

SR Noela Richard Maasa, Tanzania

Noela is an experienced OR nurse at **Selian Lutheran Hospital**, Tanzania where she became a “super nurse” assisting surgeons performing fistula repair surgery. Dr. Mark Jacobson noted that Noela “knows everything that goes into operating on these women.” Now a medical missionary as well as Selian OR nurse, she was asked to bring her skills from Tanzania to help establish nursing services and fistula surgery at Lutheran Reconciliation Medical Centre in Juba, South Sudan. Noela joins renowned fistula surgeon Dr. Andrew Browning and team several times a year at the Lutheran Fistula Camps in Juba where she helps South Sudanese nurses develop their skills and assists with surgeries that restore hope for women suffering from devastating obstetric fistula injuries. Her boss says she is “the best fistula nurse in the world!”

It's estimated there are more than 60,000 women and girls living with obstetric fistula in South Sudan. Many have lived with their condition for years, some have undergone multiple failed surgeries. For them, healing is a miracle that allows them to return to their everyday lives.

Nominated by: Dr. Amon Israel Marti



*Noela Richard Maasa
Selian Lutheran Hospital, Arusha, Tanzania*



*Noela, far right, with fistula repair patients,
Lutheran Reconciliation Medical Centre,
Juba, South Sudan*