able to attend his clinics on Tuesdays and observe what is being done for the burn patients he is treating. Please continue to pray that more people will come to know about Healing Touch through our different modes of awareness.

Pray also for continued healing for our patients who are wearing the pressure garments. Thank you for all of your many prayers and support for this ministry.



Florence

## Praying For Peace



I was asleep in my bed Sunday morning when I was jolted awake by a loud boom and the building shaking. I jumped out of my bed and steadied myself, as I went outside to see what had happened. I found out the Cocin

Headquarters Church just a block and a half down from me had been bombed. A suicide bomber dressed like a soldier had driven his car into the parking lot and the car had exploded killing the driver and injuring many people. I could see the smoke from my apartment. Our building was fine except for two windows in the downstairs apartment that had shattered and a mild sprinkling of dirt from the ceiling over some areas of the house from the building shaking. My

plans of attending church that morning were changed, as we were all instructed to stay home since there could be further bombing or retaliation.

I spent the next hour reading the Psalms, praying, and drinking a cup of tea. Nothing is better to settle your nerves than a cup of tea! One of the Psalms I read was Psalm 121 and I thought it was a great Psalm for this moment. It says, "I lift my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth....The Lord will keep you from harm—he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore." PTL! Later, I found out that some retaliation had occurred, as a few shops just down from the church that are owned by M\*slims were burned down. It was sad to hear because those M\*slims probably had nothing to do with the bombing. We pray for better responses from Christians after attacks and for a more compassionate view of M\*slims, as not all M\*slims are radical and out to kill people.

We have experienced peace in Jos the last few months and that has been a blessing. But, it seems we always have to be on guard because we never know when another attack will come. Pray for the Cocin Church as it recovers from this trauma and damage done to the church. Pray for healing for those who were injured and comfort for those who lost loved ones. Please continue to pray for peace in Jos and Nigeria as a whole. Pray for the President and Governor of Plateau State as well as the police and other security personnel, as they work to keep peace in the country.

### Praise:

- The many new patients that have come to Healing Touch.
- Continued healing for Matthew, Florence, Ibrahim and other patients wearing the pressure garments.
- Continued connections with hospitals in Jos.
- Completion of the poster to use in awareness for Healing Touch.
- Translation of the Healing Touch poster and brochure into Hausa.
- God's protection during the bombing.

### Prayer Request:

- An opportunity to go to the burn clinic at Jos University Teaching Hospital (JUTH).
- Pray for an opportunity to meet with the plastic surgeon at JUTH. He has referred many patients to Healing Touch.
- Pray that the burn clinic will be a means to share the gospel.
- Pray that the Healing Touch poster will increase awareness about pressure garments.
- Pray for Cocin Headquarters Church and the many members who were injured or killed in the bomb blast.
- Pray for a Nigerian Physical Therapist for the hospital.
- Pray for peace in Jos.

*Gay Lynn McCrady*

**SIM**  
Serving In Mission

**Permanent Address:** 323 Aspen Glorieta, NM 87535

**E-mail:** [gaylynn.mccrady@sim.org](mailto:gaylynn.mccrady@sim.org) **Website:** [gaylynninnigeria.com](http://gaylynninnigeria.com)

**SIM Mission Address:** P.O. Box 7900 Charlotte NC 28241-7900; (704) 588-4300

**Nigeria Address:** SIM Nigeria Courier, P.O. Box 7900, Charlotte, NC, 28241-7900