

As we have stated, we have experienced obvious differences in the healthcare systems in Kenya and the United States. Yet in the same breath there are subtle similarities. Initially it seems that resources are bountiful; however, looking keenly, one appreciates that not all tests and treatments are available for all patients. There is great disparity in healthcare access influenced by socioeconomic status in the U.S.

system. In both systems, patient compliance can be an issue. Both in Kenya and the United States, doctors are generally respected for the work they do and their value to society. Our greatest challenge yet will be going back to practice in Kenya. We will have to find a middle ground and strike a new balance between the two systems that will still be affordable and viable for the Kenyan people. ❖

## Riley Mother & Baby Hospital, Eldoret

**'...In this very special place no child shall cry unheard, and no mother or father shall be friendless'**

— Entrance plaque



The Riley Mother & Baby Hospital in Eldoret, which opened several years ago, replaced a substandard space with no running water and where newborns were placed in hanging baskets. Over 8,000 babies a year are delivered at the hospital, which is run by Kenyan physicians and nurses. Through their efforts, the rate of transmission of HIV between mothers and babies has declined from 35 percent to less than 1 percent because of screening efforts by AMPATH and the IU School of Medicine and Moi University partnership at Riley. It also contains the first neo-natal intensive care unit (NICU) in East Africa.