Holiday campaign results in 100+ stethoscopes for Africa

During a visit with Vanderbilt International Anesthesiology Director Dr. Mark Newton before he left Nashville to return to his work at Kijabe Hospital, fellow pediatric anesthesiologist Dr. Kimberly Nesbitt asked him what she could do to support his work in Kenya. Dr. Newton replied that the need in many areas was great, and that many medical providers were providing care to patients with limited access to the most basic of tools, often even sharing stethoscopes.

Dr. Nesbitt took his words as a personal challenge. She, along with Director of Vanderbilt Anesthesia Global Health & Development Dr. Kelly McQueen, kick-started a campaign within the Department of Anesthesiology to raise funds for high quality stethoscopes that could be sent to Kenya. They found the best deal on a cardiac stethoscope with high acoustic sensitivity — purchased in bulk, the stethoscopes would be just $20 each.

An appeal was sent out to the entire Department. For a $20 donation to VIA, the donor’s name would be added to an ornament and hung on a special holiday tree. The tree was displayed at several Departmental gatherings during December, and the ornaments quickly multiplied with more than 100 stethoscopes being funded.  

Delpire named fellow of American Association for the Advancement of Science

Eric Delpire, PhD, professor of Anesthesiology, Molecular Physiology and Biophysics and director of the Anesthesiology Basic Science Research Division, is among 17 distinguished members of Vanderbilt University’s faculty to be elected fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) this year. This is the largest number of Vanderbilt fellows to be elected in a single year. They are among 539 fellows from around the country selected by their peers because of their “scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.” The new fellows will be recognized on February 16 at the 2013 AAAS annual meeting in Boston.

Dr. Delpire was recognized specifically for his distinguished contributions to the field of cellular and molecular physiology, especially for the function and regulation of cation-chloride cotransporters. His research with mouse models was the focus of a recent feature in The Reporter. Read feature by clicking here.