



Press Release Project Aid The Gambia, International NGO A57  
**--for immediate release--**

**Project Aid The Gambia donates 8,000 face masks to health facilities in CRR**

Manjai Kunda, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 **Project Aid The Gambia, International NGO A57, that operates Jahaly Health Centre, CRR, and Health Centre Bunidau, NBR, provides 8,000 face masks free of charge to 23 Health Centers and Community Clinics in Central River Region, in a move to stop the spread of the COVID-19 disease.**

On Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, the organization started the delivery of the face masks to 23 health facilities, identified by the Regional Director of Health of CRR. Major Health Centers received 500 face masks each, minor facilities received 250 face masks each. In addition, an amount of 2,000 leaflets containing information how to correctly use and wash the face masks has also been provided to each of the 23 health facilities.

The health facilities in CRR named below received masks:

Kaur Health Centre	Ballagharr Community Clinic	Nanaba Comm. Clinic
Chamen H/C	Njau Comm. Clinic	Pinai Comm. Clinic
Kuntaur H/C	Jailan Bakadagi Comm. Clinic	Katamina Comm. Clinic
Sami Karantaba H/C	Njoben Comm. Clinic	Gissadi Comm. Clinic
Janjanbureh H/C	Firdowsey Comm. Clinic	Kunting Comm. Clinic
Bansang RCH	Jamally Comm. Clinic	Nanaba Comm. Clinic
Brikamaba H/C	Sami Madina Comm. Clinic	
Kudang H/C	Sareh Soffie Comm. Clinic	
Dankunku H/C	St. Lazaros Private Clinic	

The face masks are made of double-layer cotton, being washable and re-usable. The face masks are not meant for sale, but for the use by staff and patients of the health facilities. The face masks are being collected from the patients upon leaving, and afterwards being washed in hot water with OMO, dried the other day and re-issued to patients. A handout with a protocol how to correctly wash and re-use the masks, has also been provided to the staff of the health facilities.

The protocol of using, cleaning and re-using the face masks by staff and patients - following the WHO guidelines - have been implemented in both health centers run by the organization (Jahaly Health Centre, CRR, and Health Center Buniadu, NBR) since the beginning of April.

The face masks have been produced in The Gambia during the last weeks. The production was funded by the German partner organization of Project Aid The Gambia, which had successfully run a fundraiser in Germany. Up to date Project Aid The Gambia had produced an amount of 27,000 face masks, some of which were sold to different NGOs and companies at cost price. The production of the face masks is still ongoing. More masks will be delivered to more health facilities, as soon as those facilities will have been identified to receive masks by the health authorities.

In another development the German partner organization of Project Aid The Gambia, has secured 12 second-hand respirators and several hospital beds to be shipped to The Gambia as soon as possible. Hospital beds and respirators will be handed over to governmental health centers, where patients suffering from COVID-19 are being treated. Since weeks Project Aid The Gambia has been waiting to



receive an official letter of request from the Ministry of Health, which is urgently asked for by the German sponsors. This letter has not been received yet.

For additional information please email to [projectaid@work.gm](mailto:projectaid@work.gm)

Manjai Kunda, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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Project Aid The Gambia

### **Background information on Project Aid The Gambia - International NGO A57**

Since 1986 Project Aid The Gambia - International NGO A57 has been running several projects in The Gambia. The focus of the activities lies on the sister villages Jahaly and Madina located in CRR, South Bank in a 270 kilometer 's distance from the Kombo region. A small Gambian management team is organizing the projects on the ground. The German sister NGO, also called Project Aid The Gambia, is funding the Gambian Project Aid. The organization in Germany has got about 50 members and about 350 friends and supporters, who are donating for the projects and doing fundraising events. The administration costs of the German organization are extremely low, i.e. 0.98 % of the incoming donations in 2019. That means: from every single Euro that is being donated, about 99 Euro cents directly go to the people of Jahaly and Madina. The projects are: Jahaly Health Centre in Jahaly (since 1991), Jahaly/Madina Kindergarten with nursery school (since 2004), four women 's gardening projects (since 2003), the construction of eco-friendly smoke-free ovens (since 2010), the plantation of Moringa trees (since 2012), the construction of the model clinic Njaba Kunda Health Centre in the village Njaba Kunda (2011/12) located at the North Bank, the support and surgery of Gambian kids (since 2012), who can't be treated in The Gambia - a cooperation with the German NGO Friedensdorf (Peace Village) International. In February 2017 Project Aid The Gambia took over the management and administration of the Health Center Buniadu, NBR, in cooperation with the German NGO Riverboat Doctors International.

