



**Panganani/
Malawi**
healing changes
everything



Panganani before surgery

Every day as he prepared to go to his village school in the south of Malawi, Panganani steeled himself for what was to come. The laughs and taunts of his schoolmates were as much a part of his educational experience as was the learning.

One day, he finally had enough. He quit going to school.

The reason for the trauma he endured was evident every time he looked in the mirror. This 17-year-old young man had suffered with cleft lip, a disfiguring condition affecting his upper lip, his entire life. Cleft lip not only altered his physical appearance, it made eating and drinking a daily challenge.

Panganani had learned to live with his disability as best he could and, through the years, his faith kept him strong. Although he might not have looked like his other classmates, he firmly believed God still loved him.



Panganani after surgery

For many years, there was little hope things would ever change. But, one day, his family found out about the Beit CURE International Hospital. This hospital has a well-established reputation in Malawi as being one of the few hospitals in the country able to cure conditions such as cleft lip. So, Panganani and his mother took a trip via mini-bus to the hospital.

Once in the care of the hospital's medical team, Panganani's cleft lip was corrected. There he found love, acceptance and, ultimately, healing. For the first time, he could look in the mirror and see a totally new face.

He now is looking forward to going back to school and living a life free from the stigma he long endured.

Both Panganani and his mother express their thanks to the hospital and to the generous CURE donors who made his transformation possible.