



Annual report 2008



from Project Aid The Third World registered NGO A 57

Project Aid the Third World is a non profit making health institution which was commissioned in May 1991. It was built to complement government's effort to enhance quality health care services for the rural population of The Gambia. It has been registered as an international NGO operating in areas of health, education, and agriculture. The administrative building is situated in Manjai Kunda, KMC.

Jahali is situated in the Central River Region of the Gambia about 280 km from Banjul. It is predominantly inhabited by the Sarahulis. The village is close to the well known Jahali Pacharr Rice Development Project which runs two seasonal cultivations in a year. Stagnant water in the fields provides good breeding ground for mosquitoes, resulting in high a rate of malaria cases in the area.

Jahali Health Centre was established in 1991 with the objective of complementing government's effort in improving the health status of the people of the Gambia.

The Health Centre is wholly and solely sponsored by a group of people in the Federal Republic of Germany, of course the GOTG provides technical support directly or indirectly in the form of workshop/seminars for the nursing staff of the facility.

The facility offers the following services up to the time of preparing this report:

Project Aid the Third World runs a Health Center since 1991 ,a Kindergarten since 2004 and Garden Project for the villagers.

A. Health Center

Jahali Health Center doesn't have a defined catchments area, therefore we received patients from Lower River Region (L.R.R.) Central River Region(C.R.R.) and Upper River Region (U.R R.) For the year 2008 we registered 14838 patients.

The sections are:

1. General outpatient services
2. Inpatients services
3. Maternal, child health and family planning
4. Laboratory services
5. Dental surgery A.R. T
6. Tuberculosis and leprosy
7. Accident and emergency units
8. Clinical waste management



9. Building I utility
10. Ambulance service
11. Out reach services

1. General outpatient services

This unit is the first port of call for all patients coming to the facility. The OPD opens at 8am each day of the week and close at 4pm, except on public holidays and weekends. There are services after this time for emergencies. This is supported by an on call trained nurse and an auxiliary nurse. We see patient of all ages and sex.

The catchment area is wide; they come from all of CRR, part of URR and part of LRR. We have registered patients from the Cassamance region of Senegal as well. The consultation fees used to be the following:

- 0-5 years D0
- 5-14 years D1
- 15yrs up D5

Due to some foreign exchange problems experienced by our sponsors, we had to raise our consultation fees to D50, - in 2007 for all ages reporting at our facility. This of course had some negative effect on the number of patients we see at our centre; nonetheless we are still seen as the best facility in the area with the best of quality service. From beginning of January 2008 we changed the fees, because the Euro became stronger again.

- 0-5 years D5,- 5-14 years
- D10,- 15yrs up D20,- Admission
- fee D40,- Lab fee D5,- to D10,-
- Pregnant woman free of charge
- Deliveries free of charges
- Foreigners double fee

We see patients with different conditions notably Malaria
Chest
Infections Skin
Disorder
Minor Surgical conditions e.g. cuts/abrasions



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The following table shows the number of patients seen on monthly bases:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
778	998	867	957	887	965	1185	1247	3.365	2.055	954	580
Total 14.838											



2. Inpatients Services

This is where patients who are very sick or cannot be treated as outpatients are kept for close monitoring and check for positive response to treatment. Other patients are admitted because they have not been responding to treatment for the second or third time.

We have two wards, a Main Ward (male/female) and a Children Ward. These units are man- ned an Auxiliary Nurse assisted by one of the trained Nurse who acts as the nurse on call.

Jahali health centre has a 27 bed capacity (16 for adult's ward and 11 for the children's ward.)

In the later part of 2007 we have changed all our beds and lockers in the Main ward with the help of our sponsors, to achieve a standard medical main ward. Thanks to the sponsors.

Cases admitted are:

Severe
malaria Severe
burns
Severe Diarrhoea with or without
blood Malaria in Pregnancy Anaemia
in Pregnancy Pneumonia

The number of patients depend on the season. More patients are admitted in the month of June through to September each year. Below is the monthly distribution of cases admitted between January to December 2007.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
22	29	19	17	37	26	34	66	65	57	40	32
Total 444											

3. Reproductive and Child Health Clinic(RCH)

Reproductive and child health is an important element in the health care delivery of The Gambia. As such Jahally Health Centre does not loose site and therefore have a modern labour ward equipped with two delivery beds, suction machine, stethoscope and BP machine, wash hand basin, drip stand and drugs. All these are provided to enable the midwife or care nurse to respond to any emergency that may arise during or after delivery. Mothers are admitted to be monitored in the process during labour. Usually the mother and infant are observed for at least six (6) hours before being allowed to go home. This observation includes checking the mother for excessive bleeding or other complications. The infant is weighed and exclusive breastfeeding explained to the mother.

Since we don't work in isolation, the TBAs sometimes escorts mothers from the village to the facility for supervise care by a trained nurse. This has helped us in dealing with most of the cases.

All complicated cases are referred to Bansang Hospital for expert care, at no cost to the



patient by our ambulance service. This service is available 24hrs a day and 7days a week. Below is the statistic of labour cases for the year under review.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
10	08	12	10	11	10	06	13	09	07	06	11
Total 113											

Child Health Service is provided by a team from our sister clinic in Brikamaba which is 5 km away. They track twice a month to attend to antenatal mothers and conduct an infant welfare clinic. We support this service by providing rooms for screening and examination of mothers as well as manpower in case of need .

Our lab is used for the routine investigation of antenatal mothers, which relieves mothers to travel to Bansang for this service. On the same token we liaise with the Regional Health Team (RHT) on any health issues.

4. Laboratory Services

To make correct diagnosis and select the right drug to treat a patient, the lab plays a key role. The lab is not equipped to the standard of a hospital but has the standard of a health centre. Jahally has the best lab in the whole of CRR except for Bansang which is a hospital. The quality of staff at our lab is the best, it is equipped with basic laboratory equipments. Rereliable results are produced for the following tests:

Malaria parasitology
Haemoglobin
WBC
Urinalysis
Stool analysis
AFB
Rapid test for pregnancy
VDRL Sickle all test
Tuberculosis and Leprosy

The lab is manned by two staff who received their training from Hamadiya Hospital in Talinding. Each 3-4 months training, this training has improved the standards at the lab.

5. Tuberculosis and Leprosy

The TB/LEP services were introduced to the health centre in November 1998 through the Department of State for Health. Our lab assistant was trained to do sputum smear. With our good performance in screening, record keeping and efficient laboratory services, we have been mandated to register and provide treatment to all smear positive cases and the subsequent follow up.



6. Accidents and Emergency unit

This unit is part of the expansion program of 1998 and is equipped to take care of emergencies and accidents. Since the beginning of 1998 to date several serious traffic accidents took place in a distance of five kilometers. Among these accidents some were fatal.

The accidents and emergency units are equipped, to offer first aid care to victims as soon as possible

7. Clinical waste management

Following an invitation by National Environmental Agency (N.E.A) and World Health Organization (WHO), to a four day workshop on clinical waste management, a staff of the facility was among the participants at Kairaba Beach Hotel.

Recommendations from the workshop were implemented by the health centre to comply with the standards of clinical waste management.

Containers are located in all areas where sharps instruments are used and disposed. In consultation with the Main office in Manjai Kunda a waste disposal site has been constructed. Staff members have been sensitized on proper management of these.

8. Ambulance

This service has been introduced since the establishment of the facility. This was necessitated by the fact that we refer some of our cases to Bansang Hospital for expert investigations. Since then we have changed the ambulance twice and the recent one came late 2001, which is still in service.

There is one driver to the ambulance who takes care of the vehicle and is resident on the clinic premises to facilitate the transportation of patients at any given time without difficulties. There have been some problems with the electricity supply due to the ageing batteries we had. This equally affects the water supply because we rely on the electricity to pump water.

Thanks to the efforts of the sponsors in Germany, by providing the facility with a new solar system, that problem is history now. We can now boast of 24/7 electricity and water supply. In that vein each staff can use his/her fan or radio without problems. All patients' areas are tiled and all consultation rooms have water supply and examination beds.

9. Out reach service

The staff do visit patients at home as part of follow-up to certain cases like TB & terminal cases who cannot be admitted because of their health conditions.

Staff Structure

The facility is manned by a well co-operated staff body. The following is the staff distribution:

- Two SRNs
- One SEN
- Three SNAs
- Five NAs
- Two Lab Assistants



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One Driver One
Watchman Three
Health labourers Four
Orderlies One field
coordinator

Out of these 23 staff members, 13 are housed in the health facility to enable them access to their work place without delay.

10. Dental surgery / A.R.T.

The ART (Dental Unit) was in co-operated into the health facility in 1998 with the view of promoting oral health particularly in the rural areas and since then the unit has been known for it excellent dental care/oral health care.

For the fact that oral related diseases represent a major social problem and could endanger ones life when ignored. It is important to know that oral cancers can be life threatening.

Catchment Areas

As far as dental/oral health care is concerned, Jahali Dental Unit has an undefined catchment area. Patients come from all over the country and as far as the cassamance region (Senegal).

Achievement

Despite the unit being under-staffed, there had been tremendous achievements in the delivery of dental service/oral health care in 2008.

The unite registered a total number of 1477 patients of different ages and sex. These patients normally have numerous visits within the year for various treatments ranging from ART filling, surgical extraction, trauma-accident and emergency (A/E) cases, periodontal (Gum disease) management and oral health consultation.

In year 2008, a total number of 105 teeth have been restored from dental caries (filled sealed) and a total number of 2604 teeth have been extracted as a result of dental caries, periodontal diseases and trauma cases.

The chart below, represent the statistic of patients attendance in 2008

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
99	90	66	159	131	165	125	124	138	134	145	110
Total 1477											

The temporal denture program attracted many patients therefore raised the flag of the unit higher. Patients who benefited from the denture program expressed the dentures as a service of high quality in The Gambia.



With all the achievements of the ART gained in the delivery of oral health care, there are still some challenges:

1. Clinic survey (Intra-Oral Examination) has revealed that the spreading of dental caries is so rapid that nearly every patient has about three or more teeth in his/her mouth affected by dental caries. In statistic show approximately eighty percent of the patients visiting the clinic are between the ages 5-40yrs. This seems so tragic, hence more awareness should be given to groups at high risk.

2. Although it has been a fact for previous years (since 2005) but becomes increasingly challenging , to restore teeth instead of extractions, which has been the norm in The Gambia.

From the beginning of January 2008 we changed the fees, because the Euro exchange rate changed.

Dental fees:

0-14 years D15,- 15yrs up D25,-

End of 2007 the cooperation between the Project Aid The Third World and the University of Witten Herdecke was canceled. As from 2008 the MOU for Project Aid The Third World will not cover any activities with the University. To keep the services of ART (Community Oral Health Workers in Jahali, Bwiam and Jammeh Foundation) in The Gambia, the activities of German Dentists from Project Aid The Third World will be covered by the MOU by the Ministry of Health.

Staff Structure

The facility is manned by a well co-operated staff body. The following is the staff distribution:

One trained COHW Two assistants One Orderly

11. Buildings and utility

Jahali Health Center has the following buildings:

- Waiting hall (for 120 people)
- Consultation area (3 consultation rooms, 1 laboratory, 1 pharmacy)
- Main wards (3 rooms for infected or elderly patients, 1 duty room for nurses, 2 showers, 2 toilets)
- Septic dressing room
- Consultation area with 3 rooms for additional consultations during the rainy season and regular visits from the Brikama Ba Health Centre (Reproductive Child Health Care)
- Maternity ward (for 2 deliveries, 1 shower, 1 toilet, 1 mother- child room) Children's ward (2 showers and 2 toilets)
- 1 Accident /emergency room
- 1 Office with internet access
- Dental area with 2 consultation rooms
- Dental classroom with residence
- 1 Drugstore, 1 general store



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- 1 Solar area (12 kw) with a battery store
- 1 Watchman's house
- 1 Generator house
- 1 Water tank
- 3 Public toilets.

Conclusion

The health centre has achieved a lot in the recent past, nonetheless there have been some constraints. For the past one year we were unable to secure the services of a midwife, which is a requirement to keep the labour ward functional.

We have been looking forward to a possible increase in salaries in the year to come and we hope the top management will look into that.

The members government i.e Secretary of State for Health and Social Welfare, W.H.O Country representative, UNICEF Representative, Permanent Secretary, Chief Nursing officer and other dignitaries visited the health centre February 2008, the result of the visit was praise for the Project Aid The Third World has been seen and praise of a modern health centre.

In this vein Government requested Project Aid The Third World for assistants in bring up other health centres to the same standard as Jahally health centre. During the year that ended we had uncompleted discussion with CRS to implement a care programme on HIV/AIDS to complement government's effort.

B. Agriculture support/Tractor services

Following the Government's declaration for year 2002 farming season as a total crop failure and the subsequent appeal from the women society in Jahali for the provision of a vegetable garden, our project welcomed the idea and henceforth provided them with twenty concrete wells as well as fencing materials.

For the year 2004, we made the similar provision for the women's 'Kafo' in Medina.

In 2007 we provided fencing material and labour cost to Medina women garden whilst in 2008 we are planned to support two other vegetable gardens, one in Medina and the other in Jahali, but it has not materialised as yet.

In addition to this support, since 2005, the project also allows the villagers of Jahali & Medina the usage of its tractor to till their farms.

The tractor and a driver are provided by the project and fuel is provided by the community.

C. Kindergarten

Jahali - Medina Kindergarten is a Kindergarten wholly and surely run by The Project Aid the Third World. It was officially commissioned on Monday 19th September 2004.

The school continues to provide regular breakfast and lunch free of charge for all the children despite the phasing out of the school from the W.F.P. Feeding programme since the beginning of this new academic year. It also continues to supply the children with free uniforms, free medical services and any other incidental expenses that the child may incur in the school. There were discussions between the Project Aid The Third World, WFP and the Regional Director of Education in CRR for the continuation of the feeding programme.

Jahally Medina Kindergarten has really been eventful during the year under review as so



many successes and constrains had to be contend with such as staff movement, capacity building, increase in enrolment, free feeding, free dispensation of medical Services by the health component of the project and issuing of free uniforms to name but a few. But to have a better understanding of these, we then need to look at them in isolation

Like in many other institutions world over staff movement or attrition is inevitable and therefore Jahally Madina Kindergarten is not an exception to that global phenomenon as it has a total number of 21 staff 14 of whom are teachers (trained and untrained) while the remaining 7 are auxiliary staff.

Under capacity building, a one week training workshop was organised by the kindergarten in March of 2007 for all the staff to strengthen their capacity in better handling the youngsters under their care and further broaden their horizon in the profession of teaching. This training was resourced by an American Peace Corps Teacher Trainer under the Region Five Directorate. At this juncture, the result of this training effective teaching and learning have been re-enforced tremendously as the latter outcome spoke volume of this which was self evidence during the 2007 graduation procession where children freely articulated their capabilities before a large audience.

In the area of enrolment, the kindergarten has during the year under review enrolled 95 kids (50 boys and 44 girls) sending the total population of the institution to 240 as the maximum enrolment signifying the growth strength and rapid confident building in the institution. In July 2007, 65 pupils graduated from the kindergarten after fulfilling all the requirements necessary for graduation and are now happily admitted in the Lower Basic School.

In the area of feeding and health, the kindergarten continued to provide free medical services and feeding to all the children despite the fact that the kindergarten has not been benefiting from the Departments' School feeding Programme under the WFP. It is however worth noting that feeding over 240 pupils on a daily basis has not been very easy for the institution as it is far too expensive and sadly all our efforts to lure WFP back has so far proven futile. Nonetheless we have been managing as we are determined to provide a holistic programme in our ECD centre and will continue to manage until some form of help comes our way.

Not only do the kindergarten provided free medical services and feeding to the youngsters but also supplied the 95 new intakes with one new uniform each as usual and also made condition conducive for the acquisition of the second by the parents.

In the domain of sport, the kindergarten in the year under review has intensified the acquisition of new sporting gears while adequately maintained the existing play materials planted in the field as well as the bicycles used for cycling classes also added more recipe to the learning process. The drama show has also not been an exception to this derives and plans are in high gears to expand the stage (audiovisual hall) for more accommodation for drama and other similar activities.

The activities in the vegetable garden has also been vigorously pursued during the past year as it continued to support the dietary needs of the children at the school canteen. The bananas and pawpaw also continued to play a pivotal role in boosting the nutritional needs of the children for adequate growth.



Buildings/Classrooms (Kindergarten)

The school has modern structures with six classrooms, three Offices, ten toilets, ten wash-hand basins, a stage, a kitchen, a store and a garden.

Also has a playing ground in which gaming facilities such as a Mary-go-round, two see-saws and a slide etc.. Recently a satellite TV has been added for the recreation of resident staff. There are forty (40) students in each of the six classes in two classes of each level. Namely level one Giraffe and Hippopotamus, level two Lion and Crocodile, level three Zebra and Elephant.

Also in each of these classes are two teachers- one qualified and one unqualified, seven tables including the one used by the teachers, forty-two chairs also including the two used by the teachers, some cupboards and a host of learning resources.

Like queen kindergartens, this Kindergarten has also got an authorized syllabus out of which the lesson plans are drawn for use in the various levels. Following is a comprehensive tabulation of the classroom situation in terms of human and material resources

Generals:

Office:

The office is situated in Manjai Kunda. It is computerized (3 computers in a network system) and equipped with modern communication systems (Phone: 4461187 / Fax: 4461162 / Email projectaid@gamtel.gm).

Office hours:

Mondays till Thursdays 08:30 - 16:30, Fridays 08:30 - 13:30.

The office is always staffed on office hours.

Staff Structure Two Project managers One Driver One Orderly One Carpenter Two Gardners

Staff quarters in Jahali 1
house with 6 bedrooms 1
house with 6 bedrooms 1
house with 4 bedrooms 1
house with three bedrooms
1 guesthouse with 4 bedrooms
2 kitchens
1 staff garden 1 Bantaba

Most of the houses have toilets and showers. There are also two outside showers and toilet areas.



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Furtherstatistics Health Centre

Number of patients in 2008 :

14,838 since opening: 347,360

Number of deliveries in 2008: 113

since opening: 1572

Dental Unit

Number of patients in 2008: 1477

Since opening: 11,857

Kindergarten:

Number of pupils (permanent): 240

Lamin Diba - Project Manager Yama Lowe / Project
Manager Supervised by Mrs Ingrid Corr