

PROJECT AID THE GAMBIA ANNUAL REPORT 2010

INTRODUCTION

Project Aid is a German and Gambian registered (Non Governmental Organisation). Whose primary mandate is to supplement the Government in providing excellent humanitarian services to the target, rural communities. The project has been involved in series of successful projects since 1991. Its mandate was to provide excellent health care to the people living in the rural areas. As education is the founding block of any meaningful development, its secondary mandate was to provide high quality early childhood education for the children of the target villages. Project Aid is presently sponsoring four women Agricultural garden project in Jahally (CRD) .In the later part of 2010 the project in collaboration with the German Government was able to secure funds to build Njaba kunda Health Centre to a model clinic. The administrative head office is situated in Manjai Kunda (K.M.C) Kanifing Municipal Council, The Gambia.

CURRENT PROJECTS

JAHALLY HEATH CENTRE

Project Aid's Jahally Health Centre provides efficient and effective modern health care. In addition to the target villages of Jahally and Madina, the Jahally Health Centre is available to a catchment area amounting to more than 2500 sq. km and comprising over 1100 settlements, village and towns.

Since its inauguration in 1991 Project Aids Jahally Health Centre has treated almost 428,000 patients

STRUCTURES:

The Health Centre is made up of structure or units which enhances a properly coordinated functioning body.

The various structure or units are as follows:

- A. Outpatients Department (opd)
- B. Inpatients (ward)
- C. Laboratory
- D. Dental unit
- E. Maternity (Labour ward)
- F. Ambulance service
- G. Drugs stores
- H. Domestic service department which includes Gardner's, cleaners, watchman
- I. The Solar system
- J. Staff

A. Out patients Department:

This unit is the first point of call; it is responsible for the registration of patients /clients. Every patient is registered by Name, sex, age, address and nationality. There are no clearly defined tariffs for age categories with some exemptions,

example: 0-5years free registration and treatment
6-18 years D1.00
19 years above D5.00
Pregnant women-free
Staff and Family members-free.

However tariffs are double for non-Gambian adults. Registered patient are seen and given treatment. Cases commonly seen include.

1. Malaria
2. Diarrhoea
3. cough and cold
4. pneumonia
5. high blood pressure
6. skin disorder etc.

Seasonal variations determine the kind of cases and number of patients seen at different times of the year.

B. In patient (ward):

There are two wards i.e. the children's ward and the main ward. Patients seen at the OPD whose conditions need close attention are admitted. There are eleven beds in the children ward and sixteen including five in the private rooms, 292 adults and 420 children admitted in 2010, 260 of these cases are malaria.

The following number of patients were admitted in 2010.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
88	101	77	62	53	30	51	85	81	106	46	57

C. Laboratory Services

To make correct and rational use of drugs to treat patients, the lab plays a key role in that direction and the standard of health Services. It has very good laboratory equipments, and provides quality service. It is manned by two lab assistance.

The lab produces reliable result and conducts the following tests:

- Malaria Parasitological
- Haemoglobin
- WBC
- Urinalysis
- Stool analysis

- AFB
- Rapid test for pregnancy
- VDRL
- Sickle cell test

D. 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/oral health care. In the year 2010 these clinic has not been operational due to staff constrain. All efforts are made to have it operational by January 2011.

E. Maternity Unit

Reproductive and child health service (RCH) is an important element in the health care delivery of the Gambia. As such, Jahally Health Centre does not lose site and have a modern labour ward equipped with two delivery beds, suction machine, stethoscope, 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 monitor progress of labour before discharge. Usually the mother and infant are observed for at least six (6) hours before they are allowed to go home. These observations include 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 escort mothers from the village to the facility for supervised care by a trained nurse. This has helped us a lot in dealing with most of the cases.

All complicated cases are referred to Basang Hospital for expert care, at no costs to the patients by our ambulance service.

Child Health Service is provided by a team from our sister clinic in Brikamaba which is 5kms away. They trek twice a month to attend to antenatal mothers and conduct infant welfare clinic. Our support to this is the provision of man power, rooms for screening and examination of mothers.

Our laboratory serves the routine lab investigation of antenatal mothers, which relief them from travelling to Basang. On the same token we liaise with the Regional Health Team (RHT) for any health issues.

The following deliveries were conducted in the year 2010

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
9	5	5	3	3	9	3	6	2	7	3	7

F. 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 management or other investigation that are not within our scope. Since then we have changed ambulances three times. Thanks to the sponsors for their timely provision of this new ambulance.

The following referrals were made in the year 2010

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
7	5	8	9	4	5	9	6	12	9	4	7

G. Drug store

There is one main drug store, for the safe keeping of all available drugs. It is monitored by the clinic manager. Routine supply of drugs to the pharmacy is recorded. Every new stock is also confirmed along the receipts. Monthly stock checking is a policy.

H. Domestic service

The service of maintaining a clean healthy and enviable setting is a matter treated with much important. Therefore this unit is established to give and impressive look all the time. The staffs are trained at different hotels to be able to coop with modern cleaning techniques.

This has paid a great divined to the cleanliness of the health centre and the surroundings.

I. The Solar system

The Project site is blessed with solar energy which serves both the Health facility and the Kindergarten with 24 hours electricity and water supply. The system is well maintained to serve the purpose.

STATISITIC (Out Patient)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3178	2866	4362	3354	3194	3924	3460	3595	3466	1223	1465	1345

JAHALLY MADINA KINDERGARTEN

We have once again successfully gone through another academic year of success in the history of our beloved institution under the tentacles of Project Aid, The Gambia. As usual the Kindergarten has made tremendous strides to claim its rightful position in the cadre of Nursery Education in The Gambia since its inception in 2004 but more especially in the year under review. A lot of developments have been registered during this year prominent among which are the increase in enrolment, landmark achievement at Jabang Kindergarten, human resource development, continues supply of food, uniform and medical services to name but a few. Unlike other provincial learning institution, The enrolment figures Jahally-Madina Kindergarten continues to grow from strength to strength despite the stiff competition with the two existing 'Madarassas' (Quranic Schools) of Jahally and Madina. One hundred and five children (105 chn.) were enrolled during the year under review fifty-five (55) of which were girls as opposed to 94 chn in the previous academic year. This has highlighted a significant increase in enrolment surging the general student population to 240 as the maximum capacity the Kindergarten can take so far leaving 12 other interested candidates on the waiting list. In October, 2010 the Kindergarten was again invited to an academic competition, reading and storytelling to be precise at Jabang Kindergarten (Kindergarten Linden) with five other kindergartens around that end making seven schools in all at the competition. Despite being the only rural kindergarten in the event and having travelled the longest distance about 280 km from the venue we still managed to steal the show by mesmerizing the audience and the judges alike with our impeccable performance which undoubtedly sent us to the top in both events to the amazement of all who attended this auspicious occasion. Thanks to the support of the Project management who shouldered the bills and never relented in supporting the young stars who in turn brought pride to the Project and to the whole of region five for the first time in her history.

In the area of Health and Feeding, the kindergarten still continues to provide free medical services and feeding to the 240 registered children despite the fact of being phased out of the WFP'S school feeding programme under the Department of State for Education. It is however worth mentioning at this juncture that feeding such a huge population on a daily bases single handily has not being very easy for the institution due to the high commodity prizes and unfortunately all our efforts to lure WFP back has so far fallen on deaf ears. This means that we have been barely managing over the year to survive and provide the holistic programmes for the children and are still determined to forge ahead if our calories can stand the taste of time until some form of help comes our way. Not only do the kindergarten provided free medical services and feeding to the young stars during the period under review but also supplied the 105 new intakes with one new school uniform each as traditional of the institution. In addition to this, 16 extra new uniforms were issued out to the participants who travelled to Jabang for the competition as a form of incentive to boost up their morals which undoubtedly paid dividend. The kindergarten's vegetable garden has not also been a forgotten area in the year under review as it served us not only as an elementary agricultural class for the pupil but also its produces were used to supplement the school canteen in order to provide adequate balance diet for the children. The bananas and pawpaw also continue to play a pivotal role in boosting the nutritional status of the children for adequate growth. It is indeed an understatement to assert that the year under review has been truly eventful especially when one takes stock of the increase in enrolment, capacity

building, free medical service, free feeding, free supply of uniforms and the admirable academic excellence. In fact in my candid opinion, the year under review has been one of success that will be remembered for years to come.

AGRICULTURE

As the project operates in three intervention areas namely Health, Education and Agriculture it is therefore just apt for us to shed some light on the developments that took place in this sector over the year under review. It's already established that the project has supported the operation of four vegetables gardens in the two communities, Jahally and Madina to be precise for many years now. It has provided safe wells and fencing materials from home and abroad for all the four gardens (2 in Jahally and 2 in Madina) costing over a million of dalais and are still being supportive to the crusade. In the first garden of Jahally 10 of the 20 existing wells have just undergone some serious renovation and are now in the first class ranking. In the second Jahally garden, 10 new wells have just been added to the existing 4 and 1 of the 4 old ones renovated to a safer standard making scarcity of water a thing of the past in this garden too. In the first garden of madina, 3 new wells were dug during the year under review and 11 of the 21 existing ones renovated to a first class standard giving a total of 24 good wells providing abundant water to the disposal of the women making their dream come true. In the second garden of Madina there were 8 wells 2 of which were in a very bad shape but the project during the year under review has replace these 2 bad ones with new ones giving them a total of 8 good wells which is just sufficient for their garden size. Not only does the project confines it agricultures support to the people of the community to horticulture alone but also provided them with a Tractor with all its accessories to support them in all their agricultural ventures at a very minimal cost if any at all.

In 2010 the Project embarks on a garden project to further improve the nutritional requirements of the kindergarten students. The area was identified by the village. The fencing was done by the project and six concrete wells were constructed. This project is currently in progress.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Human resource development has also been placed on a high premium during the year under review, the project management are cognizant of the fact that a well trained and motivated staff are bound to be more productive. In recognition of this fact, two of the seven untrained teachers have just been sent to the College for the three years Early Childhood Development (ECD) Course on full scholarship at the expend of the Project. The clinic manager was also sponsored to undergo a diploma course on midwifery. Two students were sponsored to do state enrol Nurse training program at Bansang Nursing school. All this effort was made to counter attrition rate of train staffs.

Plans are also on the way to send some more eligible candidates in the subsequent years. Not only were the teachers and Nurses sent on training during the year under review but also cleaners, as two of the kindergarten own Cleaners and Three from the Health Centre were sent on a two months cleaning practical course at Senegambia to be

more versatility in the area of cleaning. This was also at the coordination and expense of the project.

STAFF MOTIVATION

Staff motivation is paramount in the agenda of the project. In these vain the training packages as already stated above are in place for progressive staffs. Well structured staff houses are built, clean and regularly maintained, with 24 hours electricity and water supply.

MODEL HEALTH CENTRE IN NJABA KUNDA

In 2009 after conducting the independent inspection of all 35 upcountry Rural Health Centres it's became obvious to Project Aid, that the biggest challenge is the maintenance and effective cleaning of the facilities. The highest priority is to provide all Health Centres with water and electricity-preferably operated by solar power system.

The experience in Jahally has taught Project Aid the advantage of tilling all wards and rooms which is a crucial factor to enable staff to clean properly. Project Aid's whole concept is based on the idea of low- maintenance. All rooms have to be tiled, especially the walls up to least two meter height. Furniture such as beds should be made of concrete which will allow easy cleaning and ensure high hygienic standards.

During the inspection the Njaba Kunda Health Centre-the very place, where the Project Aid's founders, Matthias Ketteler and Frank Heuer in 1986 first came in touch with the rural Gambian health system-was found to be in the worst condition of any health centre inspected. Project Aid plans to entirely re-constructs the building and it's health facilities in accordance to the principles which have been proven so valuable in Jahally such as the tilling and cross-ventilation in jahally and in all rooms.

Project Aid will be responsible for the reconstruction of Njaba Kunda Health centre into a Model Health Centre and will also train and supervise the cleaning staff for the first three years after the renovation then will hand the facilities back into the Governmental Health Care system.

The training of the cleaning staffs is crucial for Project Aid's vision of creating a hygienic environment in any Health Centre. The Gambia n Chairman Freedy Blell the owner of the luxury senegambia Beach Hotel, provided the opportunity for the cleaners of Jahally health centre to be taught proper cleaning techniques from the staff of three hotel where they learn how such a high quality facility is kept clean, especially in areas which are tiled.

Ambassador Ketteler and Project Aid presently secured funding for this new project, and a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Project and the Government.

MOBILE HIV/AIDS LAB UNIT

Another project currently being planned by Project Aid is a mobile Clinic which is focus on two issues which represent a significant challenge to Gambians in the rural areas. The Project Aid in collaboration with National Aids secretariat and with the Government have planed to embark on a mobile HIV, Clinic which will be used to sensitize the most under privilege communities in the country.

For the HIV/AIDS component trained staff will use the vehicle which will be fully equipped with a lab and a consultation area complete with required information materials. HIV/AIDS is a sensitive topic in The Gambia and requires a subtle approach. Project Aid plans to work together with drama groups and local entertainers to sensitive the communities about HIV/AIDS in a way that is acceptable to the community and possibly even entertain them, as they are encouraged to participate in voluntary HIV/AIDS testing.

GENERALS

OFFICE

The office is situated in Manjai Kunda. It is computerised (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 08:30-13:00.

The office is always staffed on office hours.

STAFF STRUCTURE

One Project Manager
One Architect
One Maintenance co-ordinator
One Volunteer
One Secretary
One Driver
One Orderly

Manjai Kunda: ____/____/_____

Sign

Project Manager
