

# Little Hearts

## About Congenital Heart Defects

An estimated **1.5 million** children are each year born with a congenital heart defect globally.

**10%**  
BABIES BORN WITH CHD DO NOT SURVIVE THEIR FIRST YEAR OF LIFE.

**1000s**  
MORE DIE AND DON'T REACH ADULTHOOD.

In poor underdeveloped countries, the lack of specialized medical infrastructure means babies born with **congenital heart defects** have little or no access to necessary treatment.

Muntada Aid believes ignoring this deadly killer is tantamount to a death sentence for the many children born with this disease.

Most of these conditions can be fixed, but children suffer due to a **lack of resources, infrastructure, and specialist medical staff.**

We are committed to **children with CHD** and provide them with an opportunity for a healthy life.



## About Little Hearts

Little Hearts is Muntada Aid's flagship project and was **launched in April 2012.**

We provide free life-saving heart surgeries to children with congenital heart defects from underprivileged backgrounds irrespective of gender, race or religion.

Since 2012, we have carried out **40 missions in 12 countries.** During these deployments, we have performed over **25,00 cardiac interventions and surgeries.**

Our missions are free from the point of contact.



My Grandson - **Aaron Mazuri is well now. He goes to school without any problem.**



# Little Hearts Impact 2022

In 2022, our Little Hearts team performed **270 children's heart operations** during **5 missions** in **3 countries.**

Missions	No. of Beneficiaries
Tajoura, Libya	49
Dhaka, Bangladesh	62
Tajoura, Libya	52
Dhaka, Bangladesh	5
Dar- es-Salam, Tanzania	63
Elbeida, Libya	34
Dhaka, Bangladesh	5

**Total**  
5+ 1 Permanent Prog.

**270**

# Maryam ... The Joy of Life

Maryam's family shared this beautiful picture of her with us in December 2022. In this picture, she is six years old.

We are delighted to see her grow into this beautiful young girl.

We first saw Maryam in 2018. She needed open heart surgery and had no access to that kind of treatment in Somalia.

After various deliberations and delays, we managed to get her to Egypt, where our Little Hearts team treated her.

We wish her all  
the **success and luck!**

We can only **share stories**  
like **Maryam's** because you  
believe in our mission that  
**Every Heart Deserves to Beat!**



## Little Hearts in Tanzania

In 2022, our Little Hearts were on their sixth deployment in Tanzania. It was their 40th deployment overall. During this mission, our team performed 65 life-saving heart procedures, taking the total number of operations and interventions to 2558 in 12 countries.

With your support, we have saved 270 children in three countries in 2022. The fact is that without our Little Hearts programme travelling to these countries, these children will struggle to receive treatment for this crippling and dangerous condition.

The mission started on the 09th of October at Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute, Muhimbili Hospital, United Nations Road, Dar es Salaam.

For this mission we had managed to assemble a team of international specialists from four different countries. It was our 6th deployment in Tanzania.

"We performed 65 operations during the seven-day mission. During our previous deployments in Tanzania, we have saved 352 children. This East African nation is still economically poor, and hundreds of children are on a waiting list to receive these operations. The list keeps growing with inadequate health infrastructure and a shortage of specialist doctors," said Kabir Miah, Programmes Manager, Muntada Aid.

All these operations are free to children from the point of contact and funded by donations made towards the Little Hearts programme from various parts of the world.



**Safiya**

The Art of Giving



## How Your Donations Saved Safiya

Safiya (5) loves to pose for a frame. But, behind this addictive smile lies years of pain and lost childhood. She was first diagnosed with a Congenital Heart Defect when she was just 2-months old. But due to a lack of financial resources and specialised medical care not available in the country, her parents could not provide her with the treatment she needed.

A local hospital in Libya informed her parents about our deployment in Tripoli country's capital last year. And after the initial assessment, she was operated for a medical condition known as an atrial septal defect (ASD). According to our team in Libya, her procedure went well, and she now has the opportunity to live and enjoy a healthy childhood.

**Thank you so much**  
for making us the vessel to  
support children like Safiya.

