



HIV FREE NW PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

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SEPTEMBER ACTIVITY UPDATES

Executive Summary

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- ◆ On September 11, the project received Mr. Mathieu Smith, US Deputy Chief of Missions, who came to assess the progress of the PEPFAR sponsored project. He left the institution satisfied with the level of project implementation.
- ◆ Two recognitions were awarded to the CBCHS for her efforts in the fight against HIV and AIDS in the country. The first came from Cameroon's First Lady, Chantal Biya founder of African Synergy against AIDS and Sufferings. The award was received for CBCHS by Prof. Tih Pius Muffih during the closing ceremony of the HIV and AIDS-Free Holiday Campaign in Bamenda. The second award came from the Watchdog Newspaper on September 19 during the Newspapers' 25th anniversary celebration.
- ◆ Facilitative supervision visits to evaluate Option B+ and ACT services were carried out in the Batibo, Bamenda and Mbengwi health districts. In a nutshell, services are moving smoothly except for sites where child play clinics are still to be established or equipped. At the Bamenda Regional hospital, lapses were noted in ACT service delivery and measures were taken to address them. Supervision was also done at Option B+ sites. Reports indicate that activities are progressing smoothly both in old and new sites. Fewer documentation challenges were observed and corrected.
- ◆ The Project has embarked on reimbursing transport allowances and snacks for children at child play centers. This move has led to parents and care givers bringing their children promptly for treatment. There are hopes that this gesture will increase the number of children enrolled into care and treatment.
- ◆ The project focused on ensuring proper linkages of all those who tested HIV positive during previous VCT outreach campaigns to care and treatment. In Bamenda, a total of 37 positive persons out of 48 in 8 health districts were successfully linked. In Nkambe, 5 adults and 2 children were also linked. Also, Clients enrolled into the pilot phase in the Bamenda health district are currently being retested to confirm their HIV status. The retesting of all women placed on HAART world-wide is a WHO recommendation.
- ◆ The transport system for commodities has improved at most sites, making commodities readily available at all times.
- ◆ The LCI worked with Health Area Management Committees to organize outreach and sensitization campaigns in Bafut, Tubah and Mbengwi. Some 8,698 persons were sensitized. The LCI subcomponent also strengthened the capacity of dialogue structures on local resource mobilization techniques and on their roles and responsibilities. Another workshop was held to mentor supervisors, strengthen their documentation knowledge and share best practices and challenges for improvement.
- ◆ The Banso coordination area conducted a VCT for HIV in collaboration with the ViiV healthcare program. In all, out of the 300 persons screened, 3 tested HIV+. All 3 have been linked to care and treatment. A Men Partners Clinic was also organized in collaboration with the ViiV health care project with 20 partners of pregnant women in attendance.

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