

University College Cork CORK-SINGIDA PARTNERSHIP

NEWSLETTER: AUGUST 2014



Makiungu Hospital has published its report for the years 2009-2012. The report describes the challenges faced and progress made during this important period which followed its designation, in July 2008, as the Council Designated Hospital for Singida District (Rural). This new status, which was achieved against the competition of other local hospitals is explained over the next page. The history of the hospital, its structure, the services provided and its plans are described in the report, together with detailed descriptions of the evolution of the services provided by each department. The full report may be viewed through the link <http://www.hightail.com/download/e1NMaXRCbEFvQUpFQmNUQw>. Two extracts, the General Review and Achievement sections, are reproduced at the end of this Newsletter

Following completion of the new hostel for hospital staff, the main contribution of Cork-Singida Partnership in the past year has been to support the establishment of an Intensive Care unit at Makiungu. This unit is badly needed because the Hospital is a referral unit for the smaller health facilities in its catchment area. As noted in the hospital report the hospital carried out about 980 major surgeries in 2012. There are often very seriously ill patients who need special attention while in critical condition. Without the Hospital, the alternatives would often have been an expensive transfer to a Dar-Es-Salaam hospital (400 miles away), which could not have been afforded, or death

As noted in the summary (below) of income and expenditure over the period 1/10/2009 to 31/5/2014 the Partnership has steadily rebuilt its funds following the expenditure of €120,000 on the new hostel.

Income	
Opening balance	57,290
Members' Lodgements	111,434
Tax Refunds	38,502
Bank interest	975
Private Donations	<u>8,090</u>
Total	<u>216,291</u>
Expenditure	
Hostel for hospital staff	120,000
Medical supplies	580
Equipment for Intensive Care Unit,	16,261
Bank Interest/Charges	<u>908</u>
Total	<u>137,749</u>
Balance 31/5/2014	<u>78,542</u>

Please mention the Partnership to people in your Department who may be interested. As a background to your efforts, we intend to place a Newsletter on the net to all Exchange Users. An Authorisation Form may be found at the end of this newsletter.

The staff at Makiungu Hospital have asked us to thank you all for your continuing support,

The Cork-Singida Partnership Committee:

Mary Donnelly Law	John Doran Accounting	Angela Flynn Nursing & Midwifery	Ray Foley Project Accountant	Ann Gannon Human Resources
Mike Mansfield Physics	Ruth McDonnell Media & Communications	David Gwynn Morgan Law	Ivan Perry Epidemiology & Public Health	

Extracts from the Report of Makiungu Hospital 2009-2012

GENERAL REVIEW

January 2009 to December 2012

Prior to this period, Makiungu Hospital became a District Designated Hospital (DDH) on July 1st 2008. On this date, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the bishop of Singida, Rt. Rev. Dr. Desderius Rwoma, as legal owner of the hospital, and the District Executive Director (DED), on behalf of the local council. From that date, women in pregnancy and children under five years of age have not been charged, and the number of these patients has increased considerably. With a resident surgeon and two Obstetrician/Gynaecologists, the hospital acts as a referral centre for many parts of the district and region, and many patients with complex diseases come to it.

Following this MOU the hospital has experienced financial growing pains, due to delays in Government payment of staff salaries, drug supplies and Basket Fund. This meant that the hospital had to devise ways of advancing payment, so as not to leave our staff without remuneration after the hard work that they do for the people of this district. Since July 2009, two thirds of the staff have been on the Government payroll, while one third are being paid by the hospital. By virtue of the MOU, all staff are supposed to be paid by the Government. However, there is usually a gap of about two years before the Ministry will absorb a newly employed staff member onto the Government payroll. In general terms Makiungu Hospital has experienced good cooperation with the District Medical Officer (DMO), the Regional Medical Officer (RMO), and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MOHSW), since the period of the MOU. Discussions are still ongoing regarding harmonisation of pension schemes and the delays in salary payment.

During this period too, the hospital underwent a lot of rehabilitation in various parts, such as the Male Ward, the building of a new Operating, X-ray department, OPD and Administrative offices, piped oxygen plant, Maternity Ward and the pavement of the hospital grounds. Additionally, a new biogas system for parts of the hospital was installed.

In 2011, the hospital signed agreement with the Tanzania Electricity Supply Commission (TANESCO) to provide medical services to their staff. Within this period, the hospital also continued providing medical services to members of National Health Insurance Fund, National Social Security Fund and Community Health Fund.

The hospital continues to be a learning ground for medical students from University College Cork and University of Limerick, Ireland. The morning report, involving the medical and nursing teams, continues to provide a good forum for learning and knowledge transfer, and for giving an overall view of what goes on in the hospital.

The capacity of services has increased during the period in view. Bed capacity went from 154 to 175. Moreover, the capacity utilization of inpatient services moved from 64% in 2009 to 82% in 2012. Services in the Outpatient Department (OPD) have almost doubled from 2009 to 2012. The main reason for the general increase in statistics has been the free medical services provided for all maternity services and children under five.

There is a good working relationship with the regional health team, and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. Both the District and the Ministry visit the hospital regularly to carry out supervision, and the hospital finds these visits very helpful.

ACHIEVEMENTS 2009 – 2012

Memorandum of Understanding Following the signing of the MOU, the hospital had a big challenge during the period of transition. The hospital has succeeded in building up a good relationship with the MOHSW, District Executive Director, Regional Medical Officer, and other personal at the district level. This has enhanced healthcare services to the poor, particularly to expectant mothers and children under five that are now receiving free treatment. Although arrears remain, the hospital is hopeful that the Government will settle this eventually.

Improvement in the Care of HIV and AIDS patients The construction of the Care and Treatment Centre (CTC) for the purpose of care for People Living With HIV and AIDS (PLWHA) has improved the care and services given to our clients. In addition to this, the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Programme has also started. This programme has reduced the incidence of transmission from mother to child and has enhanced the health of babies born to HIV positive mothers.

Renovations and Construction Within the period of this report, a lot of renovations were carried out in the Private Ward, Tuberculosis and Leprosy Unit (TBL), Laboratory, Maternity Ward, and Radiology Department. In addition to this, a new Theatre and Maternity Ward were constructed. Additionally, a centralised oxygen plant was installed and piped to all wards. This renovation and construction has given the hospital a face lift, and improved facilities, leading to a better and more comfortable place for patients. The construction of a new hostel has enabled the hospital to receive volunteers from overseas and more medical students on elective. Also during the renovations, the hospital was equipped for the harvesting of rain water, which is now used the production of infusion fluid. No doubt the improvement of the structure and services has led to the increment in the number of patients.

PAYMENT FORM

I hereby authorise UCC to deduct from my wages/salary each week/month, the sum of € _____ with immediate effect. I further authorise UCC to pay over the amount deducted to the Treasurers of Cork Singida at UCC. I understand that this authority may be revoked by me, in writing, at any time.

Signed _____
Department/Unit _____
Date _____

In the event that I am already a member, this authorisation prevails over any previous authorisation.
September 2014.

Please return this form to the Payroll Office, UCC.