

MADAGASCAR

Sarobidy Maternity Centre

For many expectant mothers, pregnancy can be a time of great joy as they prepare for their new family member. For many impoverished mothers-to-be in Madagascar, the time leading up to the baby's delivery can be filled with anxiety as they face the challenge of malnourishment and the implications this has on their health, as well as the baby.

The Sarobidy Maternity Centre in Madagascar works to improve the maternal care and nutrition of women. Fellowship International missionary Rachel Bright is ministering at the centre, training and educating new midwives with a goal of seeing an increase in the rate of healthy deliveries.

Recognizing the importance of proper nutrition for mothers after their babies are born, and in order to ensure they remain healthy and that their babies receive the nutrients they need, the centre has established a feeding program.

Rachel writes,

“The consequences of the rampant malnutrition in Madagascar are profound, and pregnancy magnifies these detrimental effects. Increased risk of preterm birth, postpartum hemorrhage, low infant birth weight, fetal anomalies, and life-long growth stunting are just some pregnancy related problems due to malnutrition. The feeding program will be launched in faith in January 2017, and will offer a healthy balanced full lunch twice a week to the mommas and their children.”

There are many ongoing and one-time costs associated with starting this program including equipment, staffing, as well as the food itself. The initial goal is to provide 800 meals each month to those women being assisted through the centre. An estimated \$500 will be needed to equip and launch the program and the ongoing monthly cost to maintain the program will be \$1,600. Would you prayerfully consider supporting this effort to help combat malnourishment in these expecting mothers?

You can give in two ways:

Sarobidy Maternity Centre – to support the work of Rachel Bright and the maternity centre as they provide high quality medical treatment to mothers in the surrounding area. This also involves the training and equipping of the next generation of midwives.

Sarobidy Kitchen Feeding Program – to help combat malnutrition in new mothers by supporting the establishment and continuation of the feeding program.

Credit card donations can be made via our secure website at: www.fellowship.ca/SarobidyKitchen

Thank you for prayerfully considering how the Lord would have you respond to this need.

To read Rachel's blog about the realities of malnourishment in pregnant women and the ripple effects that come from the loss of a mother, visit: www.ourmadventure.com/?p=326

