

Mercy Ships to Be Featured on '60 Minutes'

Mercy Ships, an international nonprofit organization that operates hospital ships and provides medical aid to the world's forgotten poor, will be featured on CBS' *60 Minutes* this Sunday at approximately 7 p.m. EST. The segment, which was reported by award-winning journalist Scott Pelley, will highlight the mission of Mercy Ships to bring hope and healing to the developing world by using hospital ships to deliver free, world-class health care services.

Mercy Ships' medical services include cleft lip and palate repair, cataract removal, orthopedic procedures, maxillofacial reconstruction and plastic surgery, obstetric fistula repair and dental care. The organization also trains local medical professionals in their area of expertise and completes community development projects that focus on water and sanitation, education, infrastructure development and agriculture.

In May 2012, Pelley and a team of *60 Minutes* producers went aboard the Africa Mercy, the world's largest charity ship and the Mercy Ships floating hospital. The ship includes six state-of-the-art operating rooms, an intensive care unit and bed space for up to 78 patients.

During their stay, the *60 Minutes* crew interviewed a variety of staff, crew and volunteers including Mercy Ships Founder/President Don Stephens; Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Gary Parker; and Captain Jon Fadely. Additionally, *60 Minutes* captured the stories of several patients, including those being treated for cataracts and maxillofacial conditions.

"We are thrilled to be sharing our story with a national audience," said Stephens. "Our hope is that everyone who

watches our story will have a better understanding of our work, and will keep our mission in their thoughts and prayers.”

Viewers who wish to volunteer their time and talents or make a donation can learn more by visiting .