

**GANTA UNITED METHODIST HOSPITAL
QUATERLY REPORT, COVERING APRIL, MAY, JUNE, 2007**

GREETINGS

Dr. Samuel Bowman, Sister Jemima Brown, members of the Board of Health and Welfare, LAC/UMC, brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ.

INTRODUCTION

This report of our stewardship covers the period of three months: April, May, and June 2007. During this period, the hospital witnessed progressive development in most areas of the hospital and on the reconstruction work of 2 housing units for staff. This report also provides information on the massive outreach and onsite activities of the Eye Clinic and the Primary Health Care Project at the hospital. The construction work on the new hospital was slow due to lack of cement on the market, but a significant amount of funds was generated through the unrelenting funds raising efforts of Bishop John G. Innis towards the ongoing construction process. Moreover, the hospital continues to work with local and external partners in meeting the health care challenges in north eastern Liberia. Information on visiting guests, donations, training as well as critical personnel's issues are addressed in this narrative report

STATISTICS

PNC visit	OPD	In-pt	Eye reach	Out	Eye Clinic	Eye Surgery	General Surgery	VVF Repair	HIV Test Done	HIV Positive
976	5,352	1,145	551		388	135	432	-	443	30

Normal Delivery	C/section	X-ray	Children vaccinated	Pregnant women vaccinated	Non pregnant women vaccinated	Death
97	100	15	1,414	330	202	40

GANTA HOSPITAL EYE CLINIC

Since the establishment of the Eye Clinic, our primary focus has been the identification and transportation of patients with operable cataract cases to base hospital for sight restoration surgery. This has been the trend of our work up to March 2007. During our experience with the community, we realized that problems such as cost, distance and fear of surgery have been the major barriers to our cataract surgical delivery services. During this period the eye team established surgical outreach stations in the various districts of Nimba County and conducted 2 successful surgical outreaches in Karnplay and Tappita. The surgical fee was reduced from LD\$3000 to LD\$1500 and this contributed to increase in the number of surgeries at the outreach stations than at the base hospital. During the exercise, 551 patients were seen during outreach visits while 388 patients were seen at base hospital. Among this population, 249 operable cataracts and 71 glaucoma cases were identified while the total of 149 eye operations were performed.

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

During the period under review, four active areas of the PHC continue to provide onsite and community based services including reproductive health, immunization, water and sanitation, and health information sharing. The focus of our health information sharing has been primarily on behavioral change; however, efforts are underway to integrate empowerment component that will address health care disparities. The UMCAMNA Project and diabetes program were very inactive. However, during the end of the quarter, we received 2000 treated mosquito nets to be used for our malaria control efforts. The nets are being distributed to children of vaccination age, pregnant women, students of Winifred J. Harley School of Nursing, workers and to each hospital bed at Ganta Hospital.

The reproductive health services provided over the period included supervision of traditional midwives and traditional birth attendants, conducting well baby clinic, and providing family planning commodities.

To assist the communities in prompt referral, the PHC vehicle provided ambulance service for obstetric emergency cases during the period under review. The community visits continue to yield good result; over the period, 24 high risk patients were identified and referred to Ganta Hospital.

The well project in Kulapa is still under construction. With the availability of Funds from UMCOR, we have authorized the PHC supervisor to secure all necessary materials from the procurement person for the completion of the project.

The PHC Project also witnessed an upsurge in the number of persons vaccinated with various antigens. The total of 1,946 persons, including under one year children, pregnant and non-pregnant women were immunized.

LABORATORY

Our partnership with International Rescue Committee, IRC is yielding fruitful results. During the period under review, we were successful in installing blood bank with solar energy support at the hospital. The installation of the solar panel gives the laboratory 24hrs power supply for the blood bank. IRC also provided one large refrigerator for storing reagents and other laboratory supplies. These efforts are parts of the blood safety initiative at the hospital.

NEW HOSPITAL AND STAFF HOUSING

Construction work on the Emergency Room of the new hospital has been very slow. The contractor, GBECCO has been finding it difficult to procure cement from CEMENTCO. Several attempts have been made to avert the situation by obtaining letter from the office of the Director of Connectional Ministries, LAC/UMC, Rev. Joseph Theoway and talking with top executives of CEMENTCO to assist. Besides the initial advance payment of **\$34, 000** to the contractor, we just issued another check of **\$10,000** to assist GBECCO procure more cement in advance.

It is my pleasure to inform you that we have received sufficient funds towards the construction of the emergency unit. Through the funds raising efforts of Bishop Innis, we received financial contribution of **\$6,500** from Liberians in the USA and **\$40,000** from Wesley United Methodist Church in Canton, IL. United Methodist Health Care in Memphis also sent **\$10,000** towards the construction of the same unit. Again, we just received transfer information for **\$42,000** from Wesley United Methodist Church in

Canton, Illinois for the same construction work. When these funds are available, they will be sufficient to complete the unit.

Two housing units for staff of the hospital are under construction. The buildings are expected to be ready for dwelling within 2 months. Each unit contains 3 bed rooms, a bath room, a kitchen, store room, living room and a porch.

CENTRAL SUPPLY ROOM/HOUSE KEEPING UNIT

We received and installed 2 autoclaves in the Central Supply Room, CSR during the period under review. One of the sterilizers was donated by Edenton Street United Methodist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. The other sterilizer was secured through the blood safety project with IRC.

As part of the blood safety program, IRC funded the reconstruction of wastes disposal site at the hospital. An incinerator was built, the entire waste disposal site fenced and drainage canal created. The project has been very helpful in keeping our environment clean and has facilitated the work of the house keeping unit.

STAFF UPDATE

Dr. Paul Whesseh's Contract will not be renewed when it expires on September 30, 2007. Dr. Whesseh has opened his private clinic in Ganta and such act constitutes a major conflict of interest with the hospital. Though the hospital is in desperate need of physician, but we cannot compromise our policy especially giving his diminished commitment to the work of the hospital.

Dr. Joseph Sieka resigned after working for the period of 5 months. All efforts to retain him failed. He explained to us that he was under family pressure to return to Monrovia. Since he did not complete the terms of his agreement, we asked him to pay back the amount he received from Ganta Hospital during his internship. He did a promissory note to pay back Ganta Hospital through installments, starting the month of September, 2007. During the month of May, we lost our X-ray technician, **Miss Alice Gaye**. Alice died from Lassa fever. Since her demise, we have not been able to find her replacement. The hospital is in search of a qualified X-ray technician.

Another critical staff issue on hand is the situation surrounding Dr Paul Whesseh. Dr. Whesseh has opened a clinic with surgical services in Ganta. This issue has been discussed with Dr. Bowman, Chairman, Board of Health, LAC/UMC and the team that Rev. Theoway headed to Ganta. A decision was reached that Dr. Whesseh chooses between his personal enterprise and the hospital. Dr. Albert Willicor and I met and discussed with Dr. Whesseh about the board's decision. From every indication, the gentleman is determined to pursue his personal enterprise.

Two nursing staff, **Alexander Saye** and **Stephen Caldwell** will be leaving for nurse dental practitioner training in India for the period of 6 months. The training is part of our plans to reactivate dental services at the center and to inculcate the nurse dental practitioner component into our former nursing training program. Through this arrangement, a couple Indian dentists may come into the country for an extended period of time to initiate the training.

Mr. Herbert Goaneh, a biomedical technician at the hospital will be going to Kaduna, Nigeria for six weeks to participate in eye equipment maintenance training. The training will be sponsored by Christoffel-Blindenmission International. **Mrs. Angeline Willicor** and **David Kpanquoi** have also been selected to go for 2 months training in community

based HIV/AIDS program in Maua United Methodist Hospital in Kenya. The training will be jointly supported by the German Church and GBGM.

GANTA HOSPITAL BOARD

The administrative board for Ganta United Methodist Hospital has been formulated. The board comprising 15 members was set up on June 23, 2007 under the chairmanship of Rev. Joseph Theoway, Director, Connectional Ministries, LAC/UMC.

The following entities were selected to form part of the board and they are:

<u>INSTITUTION</u>	<u># OF REPRESENTATIVE</u>
1. Ganta United Methodist Hospital--	3 Persons (Administrator, CMO, workers' rep.)
2. Nimba County Health Team-----	1 person
3. CHAL-----	1 " "
4. UMU-----	1 ""
5. Ganta Mission Station-----	1 ""
6. Gompa District-----	1 person
7. Board of Health and Welfare, LAC/UMC-----	Health Coordinator
8. Connectional Ministries-----	Director
9. Nimba County Local Government-----	County Superintendent
10. Ganta City Council-----	1 person
11. Ganta Business Association-----	1 person
12. Administration, Ganta Leprosy and TB Rehab.---	1 person
13. GBGM-----	AFE

Participants in the meeting were:

1. Rev. Joseph Theoway
2. Sis. Jemimah Brown
3. Rev. Anna Kpaan
4. Victor Doolakeh Taryor
5. Dr. Albert Willicor
6. Rev. Sampson Nyanti
7. Rev. John Togba

The meeting agreed that the term of reference for the board will be formulated during its first meeting. At the hospital level, we have set the 3rd Saturday in August for the first meeting. Communication for the meeting will be out during the first week of August.

VISIING GUESTS

During the past quarter, we received visitors from the US and Mercy Ships headed by **Mr. Jim Perry of North Carolina Conference**. The team visited three of our PHC communities including Kulapa, which Edenton Street UMC is assisting to install a hand pump. **Sarah Dyer and Ken Mcdermit** from CBMI, Australia visited our eye project at Ganta. The purpose of their visit was to review and assess the impact of Second Chance Medical Equipment, SCME donation in Liberia. During the visit, Ken assisted and installed one of our eye examination machines and taught our medical technician how to do routine maintenance work on the eye microscope. **Charles Eldridge**, a junior studying hospital administration at Auburn University visited and served as an administrative intern for three weeks at the hospital. During his rotation, he was given a project to

development tool for in patient and out patient statistics. He successfully completed the project and tried the instrument. He came through the recommendations of **Rev. Isaac Chukpue Padmore and Mr. Jim Perry of North Carolina Conference.**

DONATION

The following donations were received during the period under review:

1. MAP INTERNATIONAL, USA donated a 20' container of assorted drugs and medical supplies to the hospital.
2. German Church donated a 40' container of assorted drugs and medical supplies to the hospital and as well as carpentry machines and tools to be used for MSMM project. Some contents of the container include bicycles, used clothing and computers. The German Church also procured and sent 2000 treated mosquito nets for our malaria control initiative at the hospital.
3. Edenton Street United Methodist Church in Raleigh, NC donated a box of medical supplies and medicines to the hospital
4. International Rescue Committee, IRC donated microscope, surgical tools, and assorted medical supplies. Additionally, one large refrigerator and two fridges for blood banking were donated by IRC
5. Church of Later Day Saints donated assorted drugs and medical supplies
6. World Vision Liberia donated assorted medical supplies to the center
7. Hon. Prince Y. Johnson, Senior Senator of Nimba County donated medicines and medical supplies

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Ganta Hospital is requesting assistance for the following:

Work teams/Long term Volunteers

Work teams/volunteers to assist in renovation of hospital buildings and residences;
Work teams/volunteers to assist in the construction of the new hospital complex;
Work teams/volunteers to assist with medical (nurses, lab technicians, OR personnel, **DOCTORS**, etc) administrative (accountants, bookkeepers, computer repair technicians, etc), and technical (electricians, engineers, etc) needs

COMMENDATION

On behalf of the administration and staff of the Ganta Hospital, we extend our thanks and appreciation to Bishop John G. Innis for his ongoing concern and advice as well as his able fund raising efforts around the world, and to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), for its ongoing support. Thanks and appreciation also goes to our partners in the USA and Europe (Germany) for faithful contributions of funds, materials, and equipment; as well as ongoing prayer support. Our thanks and appreciation also go to the Board of Health and Welfare of the Liberia annual Conference, headed by Dr. Samuel Bowman, for its tireless support and guidance to get the hospital to its present day status. Thanks and appreciation to the Gompa District, headed by Rev. James Labala, for its constant presence, encouragement, advice, and able leadership. Thanks and appreciation to the doctors and all staff of the Ganta Hospital for their sense of sincere

dedication, devotion, and many long hours of hard and tedious work. Thanks and appreciation to the Office of the Council on Ministries for its advice and support. Thanks to all of you for your prayers and your continuous support.

SEE ATTACHED FINACIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL TO JUNE 2007.

Respectfully submitted by:

Victor Doolakeh Taryor
Administrator