



About Us

Conceptualized in 2016, Ryan Normandeau envisioned bringing critical care to West Africa. While prepared to build a hospital, Ryan was able to streamline the process by partnering with an existing establishment, FOCOS Hospital in Accra, Ghana. Our first mission trip in 2019, we were able to successfully complete 8 surgeries. While COVID-19 restrictions proved to create hurdles for our organization, we continued to persevere and submitted over 100K in donations until we were able to physically return in 2022.



Our Partner's

FOCOS Orthopedic Hospital provides comprehensive, affordable orthopedic care to those who would not otherwise have access to such treatment. In particular, FOCOS seeks to enhance access to optimal surgical and non-surgical care for patients with disabling musculoskeletal disorders including complex spine deformities and pediatric orthopedic problems in underserved regions. Our partnership with FOCOS allows our U.S. based sponsored surgeons to team up with FOCOS staff surgeons, to maximize the number of life-saving operations throughout the year.





Mission Success

33 Spine Align is proud to celebrate yet another successful mission trip to our partner hospital FOCOS, located in Accra, Ghana.

With the support from our sponsored surgeons, 33 Spine Align was able to successfully complete a total of nine life changing procedures, allowing these children to walk and have a normal life.

Sponsored Surgeons

Kushagra Verma, MD, MS, FAAOS

Dr. Verma is a leader in the treatment of adult and pediatric spine patients with various forms of spinal anomalies including scoliosis, kyphosis, flatback syndrome and spondylolisthesis. He completed residency at the prestigious Rothman Institute and DuPont Hospital for Children, one of the most sought after residencies in the country.



Dr. Verma's research has been presented at the Scoliosis Research Society, North American Spine Society (NASS), Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America (POSNA), and other meetings. Much of this work has been published in the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery (JBJS), Spine Deformity, Spine, and other journals. Over the last 10 years, Dr. Verma has also volunteered his services in Africa, Columbia, and Mexico to perform complex pediatric spine surgery through the FOCOS and Global Spine Outreach Foundation.



Sponsored Surgeons

C. Rory Goodwin, MD, PhD



C. Rory Goodwin is the Director for Spinal Oncology, Surgical Director for the Duke Center for Brain and Spine Metastasis and an Assistant Professor at the Duke University Medical Center. Dr. Goodwin attended the University of Florida where he majored in Neurobiological Sciences and Business Administration with minors in Chemistry and Economics.

He obtained his M.D. and Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine while also leading, founding, and participating in programs focused on future and current underrepresented minority students including serving as National President for the Student National Medical Association





33's Impact

Every dollar that is raised helps support another life saving surgery for a child in need. While many of these children are unable to walk, work, and carry normal lives... 33 Spine Align aims on giving them a second chance.

Surgeries seen at FOCOS hospital, so often they are considered to be standard, would most likely be some of worst cases any U.S. based surgeon has seen.

How You Can Help

Each of these operations are costly. Some severe cases can be around \$20,000 for a single patient. That is why our staff works pro bono, with 100% of proceeds going to the facilitation of surgeries. While we have been successful raising money to facilitate many procedures, it's our hope to do more.

Every dollar counts, and it's with great hope we can continue to raise enough money to double our operation capacity next year.

