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# THE HEALTH SERVICES CHRONICLE

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#### STOP PRESS!!

Read the HS Chronicle and pass it on to the next person

#### BIBLE VERSE

*"While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn".*  
~Luke 2:6-7 (NIV).

## “Be of Good Courage, Positive in 2022,” Health Services’ Staff Told

The staff of the Cameroon Baptist Convention (CBC) Health Services has been encouraged to have a forward look at things as they initiate the last bend of 2021 and subsequently embrace the forthcoming year. Prof. Tih Pius Muffih, Director of Health Services (DHS) echoed the call in his ‘Christmas and New Year 2022 Greetings’ to all staff of the organization.

“Be of [great] courage as you go into 2022. Have a positive look at the future and live at peace

with everybody. Forgive those you have hurt and seek reconciliation as much as possible,” advised Prof. Tih.

The DHS used the salutation to count and number the plethora of [blessings] achievements the Health Services recorded in 2021. “Many of our institutions realized major projects such as the Oxygen and Hydro Projects in Mbingo Baptist Hospital (MBH), the new wards in Nkwen Hospital Bamenda, Ndu and Sabga Baptist Health

Centre, and major improvements in facilities in Bonaberi, Meskine, Ngounso, Etoug-Ebe, Tibati, Voundou, Kumba, Finkwi, Central Pharmacy Mutengene, Bangolan in the donated structure, Allat, Banyo, LAP PHCs, etc.”

Retrospecting on these achievements, the DHS said I cannot count them all. However, thanks to them our services have visibly grown, and we can serve more people in 8 of the 10 Regions of Cameroon at the time, he added.

Despite the many achievements, the DHS noted, it was not void of odds. “The year 2021 was characterized by many challenges ranging from the notorious war in the Northwest and Southwest Regions and the COVID 19 Pandemic. There were sicknesses and death in our families. Our services suffered from roadblocks and low attendance in the health facilities. In other regions, our staff lodged many IDPs, paid bills, and fed them. Some of our staff were kidnapped and made to pay a ransom. The transportation of drugs around the country faced major hindrances including the seizing in Garoua Boulai of a major consignment of drugs destined for Meskine Baptist Hospital. Our vehicles suffered frequent harassment from customs, police, and gendarme officers on the highways. Some individuals brought lawsuits against some health facilities and our newly acquired hospital. In all these, God delivered us. He is our Lawyer,” assured Prof. Tih.

Crowning the greetings, the DHS called on the staff to stay true to the tenets the organization hinges on. “Remember our Mission and Vision Statements. They guide our daily services. Every one of us is expected to know and practice them. In particular, the vision statement, ‘Quality care to all,’ is the foresightedness of your leaders who foresee where we are now and where we should be in future,” recalled Prof. Tih.



**Prof. Tih, optimistic about the future of CBCHS in 2022**

Drifting away from the balance sheet of the organization, the DHS entreated the staff on an individual note to begin preparing for retirement while in active service early, by making intentional investments.

“I continue to remind all of us that one day we shall retire from work. Therefore, I encourage you to have some investments now that you can rely on in addition to your job. Do not live a life of hand to mouth. Invest wisely in things that can help you now and in the future. Your salary

alone is not enough to meet the diverse needs that press on you. Money stored in the house or the bank will not earn you any significant benefit.”

Therefore, enroll in the Credit Union, Health Board Pension Plan, and other saving schemes. Money is a visitor. If you hold it in your hand, you will spend it on things that do not matter to your family. I encourage you to enroll in the Adopt a Health Care Worker Fund. It will help you when you or your child is sick, enjoined the DHS.

## BBH Retires Eight, Fetes Christmas

The 2021 Christmas season has brought good tidings to Bango Baptist Hospital (BBH). This was in a two-phase event on December 18. The occasion included a historic retirement of 8 staff and the Christmas celebration among staff, clients, caregivers, and visitors.

Addressing the Retirees, Mr. Jean Sama, Administrator for BBH congratulated them for joining the ranks of senior citizens after a successful and fruitful career with the Cameroon Baptist Convention (CBC) Health Services.

“Thank you for laying a good foundation and

serving with loyalty and respect to this great organization during your active work life. I urge you to remain attached to CBC Health Services, for your counsel is still very much needed by our young staff,” he said.

Yenggong Nelson, representative of the Director of Health Services pledged the organization’s resolve to follow up and ensure that the pension dues of the retirees are paid by the National Social Insurance Fund as soon as possible. After chronicling the work history of each retiree, he qualified them as heroes, for being steadfast to the mission of the CBC Health Services. Mr.

Yenggong equally saluted the staff of the BBH for their bravery in the current crisis that has befallen the area.

Vubangsi Samuel Phukesam, retiree thanked all and sundry for coming to honor them. “I give special thanks to the DHS and BBH administration for an enabling environment to work until retirement. Long live mother BBH and the CBC Health Services,” he said. To the staff still in active service to Mr. Vubangsi urged them to uphold the mission and vision of CBC Health Services and defend it whenever and wherever.

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The event had staff from other sister health institutions in attendance. Speaking on behalf of the invited health institutions, Dr. Sr. Helen, Director of Shisong General Hospital and Cardiac Centre appreciated the cordial and mutual cooperation her institution shares with Bansa Baptist Hospital.

"It is a pleasure to be as a family and it is a pleasure to hold our hands together and to move on particularly when the Lord calls. The Lord has called each one of us to answer a particular

call, the call to journey together in this difficult time. I will like to congratulate all the retirees for a job well done, you will bear with me that these times are hard and sometimes we feel like we cannot make it. However, we're encouraged and thankful to God for having persevered and is guiding us each passing day," she said. She revealed that the cooperation between Shisong and BBH is cordial and prays that it should continue. Quoting the words of St. Francis, she said, "let us begin anew, for until now we have not yet started" Retirement is simply a new life you are

beginning, it is not the end. "Together we can move and we are moving," she concluded.

Earlier on in a devotional culled from 2 Timothy 4:5-8, under the title, "The farewell of God's hero," Rev. Mangeh Godfrey revealed that a hero is recognized for achieving a goal, one who pressed on towards the goal, confident of what he has done, sure of God's reward and above all has a possible successor.

## CBM Equips Media Professionals to Mainstream Disabilities in Crisis Reporting



### CBM Country Director challenging journalists

The ongoing socio-political crisis in the North West and South West Regions of Cameroon has led to an increase in persons with disabilities (PWDs) left at the crossroads. Violent gun battles with targeted or stray bullets have led to amputated limbs, blindness, deafness and other disabilities resulting from inability to access health care due to closure of health facilities or road blockages and gun battles. Worse, babies are acquiring disabilities at birth or are born with disabling conditions because of deliveries at home or in the bushes.

These gaps, identified by key disability stakeholders in mainstreaming disabilities in the two regions were the subject of a workshop that took place in Douala on November 24 -25, 2021, organized by CBM, to school some 30 media practitioners drawn from 13 media organs in the crisis hit regions with skills to mainstream disability in reporting in crisis zones

Opening the workshop, CBM Country Director, Julius Fon told the participants that the exclusion of persons with disabilities is generally accentuated during crisis as they are usually the last people to be reached with humanitarian response. "Their exclusion from humanitarian actions in the socio-political crisis in Cameroon is dire as the crisis is least funded, reason why CBM developed the Disability Inclusive Humanitarian Response (DIHA) Project geared towards providing a response directed to persons with disabilities and ensuring that all humanitarian actors in the crisis context include persons with disabilities in their response," Mr. Fon disclosed.

Fon Julius told the journalists that one important aspect of the project is communication about the crisis and the needs of the affected groups to the entire world. He noted that it has been observed that communication about humanitarian actions does not reach persons with disabilities, indicating that the media has the responsibility to be inclusive in their communication, reason why participants have been invited for the training. He called on them to seize the opportunity of the training and mainstream disability in their communication so that the humanitarian response in the crisis hit regions should be inclusive.

Statistics from Office for the Coordination of humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) site report, the 2020 Cameroon Humanitarian response plan and Needs overview, other findings and stakeholder consultation and planning workshops involving local, national and international humanitarian organizations, UNHCR, local authorities and representatives of OPDs, in 2020 all exposed the following gaps;

- Unavailable primary data
- Unreliable secondary data
- Data not disaggregated by disability type
- Sectorial analysis not considering the specific risk on people with disabilities.
- Overall lack of consultation of people with disability at every stage of humanitarian programming.

Presenting on CBM strategy on inclusive Humanitarian action, the CBM Country Human-

itarian Coordinator, Emmanuel Mouti told participants that during crisis the rate of disabilities increases by more than the normal 15% statistics. He added that about 10million of the World's internally displaced persons are people with disabilities, reason why disabilities need to be mainstreamed in actions and reporting. He explained that disability needs to be mainstreamed because persons with disabilities are discriminated against in humanitarian actions with only 1% of humanitarian funds allocated to persons with disabilities and the elderly. In addition to their rights not protected, they also face barriers that hinder them from accessing humanitarian aid.

A few journalists who dared to mainstream disabilities in their practice in Cameroon have often unintentionally, used language that either stigmatizes or dehumanizes persons with disabilities. It is for this reason that after being exposed to knowledge on appropriate language and terminology in disability reporting, the journalists pledged to henceforth use disability friendly language in their messaging and programs.

The CBM Field Communication officer, Comfort Musa told the participants that they can mainstream disability in crisis reporting by making their websites and other contents accessible, including persons with disabilities in programs and media outlets, using disability sensitive language, collecting and using disability specific data, and considering persons with disabilities at all levels of news and content production.

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The CBM funded Disability Inclusive Humanitarian Action Project (DIHA) is implemented by the CBCHS and PCC in the NW and SW Regions respectively. Reason why among the participants were the Communication Officers of the project from these organisations as well as a PWD from the CUAPWDs in the NW and a student journalist with disability from the SW Region.

The journalists also gained knowledge on online reporting and visibility for web stories, developing unique story angles, using data and other multimedia tools to cover the crisis and humanitarian photography.

In his closing remarks, the CBM Humanitarian Coordinator said he hoped the training was the

beginning of collaboration between the media and CBM to foster mainstreaming of disabilities in humanitarian crisis calling on them to be ambassadors of inclusion of persons with disabilities. He thanked the participants for their commitment and dedication throughout the training.

## CBC Health Services Grabs More Recognitions

The Cameroon Baptist Convention (CBC) Health Services has once again been singled out for its outstanding services to Cameroonians. Proof of this is the reception of two awards, awarded to the organization in separate events recently.

Presenting the awards to the entire staff of CBC Health Services' Central Administration, Mr. Warri Denis, Chief of Administration and Finance said the awards were in recognition of the collective and individual efforts put in by the day. "At a time when the prevailing circumstances warrant that people should give reasons for not being effective, productive, and deadline-driven, we have remained committed and true to our mission. For this I say congratulations. It is such tenacity that has attracted these awards, the CAF pronounced.

The first award recognized Prof. Tih Pius Muffih for advancing HIV research in Cameroon. The award was just one out of many awards that

were given to the HIV-Free team during the Cameroon HIV Research Forum, which held in Kribi recently.

The second award singled out the CBC Health Services as the second-best 'Promoter of the use of Quality Essential Generic Medicines in the Northwest Region, presented by the Northwest Special Fund for Health Promotion. This award was accompanied by a cash prize of 100,000fcfa, which the CBCHS Central Administration staff unanimously agreed to turn it into the Health Fund of the CBCHS to assist staff with cancer condition.

According to Mr. Warri Denis, being recognized as a promoter of the use of quality medicines means that the organization serves more and more people. In essence, he said, drugs are an essential component in healthcare delivery.

Receiving the awards, Prof. Tih Pius Muffih, Di-

rector of Health Services thanked the entire staff for their constant support to him in prayers and leadership in general that attracted these recognitions. "These are human recognitions and my prayer in earnest is that may God recognize all that which we are doing," he said.

The DHS seized the moment to call on staff to reconcile with one another as the Christmas season ushers in. "Take advantage and reconcile with one, first with a co-staff. If there is any misunderstanding settle it. And secondly, reconcile with your family and be at peace with all," he advised.

The recent awards only come to add to the plethora of awards, which the CBC Health Services has received this year. To leadership, the recognition is the needed push towards efficiency and efficacy in serving the public healthcare wise.

## CBCHS presents Findings from Baseline Survey of Inclusive Education Stakeholders in Mezam Division

A baseline profile of 31 inclusive education stakeholders conducted in Mezam Division of the Northwest Region (NWR) of Cameroon within the Community of Practice as a Leverage for Sustaining the Gains of Inclusive Education Project has been presented to the education authorities/family in the NWR. The ceremony took place on December 17, 2021 at the Baptist Center Nkwen Bamenda.

Presiding over the event in the presence of representatives of the Regional Delegations of Basic and Secondary Education, Vice chancellor of the University of Bamenda, Delegate of Social Affairs amongst others, the Director of CBC Health Services (DHS), Prof. Tih Pius Muffih expressed gratitude to educational stakeholders for their continuous efforts in serving persons with disabilities in the region and beyond.

Prof. Tih noted that the project: Community of Practice as a Leverage for Sustaining the Gains of Inclusive Education has been designed to consolidate the gains of inclusive education stakeholders' endeavors in the NWR. After the project launching in February 2021, the key starting point of the project had been the baseline assessment of the current state of institutions' capacities to deliver quality education to children with all types of impairments. He applauded the leadership of the different institutions for their

collaboration with the teams of researchers that visited their respective institutions in June 2021.

Presenting the highlights of the findings, the Coordinator of the project, Mr. Ndintek Kennedy disclosed that the baseline survey activity started in May 2021 with a 3-day training workshop that trained the researchers for data collection. During the survey, 6 researchers, grouped into three teams of two persons, were deployed to 31 Inclusive Education stakeholder institutions comprising of 16 primary schools, 11 secondary and high schools, and 4 special schools; with each team visiting one school per day over 10 days spanned across four weeks.

According to Mr. Ndintek, the survey revealed that there are 593 learners with impairments in the 31 institutions that were surveyed. The findings also showed that while most of the institutions included learners with impairments in pedagogy, school life and provided reasonable accommodation measures, only few of the surveyed institutions had resource rooms, promoted the use of sign language, had trained inclusive education staff and had Parents Teachers Associations (PTAs) that supported inclusive education. The research identified challenges to collaboration among inclusive education stakeholders such as the lack of coordination of inclusive education stakeholders, limited aware-

ness of available services across facilities, weak understanding of the importance of inclusive education among school authorities leading to varying levels of engagement and support for inclusive education.

The SEEPD Program Manager, Mr. Awa Jacques Chirac drilled the stakeholders on the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the 3-year project which will end in December 2023. He noted that the objective of the ToR which will be a guiding document if adopted by stakeholders is to ensure that inclusive education in the Northwest region is of high quality and sustainable.

Based on survey findings which revealed a weak level of collaboration among inclusive education stakeholders, Dr. Mbibeh Louis (one of the lead researchers) coordinated focus group discussions during which meeting participants explored strategies to strengthen collaboration in the delivery of inclusive education. Participants were grouped into four focus groups made up of Head Teachers of primary schools, Principals of secondary and high schools, Education Authorities, and Administrators/Coordinators of Rehabilitation Centers. Participants underlined networking, advocacy, and sensitization amongst others, as some of the measures to strengthen collaboration and improve inclusive education in the region and beyond.

## Phase 4 of CBID Project draws to a close, stakeholders kick off with consultation for next phase

Stakeholders and beneficiaries of the Socio-Economic Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SEEPD) program of the CBC Health Services have deliberated on ways and strategies to implement the Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) program that is being implemented in the Northwest Region. This comes as SEEPD Program phase 4 is drawing to a close.

The consultation meetings, in Bamenda, were organized by the SEEPD program which brought together different groups of stakeholders beginning with the Program staff of the Organization of People with Disabilities (OPD) leaders, and Social Affairs amongst others.

At the beginning of each meeting, the SEEPD Program Manager, Mr. Awa Jacques Chirac reminded participants of the focus of the present CBID project which is to strengthen systems to promote CBID. He noted that for the period that the SEEPD Program has been implementing the projects, there are weaknesses as well as strengths which require collective reflection to improve on the next phase of the project when it is approved. "Stakeholders are the implementers of the project whose contributions in planning can never be overemphasized", Mr. Awa noted. He encouraged participants of each group to pull their ideas together because no idea is ever useless as each idea will ameliorate the next phase of the project.

Participants who were in their different groups took stock of what has been achieved in the region; the opportunities that are available to build on, and the threats. Strategies were documented on how the next phase of the project will be improved.

Speaking to Fon Gible, a person with a physical impairment who participated in the discussions, he said, "Even though a lot of strides have been put in place to ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities in actions, more advocacy still needs to be done to educate stakeholders both at local and national levels on the level of exclusion of persons with disabilities and their role in ensuring that they are included in actions".

On her part, Mirabel Ndifon with visual impairment started that "Inclusion should be at all levels". She recounted a situation whereby most public infrastructures in this century are not still accessible, most often they will adapt a ramp with some that can lead to further disabilities. Leaders of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities drawn from different divisions of the regions reflected on ideas that affect them at different levels and ways of improvement.

The consultation meetings ended at CBC Health Services Resource Center at Mvan, Yaounde in a two day workshop organized by SEEPD Program in partnership with CBM. The meeting reflected

on different technical areas of interest like ear and hearing care, physical rehabilitation, inclusive education, livelihood for persons with disabilities, and mental health. The workshop which brought together selected stakeholders in the Northwest Region was facilitated by CBID Manager, Michael Schwinger, CBM International.

Given the crises in the Northwest where the project is implemented, environmental factors that can either favor or disfavor programs that can be included in this community approach of rendering services for persons with disabilities were also examined.

CBID, it should be noted, is a community approach by which CBM intends to use to bring community development to the community in all their technical areas of expertise. This is done in a bid to strengthen the voice and autonomy of people with disabilities, build inclusive and sustainable local and national systems and services, build inclusive, resilient communities, and ensure that populations affected by natural and human-caused disasters have access to inclusive humanitarian assistance.

The SEEPD Program acknowledges the support of the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP)

## CBCHS-EDID Project Partner Organization Empowers Women with Disabilities with Skills to access employment

Women with disabilities have been empowered with skills to facilitate access to work and gainful employment. A two-day training to help the women uplift their skills took place recently at the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Services (CBCHS) Resource Centre of Excellence, Mvan in Yaounde.

The CBCHS- Empowerment and Disability Inclusive Development (EDID) program's partner - Sister Speak organized the training via its "Access to Work" initiative to integrate women with disabilities in the workplace in a bid to curb the rate of unemployment amongst women in Cameroon.

Within the framework of this initiative, the team will organize subsequent workshops with about 22 women with disabilities in Yaoundé, Bamenda and Buea within four months. Dur-

ing these workshops, real needs assessment will be carried out to determine the challenges women with disabilities encounter in accessing jobs, identify their competencies, dreams and aspirations. More so, they will be paired up with institutions where they will gain professional training and working experience required to get their ideal jobs.

"We have discussed with some of these women who've learned different skills (some up to five skills) but they are still not doing anything. Hence, we want to take a different strategy by having them placed in institutions where they will go to work every day and master the trade. For instance; In Bamenda, we will pair them up with established businessmen who will mentor them on weekly basis. In Yaoundé and Buea, we have placements in an IT institution, a makeup studio, a catering institution and a

radio station," the Coordinator of Sister Speaks program, Comfort Musa emphasized.

Addressing the participants, the EDID Project Manager, Mrs. Agho Glory stated that "If getting jobs in Cameroon is challenging for persons without impairment, it is even more challenging for persons with impairment. That is why I will like to encourage you all to take this activity seriously and put it into use. I will also like to challenge us to be ambassadors to those out there who are not opportune to acquire the skills you have gained during the training".

The project is sponsored by the Liliane Foundation (LF) through its strategic partner, the CBC Health Services-Empowerment and Disability Inclusive Development (EDID) Program.

# CBC Health Services' SEEPD Program Launches Phase 2 of GRID Network



**Group members brainstorm on ways forward for effective start up of GRID phase 2**

The Christian Blind Mission (CBM) Country Representative, Julius Niba Fon has described the Group for Rehabilitation and Inclusive Development (GRID) Network as a group that has been resilient and spontaneous to ameliorate services for the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities for the past few years. Mr. Fon was speaking on December 16, 2021 at the Baptist Center Nkwen, Bamenda during an official launching of the second phase of the GRID network.

As the guest speaker during the launching, Mr. Fon exposed all present to the understanding of GRID Network. He noted that networks are Communities of Practice (CoP) which is a group of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do better as they interact regularly. He emphasized that members of CoP are practitioners who develop a shared repertoire of resources, experiences, stories, tools, and ways of addressing recurring problems. He charged members to be mindful of the domain of their practice that is characterized by worldwide interest adding that mediocrity has no place in the community of practice. The CBM Country Representative applauded the CBC Health Services for its commitment in coordinating the GRID network initiative which has attracted support from AUSAID. He hopes that the CoP will be of high standard both nationally and internationally.

Speaking at the launching, the SEEPD Program Manager, Awa Jacques Chirac gave a background of GRID. He said at the time when discussions around Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) was going on, the CBC Health Services had to reflect on what Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) means in the context of the Northwest Region during which the concept of creating CoP were given birth. He added that at that time, they learned from CBM that most

organizations focusing on development were creating communities focusing on different areas of specialty as a strategy that could harness learnings that emerged from experience that could foster their work.

It is against this backdrop, he added, that the SEEPD Program of the CBCHS decided to start the GRID initiative even though without any experience but had support from one of its partners from the University of Toronto. Organizations that are more experienced and less experienced were brought on the lamplight to reflect and share ideas on inclusion. It was a concept that was received with a lot of mixed feelings as there were tensions sometimes given that some members thought it had financial benefits which was not the case but afterwards, they embraced and loved the vision.

The Program Manager highlighted the successes of the first phase such as collective writing and publishing of articles on topical issues, working with the Ministry of Health to design a program on mental health amongst others. At the end of the phase, an evaluation was done after which CBM impressed with the result funded the second phase of the initiative.

Sharing his experiences, the former and pioneer Coordinator of GRID, Dr. Louis Mbibeh noted that the project achieved a lot which influenced actions on inclusion within the CBC Health Services and nationally. He said gone are those days when organizations used to protect their experiences and prerogatives adding that this is a new era where people are open to sharing learnings. Handing over to the new Coordinator, Mr. Chifon Godlove Ngek, the outgoing Coordinator, Dr. Mbibeh charged new members of the different groups to work in collaboration with the new Coordinator and to be open to learning and sharing.

One of the members who were in the Community Based Rehabilitation group, Jato Colince expressed appreciation for the opportunity of belonging in the first phase of the project during which he learned that collective ideas from professionals are vital to foster inclusive development.

Representing the CBC Health Services Director, the Chief of Administration and Finance (CAF), Mr. Warri Denis commended CBM for always supporting the initiatives of the CBC Health Services in fostering development. He congratulated the members for the successes achieved in the previous phase while reminding them to be more committed because much work is on the ground to be done in the new phase.

The launching brought together new and some old members from the different thematic groups who had the opportunity to know their group members and select their group leader.

It should be noted that GRID is made up of 8 thematic groups; Community Mental Health, Media Disability and Inclusive Development, Community Based Inclusive Development, Gender and Inclusive Development, Vision and Inclusive Care, Clubfoot Care, Disability Humanitarian Action, Ear and Hearing Care. These groups have a general objective to create and sustain CoPs for rehabilitation and disability inclusive development in the NWR of Cameroon to improve quality of life for persons with disabilities and sustain hope for a more equitable society.

The SEEPD Program acknowledges the support of the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

## CBC Health Services LAP Program organized primary health fair caravan storms Mankoumbi

A five days Primary Health Fair organized by the Life Abundant Primary Health Care (LAP) program of the CBC Health Services has come to an end in Mankoumbi Baptist Primary Health Centre located in Masangam Sub division, in the Noun Division of the West Region of Cameroon. This Mini health Fair ran from the December 1-5, 2021 with the main objective to promote good health and wellness and disease prevention among individuals, families, groups and the community at Large through health talks, counseling, screening, treatment initiation and referrals.

Experts drawn from CBC Health Services attended to clients at various stands: Eye screening, Dental screening, Women's Health, Mental Health, Non Communicable Diseases, Hypertension, Diabetes, Know Your Numbers, Ear, Nose and Throat amongst other health services. According to experts in the field, many cases of hypertension were discovered in the community, and treatment were

administered while other cases and conditions such as sickle cell anemia, and other conditions were referred for treatment in closer and competent hospitals.

On daily basis, the health talks delivered by the various experts of the different departments were translated from English to French and the Bamoum languages for easy understanding by the local population. These talks were interactive and gave room for questions and answers during which the indigenes were enlightened and given clarifications on their doubts.

According to Mr. Kakute Peter, the LAP Administrator, "This health fair is organized in line with the United Nation's Declaration of 2015 on Sustainable Development Goal No.3.8 which spells out the Universal Health Coverage by 2030. It's also following Cameroon's Emergence agenda for 2035 announced by the President of the Republic of

Cameroon".

"This health fair has seen a comprehensive team of health experts drawn from all CBC Health Services facilities to ensure that holistic care is given to the people who are living in this hard to reach and remotest parts of the country," the LAP Administrator added.

The health Fair in Mankoumbi comes a few weeks after the one held in Mbioko, still in the West region of Cameroon. It is important to note that these primary health fairs are organized in communities and hold at premises of the CBC Health Service Primary Health Centers in the different communities.

The CBC Health Services in efforts to bring health-care to all in hard-to-reach communities, has opened over 50 Primary Health Centers in communities in Cameroon.

## New Staff representatives for Nkwen station installed

New staff representatives of Nkwen Baptist Hospital and CBCHS Central Administration were installed on December 1, 2021 in line with directives set by the Minister of Labour and Social Security. The six permanent and six alternate staff representatives were voted by the entire staff body of over 700 on November 17, 2021. They include: (Permanent members) Lukong Usheni Lukong, Kaah Comfort, Jengwia Johnson Lucha, Ndishie Victor, Peter Yungsi, Ngah Tamfu Oliver and (Alternate member): Shey Ngabur George, Rogers Nkeh Ngwayi, Promise Kenei, Wepnje Moses, Bantar Ngyiny Jones, and Ndum Emmerencia.

In their charge, the Assistant Administrator in the Personnel Office, Mr. Yongong Nelson, the Administrator of Nkwen Baptist Hospital, Mr. Kangong Joce and the Chief of Administration and Finance

at the CBCHS Central Administration, Mr. Warri Denis, each took turns to admonish the newly elected to work in the interest of the staff.

The new team of staff representatives takes over from Bonkung Handerson, Ngoran Boniface, Vinyoh Luther, Tatat Julius Nyungong and Elangwe Godwin who served an extended mandate following restrictions to conduct normal elections before now due the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic.

In his handing over notes on November 27, 2021 in the presence of the administration, the leader of the outgoing team, Bonkung Handerson encouraged the incoming team to pursue team spirit and achieve more wins for the staff. In particular, Bonkung Handerson tasked them to regain most

or all of staff benefits lost to the cost saving measures initiated by administration in 2018 to cope with the effects of the crisis in the Northwest and Southwest and the COVID-19. "We've now developed coping mechanisms," the outgoing team leader remarked.

On behalf of the new team, Mr. Lukong Usheni pledged to consult appropriate quarters to make their tasks in serving the staff lighter. It should be noted that staff representatives are a constituted body governed by Labour law to liaise between the workers and the employer.

Staff representatives' elections were carried out throughout Cameroon on November 17, 2021. The mandate is two years.

## Nurses trained on primary ear and hearing care

The Project Manager (PM) of the Socio-Economic Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SEEPD) Program of the CBC Health Services Mr. Awa Jacque Chirac has commended women in their efforts to champion Ear and Hearing Care in their communities. He made this remark during the close of a three day workshop to capacitate Nurses on Primary Ear and Hearing Care. The training from December 2-4, 2021 took place at the Baptist Center, Nkwen in Bamenda.

The Primary Ear and Care Project that started in Bamenda, is an initiative to render quality services where there are limited number of Surgeons and Specialized Nurses in the Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) domain in Cameroon. To salvage this situation, access to Primary Ear and Hearing Care is vital to reduce the burden of care in the secondary and tertiary levels.

Besides gaining new knowledge to do their work, the training empowered the Nurses with the skills to refer cases that are beyond their competence to the appropriate levels of care. Participants during the training gained knowledge on the EHC Project: Objectives and Expectations; Introduction to the Ear and Hearing Care; Presentation of the Ear: Anatomy and Physiology; Ear Complaints: Presentation; Ear

Complaint: Causes, signs and Symptoms; Providing Ear care services in the context of COVID-19; Prevention of Ear Diseases and Hearing Loss; Diagnosing, Treatment and Referral; Inclusive Health Care; General Application: Otoscopy, Aural toileting, wicking, moping; EHC Equipment: Practical Guide on usage and Management; Safeguarding; Health Promotion and awareness raising for EHC; Tracking documentation and reporting success among others.

It is worth noting that the project will give treatment subsidies to patients who are unable to fully cater for their health needs in Ear and Hearing Care. According to Mr. Awa Chirac, poverty will not be a barrier for people in the communities to access Ear and Hearing Care services. The Nurses were cautioned to refer all cases beyond their level of competency for treatment after a thorough assessment.

It is hoped that the learning of the pilot Primary Ear and Hearing Care will be scaled up to other regions in Cameroon. Thus, investment of the CBC Health Services in this initial training will greatly help when the project is rolled out to other parts of the country. For this reason, those trained are required to utilize the knowledge gained to remain useful when need arises in the future when they would possibly become Trainers on the field in all competence and

experience.

Participants left the training with some basic equipment to set up clinics in their respective facilities. Beginning January 2022, there shall be facility-level orientations to be done through outreach programs in different communities.

Participants left the training attesting to knowledge gained. "It was quite an educative Course on the Ear and Hearing Care. Knowledge on the Ear Anatomy was very useful, in addition to basic ear procedures. The training will improve on my skills as a Screener". Mbukebam Mary.

"I have learned how COVID-9 can be acquired though the ear, how to render inclusive health care, the importance of referring cases that I cannot handle etc. All what I have learned will benefit the people in serve in the community" - Participant.

"I have learned how to perform Syringing which is a method of removing impacted wax from the ear to aid hearing. This will help my work in the community where specialty services are limited" Mbanui Amos Tah.

# Mvan Resource Center creating Significant Impact

The Mvan Resource Center in Yaounde is now a hub for most CBCHS meetings. Recently, the Center hosted the Chiefs of Center and leaders meetings, PATA visual meeting, and Chaplaincy Coordination meeting among others. Other eternal organizations also make use of the facility to organize seminars, workshops and even marriage celebrations.

Kadzem Claude, Assistant Administrator says, "Our growth and target are towards organizations and agencies (NGOs) that are credible with similar

objectives like us. Therefore, we are choosing our customers carefully, otherwise, we may be open to people with diverse attitudes, which can rather bring us more challenges to handle".

The Assistant Administrator reveals that the Mvan Resource Center has medium term plans to construct more structures and create additional rooms for her teaming clientele. "At the moment, the Center can host only a fraction of participants who come for meetings in large numbers. This is much money we're losing from our clients," the

Administrator remarked.

The Center is conscious of the fact that there will be an influx of visitors into the country during the African Nations Cup in January 2022. This awareness keeps them prepared to receive those that come knocking at their doors. It should be noted that there are already existing partnerships between the Center and other hospitality facilities in the City of Yaounde, serving as catchment points for this category of clients.

## Nkoabang Baptist Health Center

### NBHC Chaplaincy Department

Chaplain Bonchak Odilia Kerieh assumed duty in Nkoabang Baptist Health Center (NBHC) in February 2021. Since then, the chaplain has developed a desire to know the over 70 staff individually with focus on their stand in the Lord.

From this perspective, Chaplain Bonchak Odilia has been engaged on one-on-one sessions with the staff and in seminars as needed to revive the spiritual lives of staff and clients. She said the marriage seminar held in August 2021 was well appreciated such that the unmarried staff are yearning for the single's seminar, which is one of the goals

for the department in 2022.

The chaplaincy has also been organizing constant prayers on Wednesday dedicated to the land crisis the health center is facing with a neighbour in court.

At the time of this report, an end of year retreat was being planned to hold at the Mvan Resource Center. The chaplain revealed that the retreat will go along with fasting to better fortify the staff in the face of their challenges.

Chaplain Bonchak noted that her services are faced with some challenges paramount among which is language barrier. With English as her main language, she needs an interpreter to relate well with French clients, which some of the time breaks confidentiality or the real message is sometimes minimized in the course of interpretation. The other challenge is the need for her to grow out of her personality to confront tough situations such as marital unfaithfulness, which is very rampant within the vicinity.

### Nkoabang Eye Department witnessing Growth

The two staff at the department see an average of 200 patients per month and dispense an average of 26 glasses within the same period.

The department has as goal to begin intensive community eye screening in 2022 as a means of

bringing more clients to the clinic. According to the head of department, Mr. Tieh Eric, they will need an additional staff to match up with the envisaged growth in patients' attendance.

In terms of challenges, the HOD lamented the

fact that the shaping of glasses takes place on the corridor in need of space. The department needs equipment such as lensometer and E-chart screen. Mr. Tieh decried the fact that they lack money some of the times to purchase basic needs for clients such as frames and glasses.

### Nkoabang PT Department Growing

Barely one year of its existence, the Physiotherapy (PT) department of Nkoabang Baptist Health Center is making significant progress, seeing an average of 75 clients per month.

The lone staff, Mih Killian treats patients for musculoskeletal conditions such as sprains,

strain, back pain, and road traffic accidents. He carries out sensitization via health talks at the OPD to create awareness on the existence of the department and the services it offers. In addition, patients who receive good care serve as ambassadors to inform others in the community of the existence of the PT department in Nko-

abang Baptist Health Center.

Like other departments in the Center, space is the principal challenge for the PT department. It operates in a single room that serves for consultation, treatment and a store, thus, rendering confidentiality difficult.

## Ekoumdoum Baptist Health Center

The Assistant Administrator, Miss Tangwa Faith has reported the transfer of the cardiologist by the government to Laquintinie Hospital in Douala, leaving patients stranded at Ekoumdoum Baptist Health Center (EBHC). She also announced the coming of Dr. Nana Hortense to replace Dr. Lydia Njikam, ophthalmologist transferred to Mbingo Baptist Hospital some three months ago.

The dental department has a second dentist, Dr. Salah Eric transferred from Bansa Baptist Hospital, three months ago. Similarly, Dr. Fuhj was also transferred from BBH to fill in for two doctors, one on leave and the other who left. Dr. Ekongefeyin Sintieh Nchinda Ngek won the UN Man award and is now working in Douala.

The center recently received the bottle crusher

machine and installed on November 18, 2021. The machine crushes bottles into sand-like particles used in construction. According to the Assistant Administrator, this has greatly reduced the number of bottles littered around the compound.

Ekoumdoum commemorated World Diabetes Day on November 17. Activities included: health talks, a health walk while continuous education is going on. World Premature Day was also marked by the visit of Nestle company to grace the occasion.

A project to fence the hospital is well on course. At the time of this report, the hospital entrance was being transformed with the fence.

An x-ray printer has been installed in the Ek-

oumdoum imaging department. Reports say, this has been the cry of patients who continued to complain about their results being printed on normal papers.

Ekoumdoum Baptist Health Center joined other establishments in Cameroon, both public and private on October 27, 2021 to elect their staff representatives for the very first time in the history of the health center. A total of 8 staff representatives were elected, 2 in College Two and 6 in College One.

On a joyful note, the Assistant Administrator observed that many staff are getting married, which is a blessing to the institution. Over six weddings of staff took place in the last quarter of 2021.

## Ekoumdoum Eye Dept

Nana Hortense who used to operate from Etoug-Ebe Baptist Hospital Yaounde (EBHY) is now transferred to Ekoumdoum Baptist Health Center (EBHC) to replace Dr. Lydia Njikam who is transferred to Mbingo Baptist Hospital. Thus, Dr. Nana now works permanently in Ekoumdoum and goes to Etoug-Ebe for support visits on Thursdays and Fridays.

The HOD, Mr. Isa Salle and Kiyung Juliet were on leave at the time of this report, while another staff, Tata Joseph was transferred to Meskine Baptist Hospital Maroua in August 2021 without any replacement, making the hitherto staffing challenge more acute. At the time of this report, the department was breathing under workload

## Etoug-Ebe Baptist Hospital Yaounde

Yongwa Zaccs, Administrator of Etoug-Ebe Baptist Hospital Yaounde (EBHY) says the hospital has been functioning well in the last part of the year, resulting in increasing patient attendance, and staff motivation towards the mission of our organization. We continue to offer quality care 24/24. Departments that function only on outpatient basis have staff on call to attend to patients that come later after the normal morning shift.

A two-shift system began at the dental department ending at 6pm to attend to clients who need to close from work before coming to consult. The feedback is great. We look forward to implement this two-shift system in other departments such as the eye.

EBHY celebrated World Diabetes Day on November 14 with resounding success. Given the growing number of clients in the diabetes clinic (over 1000), the clinic has been split into three groups and the celebration took place in all the groups. The Hypertensive Clinic holds once every

with eight staff including the doctor seeing an average of about 30 clients per day.

Anguh Delphine, acting HOD told CBC Health Services Communication Unit that the department was facing a vexing challenge of out of stock of basic drugs, leaving them with no option than referring patients to buy in town from doubtful sources. The department is run on one slit lamp. The second one has not been in good condition since it came in 2017. This renders patients to wait for a long time whereas the department has sufficient technicians that could work on patients simultaneously. Anguh Delphine, acting HOD said the department needs at least three good slit lamps to function maximally.

Wednesday. Reports say, clients in these two clinics express lots of satisfaction for the care they receive from the program. This, according to the Administrator, is proof that the KYN or NCD department has been doing a commendable job in recruiting clients to these clinics.

The institution of PMEL tools has helped a lot, allowing clients to contribute to the betterment of the services through their suggestions.

The hospital continues to receive many patients in the observation ward. We observe patients for a maximum of four days after which we refer if the condition is not improving.

Our maternity services started on July 16, 2021. The mothers are very happy with this innovation given that ANC registers up to 50 clients on each booking visit on Tuesday and up to 150 clients on follow up visits on Thursday and Friday. The maternity registered 228 deliveries from July 16 to November 30, 2021.

The good news about Ekoumdoum eye department is that patients turnout is increasing and surgeries are being done with the presence of an ophthalmologist.

According to the ophthalmologist, Dr. Nana Hortense, frequent procedures include: pterygium excision plus conjunctival sutureless autograft and other growth excisions such as cysts, granulomas, traumatic lid repairs, lid abscess drainage, Manual small excision cataract surgeries, trachelectomy, intravitreal avastin injections, corneal laceration and others. These give an average of 25 surgeries done per month.

In the area of challenges, EBHY continues to suffocate under the protracted challenge of space. The Administrator remarked that the long-awaited medical block is perhaps, the surest way to solve the acute challenge of space. The commencement of a maternity begs for a theatre as soon as possible. The staffing challenge is equally enormous with many requesting for leave of absences for various reasons.

Two field workers are doing well, going to the communities and identifying children with disabilities for follow up and rehabilitation in line with the CBR matrix of health, education, livelihood etc.

At the time of this report, EBHY was planning a three in one event on December 22, 2021 for end of year party, retirement of Chaplain Tanni Margaret and labour medal award to ten staff.

## Meskine Baptist Hospital Maroua growing in her Challenges

Meskine Baptist Hospital Maroua (MBHM) with 130 staff, handed over to the CBCHS on January 1, 2020, is doing well. In one year, additional staff were sent to the hospital to bring the number to 160 at the moment.

Given the challenges of transition, the Director of Health Services (DHS) led a delegation of some hospital leaders to clarify some issues that came up late 2021. Having laid the groundwork, a team of Administrators now take turns to go to Meskine to ensure that the CBCHS culture and work ethics are fully implanted, understood and implemented by the staff.

Before the crisis, services uptake dropped in the various units namely: general consultation, eye, dental, PT, maternity (gynecological) etc. This situation has reversed for the better after the DHS' visit who recommended massive outreach sensitization in the churches, mosques, markets

and other public places, resulting to clients returning to the hospital to access care. "The sensitization campaign lasted until end of December 2021," reveals Mr. Yongwa Zaccs. Administrator of Etoug-Ebe Baptist Hospital Yaounde who closely monitors the progress of Meskine Baptist Hospital Yaounde.

Yongwa further disclosed that significant changes have been made to reflect the CBCHS. A new chapel was built, and the entire hospital structures repainted to reflect CBCHS colour of yellow. Meskine has 7 doctors among who are 3 specialists, a dentist, an orthopedic and general surgeon and a gynecologist. Three chaplains take care of the spiritual nourishment of the staff and clients.

Within this period, a Hygiene and Safety Committee was formed and installed in the hospital. A housekeeper has been stationed with the specific role of educating the clients on the proper

use of the toilet.

With this refocusing, the staff are now working with more commitment towards the vision and mission of the CBCHS which is quality care to all who need it as an expression of Christian love so that they might be brought to Christ.

Despite the efforts, some challenges remain. The long distance to Maroua renders transportation of drugs difficult; there are numerous controls and even harassment in the course of transporting drugs; and the number of staff is limited for adequate expansion of services. Another challenge is implementation of dress code due to cultural barriers.

Meskine Hospital has good working relationship with the civil administration, the D.O, DMO, Mayor and Delegation of Health.

# Voundou Baptist Health Center

Voundou Baptist Health Center (VBHC) has been upgraded to an integrated health center given the additional and inclusive services she offers to the population. The services include: eye, imaging, NIP, maternity, care and treatment, ANC and IWC, lab, pharmacy and general consultation among others. The chief of center (COC), Taah Hans noted that this integrated nomenclature of VBHC took place about five years ago.

The health center is situated under Ntui Health District in Mbangasina Subdivision, Mbam et Kim Division of the Center region of Cameroon. The center operates 24/24 with a capacity of about 30 staff led by Taah Hans as the (COC). The center sees an average of 350 patients per month with an average of 20 ANC bookings, 70 ANC fol-

low-ups and 15 deliveries in a month. The maternity is well equipped for baby resuscitation. The energy supply is boosted by a 20KVG generator and solar energy for backup, giving the center comparative advantage in the locality to run services at their maximum.

Water supply is constant with a modern well, constructed and well sealed and pumping water to a tank that supplies to various points in the center.

The center maintains good relationship with the local administration in place. Recently, they paid a visit to the D.O and Brigade Commander of Mbangasina Subdivision. The new D.O was excited to meet with the center leaders whom he said, he has been getting good reports about ever

since he came.

Accessibility is the principal challenge to VBHC. Evacuating patients, especially pregnant women is particularly critical in the rainy season. The center badly needs a mini theatre that could enable them to conduct CS on emergency cases. The COC laments the fact that a pregnant mom on referral died on the way recently because she slept on the way and could not get out of the area on time due to bad roads.

Cost of living is becoming very expensive, especially for basic commodities like rice, washing soap that are bought and brought from Yaounde on the bad roads.

## BBH Housekeepers called to Represent Christ in their Job

Jam Divine, Chief Medical Officer issued the clarification call during the House Keepers' End of year celebration at Bango Baptist Hospital (BBH), on December 1, 2021. The seasoned medic, in his greetings, appreciated the Housekeeping department for organizing a great party to commune with the administration and other department heads of the institution.

"Cleanliness is next to Godliness, keep representing Christ as you perform your functions; I keep receiving calls from most of our patients affirming that BBH is very clean, keep on keeping on with the good work. God bless you. All your concerns will be looked into because we want BBH to remain at the top in terms of quality services offered to her clients," Dr. Jam said.

Samuel Wirba, Technical Adviser No. 3 to the Di-

rector of Health Services, on his part, recognized the team spirit displayed by House Keepers in ensuring that all departments in the hospital are kept clean. "I feel impressed each time I see you doing Joint Work. That is team spirit. Keep it up," the senior Administrator advised.

Earlier on, Chaplain Tah Yika Josephine in a devotional culled from Genesis 4:1-2 revealed that unity brings forth fruitfulness. "When Adam and Eve were united, the outcome was a child, Cain, and Eve raised her hands unto the lord and appreciated God for the precious gift," Chaplain Tah said. She emphasized that whenever you work to for the glory of God, you will become successful.

Kembung Ishmael, Assistant Administrator in Charge of Finance presented and symbolically handed the mantle of command to the two

acting heads of the Housekeeping department, Messrs. Lukong Thierry and Emmanuel Mayenin respectively.

"You have been chosen to lead these men and women, do not become tyrants, you are to coordinate and ensure that BBH remains at the top sanitary wise. Remember, it is not difficult to be at the top but it is difficult to remain there," Mr. Kembung urged the new leaders.

Speaking to Health Services Press shortly after assuming office, Mr. Lukong Thierry said BBH has been clean and will remain clean. "Our clients will like to come back if our floors, walls, beds, beddings, the environment and especially the toilets are shining and sparkling. The first impression at the OPD matters a lot. We will do our best God helping us," he pledged.

## Bafoussam Baptist Health Centre

### Oral Health: BBHC Dental Unit spurs Colleagues into Referral Pathway

The staff of the Dental Department of Bafoussam Baptist Health Centre have schooled peers of the other departments in the facility about the services the department has and is offering to the clients. This was during morning devotions on November 3, 2021, at Chapel.

Bantar Vera, Dental Assistant during the presentation said the goal was to showcase the services the department is offering to staff, who will, in turn, tell people in their community, thereby

referring and encouraging them to the unit for oral health care. The presentation was in prelude to a Free Dental Consultation billed for December 6-10, 2021 at the Health Centre. "We have of late had a timid turnout of patients to the department and by this free consultation, we want to boost the turnout," says Mrs. Bantar

The dental department offers a wide range of services inter alia: root canal treatment, fillings, extractions, incision, drainage, replacement of

missing teeth, wiring, splinting, cauterization and dentures.

Reports say, the peculiarity of free consultation is that patients will buy drugs and pay for treatment procedures if any oral health problem is diagnosed. At the time of this report, the staff were mobilizing for the free dental consultation with awareness creation in churches, hospital waiting areas, and distribution of circulars before D-day.

### Bafoussam Baptist Health Centre begins HPV Testing

The Women's Health Programme (WHP) of Bafoussam Baptist Health Centre (BBHC) has begun testing for the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) in women. Ndzi Meiable says the test which began sometime in May 2021 is done along with the former method VIA (Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid) to detect the outset of cancers in women.

"While the HPV test is to detect the high-risk infection [virus] in women, the VIA test looks out if there are [cancer] lesions on the cervix for close follow-up and treatment," says Meiable.

Meantime, the WHP celebrated Breast Cancer Awareness Month widely referred to as "Pink October". "Though we did not have the regular subsidized screening for breast cancer as in the previous editions, we at this year's event beefed-up awareness on the disease in all waiting areas in the health centre via health talks," recounts Meiable.

During the talks, we called on women from the age of 23, already sexually active to come for screening. It should be noted that treatment is

possible when the disease is screened and diagnosed early.

Pink October 2021 was observed at a time when breast cancer is tipped to be the most common leading cause of cancer deaths in women with over 1.3 million cases diagnosed each year according to awareness days; a leading website on breast awareness.

## BBHC Patient Turnout Rises Steeply

Koudjou Armand, Internist and CMO (Chief Medical Officer) at Bafoussam Baptist Hospital says the patient turnout to the facility has skyrocketed in the recent past. "Our Outpatient Department (OPD) is very busy. We record a daily turnout of about 200 clients, while inpatient wards are full with beds occupied almost after every discharge," said Dr. Koudjou.

Speaking to CBCHS Communication Unit, Dr. Koudjou said, the massive turnout is overworking the current number of clinicians at the health centre. At 2:00 pm when this reporter visited the CMO, a queue of patients was still in front of his consultation room. "I have been on my seat all day with clients streaming just at the heels of

another. You can see for yourself that this overwhelming," Dr. Koudjou remarked.

"We need more doctors to lend us a helping hand to meet the ever-growing patient need here. My worry is, as patients turn to spend more time waiting to be attended to, it might bring about a drastic drop in the days ahead. One thing about patient turnout is that you might be at the peak of the graph and fall to the crest the next day if factors like patient waiting time are neglected," observed Dr. Koudjou, the Internist par excellence.

He further noted that the population has cast their confidence on BBHC for their medical

needs. Hence, he and his team are doing all it takes despite their limited numbers to live up to expectations.

Quizzed on how he is maneuvering between patient consultations and the chief medical officer, Dr. Koudjou first chuckled as it is inherent of his personality and said, "I have identified within my team those I call key players and they are doing the work".

Each time there is a major decision to be taken, we concert like a team and solutions come up easily. I do not see the office as a place to lord it over others but as an office to coordinate and bring our abilities for the greater good of clients.

## Surgical Operations soon to begin in Ndu Baptist Health Center as Theatre Equipment are Installed



Completed Ndu HC theatre block

The equipment for the newly constructed theater at Ndu Baptist Health Centre (NBHC) has been set up. The installation on November 3, 2021, was done by a team of Anesthetists from Nkwen Baptist Hospital and Banso Baptist Hospital.

Mbah John, Nurse Anesthetist says NBHC is very fortunate given that it has all that a theatre needs to function. "All we are waiting for now to go operational, is personnel. That will be mobilized in the days ahead," he assured.

Standard wise, the equipment acquired for the

NBHC theatre is state of the art. Gwei Emmanuel, another Anesthetist says the equipment at the theatre is exactly what the facility needs to offer quality care to clients. "Besides being state-of-the-art equipment, we have a surplus of equipment here, which means in case of a breakdown, we can immediately replace it while pursuing repairs, Mr. Gwei assured.

The project is made up of theatre, surgical and private wards.

Jato Alex, Nurse Practitioner during the provi-

sional inspection of the project appreciated the team for every effort made to get the project done. "I want to thank God for strength, the leadership of the Cameroon Baptist Convention (CBC) Health Services, and drivers who worked tirelessly to get the equipment and material to Ndu," Mr. Alex remarked with satisfaction.

The construction of a theatre at NBHC is a welcome relief to the populace who have borne the pain of losing loved ones who needed just a simple surgical procedure but could not get it for lack of such a facility.

## Nkwen Baptist Hospital acquires Industrial Laundry Machine

Nkwen Baptist Hospital (NBH) has dedicated and put to use a newly acquired Industrial Washing Machine at the facility's laundry department. The equipment worth 5.5million FCFA was acquired with funds from accumulated Quality Improvement Bonuses from the Performance-Based Fi-

nancing (PBF) Scheme.

According Atangche Mirable Manka, PBF Medical Supervisor for Bamenda III, the equipment is there to ensure that linen, vital paraphernalia in healthcare should be laundered properly. "With

clean linen, hospital-acquired infections and the spread of diseases will be limited, thereby bringing about quality care delivery to patients. Therefore, I urge you to use this equipment judiciously. Refer to the manual often to avoid any breakdown," advised Mrs. Atangche.



Speaking in his right as the District Medical Officer for Bamenda III, Mr. Nkemfie Tani Elvis said the acquisition of the Industrial Washing Machine is proof of PBF's resolve to improve healthcare on all fronts and support health facilities towards maintaining and delivering quality healthcare to clients. "This machine was acquired thanks to quality services you have been rendering, so this is just to support to keep forging ahead," he said.

On hand to receive the installed equipment, Mr. Kangang Joce, Administrator, on the behalf of

the hospital commended the PBF team and office for being of great support to Nkwen Baptist Hospital. "Your constant coaching and support are of great assistance to us, thank you. Do not get tired of supporting us," he requested.

Given that Nkwen Baptist Hospital's daily need for linen keeps growing every day, the need for an industrial washer like the one newly installed is a need met in time!

# STAY SAFE



1. Thank God for sending His only begotten son to come and die and save us from our prison of sin.
2. Give your life to this Jesus at Christmas so that you can be able to have peace with God, with yourself and with your neighbour and society at large.
3. Thank God for bringing us to the end of 2021; many have died either through diseases or wars and other means, but we're still alive.
4. Thank God for sustaining the CBC as a whole and the CBCHS in particular throughout 2021. It has been a year of blessing with new leadership at the helm of the CBC and a year of challenges in diverse areas, yet God has been faithful to His promise.
5. Pray and trust God with your situation as we look forward to 2022.

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