

Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital Emergency Centre Upgrade and Expansion

Phase 2 Progress Report: July - October 2021



Introduction to the Emergency Centre

The Emergency Centre (EC) at Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital (RCWMCH) is the only specialist paediatric centre in sub-Saharan Africa and a haven of healing for little ones far and wide. When emergencies arise, families take comfort in knowing that the Hospital operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to provide high quality, evidence-based medical, surgical, nursing and paramedical services to sick and injured little children. With a team of caring nurses and doctors, the EC provides immediate healthcare to little ones, as well as support and reassurance to their traumatised families.

Project Overview

The project which commenced in April 2019, will be delivered in two phases - with phase 1 completed in October 2020 and phase 2 to be completed in February 2022. Designed in partnership with the clinical team, this upgrade will improve the personalised care and flow of patients and healthcare professionals through the extremely busy frontline of the Hospital.



Every little one counts



EC Building Progress

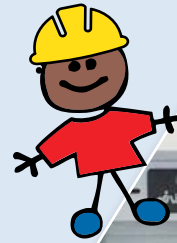
Phase 1:

Phase 1 of the EC upgrade and expansion was successfully completed in October 2020. EC staff were thrilled to move into spacious new areas which boast cheerful, child-friendly artwork and décor.

Phase 2:

Phase 2 construction commenced in November 2020 and will be Practically Complete on 15 February 2022. The building has progressed well, however some time was lost due to rain delays.

To read the January - June 2021 Progress Report, please [click here](#).



Every little one counts

Emergency Centre Equipment

The Children's Hospital Trust has commenced with the procurement of identified and prioritized equipment for the Emergency Centre with funding raised. The Trust is liaising with the Medical and Trauma staff, as well as Hospital Management, to ensure that the correct equipment is purchased.

Implementation of Donor Recognition

In acknowledgement of the donations to the Emergency Centre project of a certain category, the gracious generosity of donors is recognised according to the Trust's donor recognition policy. The naming rights are valid for a period of 10 years and the signage is currently in manufacture. The donor signage and the donor recognition boards will be installed towards the end of the project in February 2022.



Key milestones

- External facade complete: 10 November 2021
- First Floor finishes complete: 18 January 2022
- Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing commissioning complete (excl. lift): 14 February 2022
- Ground Floor finishes complete: 14 February 2022
- External Works and Landscaping complete: 15 February 2022



Every little one counts

Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on Hospital Services

The leaders at RCWMCH continue to lead its team strategically and have implemented solutions-based decisions, with the aim of creating a safe environment for staff, patients and their families. While dedicated frontline EC staff continue to manage the critical and life-saving care for both patients and their families, maintaining the high standard of care needed to minimise hospitalisation and ensure that the little ones return home to their family. Click to read more here: [COVID-19: Experience of a tertiary children’s hospital in Western Cape Province, South Africa](#)

EC Patient Visits

Summer is here, and children love it! We want our children to be able to go out into the world and enjoy everything it has to offer, safely. Children ought to enjoy their summer holidays. With some preparedness and vigilance, we do the best we can to keep our little ones safe. When injuries and illnesses strike, children from all over the country are admitted for treatment to the EC at the Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital. The EC is the first and only specialist paediatric centre in sub-Saharan Africa, treating around 30 000 patients annually.

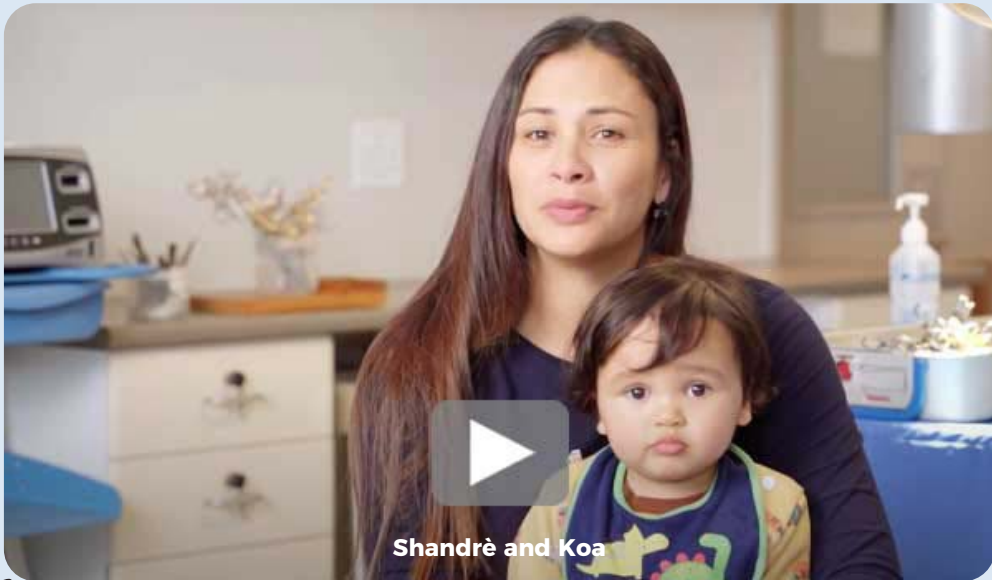
EC Patient Visits from July 2021 - Oct 2021			
Months	Medical	Trauma	Total
Jan-21	1 965	480	2 445
Feb-21	1 889	487	2 376
Mar-21	2 375	527	2 902
Apr-21	2 524	484	3 008
May-21	2 783	427	3 210
Jun-21	2 954	439	3 393
July-21	1 898	387	2 285
Aug-21	2 286	449	2 735
Sept-21	2 311	432	2 743
Oct-21	2 498	480	2 978
Totals	23 483	4 592	28 075



Every little one counts

Urgent Treatment
 Dringende Behandeling
 UNyango oluNgamsele kahulu

Watch the Parents share their experiences in EC



Every little one counts



Dreams Matter

Raghma Taskia Solomons is a bright child. Her smile is as beaming as her personality. Her curiosity belies her shyness, which she bravely sets aside to pose for a photo. The life in her eyes is joyous. However quiet, this child has many dreams. Her love of writing hints at a very creative future. A future that her mother, Shanize, now feels more optimistic about.

Shanize recalls the night her daughter was rushed to the Emergency Centre at Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital.

"We didn't know what to do," she says. "She got [the fit] in her sleep. It's very dangerous when she gets it in her sleep," she emphasizes.

But Shanize and Raghma Taskia's family knew where to go. With the help of a friend, Shanize was able to bring her child to Red Cross Children's Hospital. They spent the night undergoing thorough tests and scans, which led their medical team to a prompt diagnosis. Raghma Taskia has epilepsy and a cyst on the left side of her brain. Comforted by the reassurance and informative relationship that the doctors have established with her, Shanize looks towards her daughter's healing journey with optimism and pride.

"Raghma Taskia will start school next year," she beams, "and I'm sure she will be much better then."

This bright young child will have the support of some of the world's leading healthcare practitioners as she attends the Hospital for consistent monitoring and careful medication, which more than adds quality to her life; it adds a sense of recognition and significance to her outlook on life. Raghma Taskia is seen; she is important. And by the smile on her face, it is obvious that she is loved.

Raghma Taskia may very well grow up to be a writer and storyteller, and you can be sure that she will tell stories about the family at Red Cross Children's Hospital who pay very close attention to her well-being, because they want her to have every chance, every dream, and every hope for a brighter future.

Raghma Taskia's team at the Children's Hospital knows how important this is for her, because Dreams Matter.

Your generosity makes it possible for little ones to have the very best healthcare and to awaken their dreams. This is the difference that you make in the lives of children and their families.



Every little one counts



Conclusion

Your support has enabled the Trust to upgrade the Emergency Centre that has not only improved patient care, but you have also helped improve staff morale, critical to the care of children and support of families. The total amount of funds raised so far amounts to R 121 million with an outstanding balance of R 1 million required to complete this project.

Children's Hospital Trust CEO Chantel Cooper says: "The Red Cross Children's Hospital is so much more than a building. It's about the people inside. It's about the care that they provide, every single day.

"We go about our lives; they go about saving children every day. It's not just about lifesaving care, it's about life-changing care for children."

Thank you for caring. Special appreciation to our Donors who have supported us in different ways; this makes a valuable difference in helping us meet the needs of those we serve. We could not do what we do without you. You make this possible.



Over 10 000
little ones were
treated at the
EC from July to
October
2021

R122 million
target to raise
for the new
Emergency Centre
upgrade and
expansion

71% of
children are
under 5

24 hour
medical,
surgical,
nursing and
paramedical
services

25% of
children
are under 1

55% male

45% female



Every little one counts

www.childrenshospitaltrust.org.za