

GAIL WAGNER, MD

ONCOLOGY, GREATER SOUTHERN ALAMEDA AREA

2008 Sidney R. Garfield, MD EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

In 2004, oncologist Gail Wagner, MD, and seven TPMG colleagues made a humanitarian journey to Ugenya – an area in western Kenya where 30% to 40% of the population is infected with HIV, and many suffer from TB, malaria, worms and other tropical diseases.

While there, they conducted ten free clinics and saw 5,000 patients. The experience was so rewarding that they decided to return, and Matibabu Foundation was born.

Dr. Wagner now makes yearly visits to Kenya, and Matibabu ("treatment" in Swahili) has attracted a growing number of volunteers who perform surgery, train local staff, and care for patients.

In December 2007, Matibabu Foundation received a \$1.5 million grant from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. The group now runs two full-time clinics and is planning a hospital.

