Furthering Medical Capacity in the Millennium Cities
Over the years MCI has partnered with a number of organizations to help build healthcare capacity in the Millennium Cities. This has included establishing new facilities, such as an emergency room, regional blood bank and clinics; identifying medical needs and facilitating trainings for local health professionals in specialized care to better meet those needs; and enabling the shipment and delivery of essential medical supplies, equipment and medicine.

Facilities
Cervical Cancer Clinics The California-based non-profit Cure Cervical Cancer (CCC) partnered with the Millennium Cities Initiative to help local professionals establish and maintain five cervical cancer clinics – one in Mekelle and four in Kisumu. These “See and Treat” clinics are designed to provide cervical cancer screenings and treatment for women in developing countries, where cervical cancer is rarely diagnosed in time to act and is consequently one of the leading causes of women’s death.

Professionals in Kisumu and Mekelle were trained in low-cost, low-tech, high-impact techniques known as “visual inspection with acetic acid” (“the vinegar test”) and cryotherapy, to screen for and treat pre-malignant surgical lesions. In addition to setting up the clinics and providing the training, CCC equipped clinics with an immense store of supplies used in their routine cervical cancer screenings and treatments. Through our collaborative partnership, CCC and MCI have trained 19 local health professionals, screened more than 3,000 women for cervical cancer and referred more than 440 women for treatment with cryotherapy.

Bantama Market Clinic
As noted above in our chapter on Gender, MCI set up a health clinic for the women traders in Kumasi’s Bantama Market, one of the region’s largest. With support from the Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly and the Kumasi Metropolitan Health Directorate, this clinic has registered hundreds of vendors who come to the market each day to sell their goods, all of whom now have electronic medical records. These women have all received cervical and breast screenings, physicals and treatment for minor ailments, and for those requiring further care, referrals to area hospitals, most of which are handled pro bono.

Cure Cervical Cancer trains local health workers in Kisumu on the use of cryotherapy in the “See and Treat” cervical cancer clinics.

Graduates of the Kisumu “See and Treat” training celebrate the program’s completion.

“See and Treat” cervical cancer clinics screened 3,000+ women for cervical cancer and referred 440+ women for treatment in Kisumu and Mekelle.