

March 2024
Vol. 6 No. 27



THE HEALTH SERVICES CHRONICLE

A Monthly Publication of the CBC Health Services Communication Unit



DHS Tournament 2023 Finals: A Celebration of Health, Sportsmanship! ...pg3

IN THIS ISSUE

Goodbye to Electricity, Water Crises in Ngounso Baptist Hospital....pg02

Mayor woos Population at Nkambe Health Fair.....pg04

Baptist School of Public Health welcomes New Registrarpg08

STOP PRESS!!

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

BIBLE VERSE

"Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow".
~Proverbs 13:11 (NIV).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN REHABILITATION



SCHOLARSHIPS!!! SCHOLARSHIPS!!!

What is rehabilitation?

Rehabilitation is the action of restoring someone to health or normal life through training and therapy after imprisonment, addiction, illness or disability. It helps the individual get back, keep, or improve abilities that are needed for daily life. These abilities may be physical, mental, and/or cognitive (thinking and learning) which might have been lost due a disease or injury, or as a side effect from a medical treatment.

- Do you want to pursue a career in supporting children and youths with disabilities and advocate for their rights?
- Do you want to restore the functionality of persons having some functional limitations?

IF YES THE BAPTIST SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH (BSPH) IS OFFERING THE COURSES IN THE FOLLOWING REHABILITATION PROGRAMS:


- 2 years diploma in Multi-skilled Rehabilitation Technician (MRT) course approved by the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- 2 years Diploma in Social work with specialization in Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) approved by with the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- 4 years Bachelor of Science Honors Degree in Occupational Therapy (BSc HOT) approved by the University of Zimbabwe.
- 4 years Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy (PT) approved by the of University Dschang.

FOR INQUIRIES

INFOLINE:  

**651901808 | 677565537 |
650923541 | 675667619**

 <https://www.bsph.cbchealthservices.org>.

 Health Services Complex, (Former PLANTECAM, Buea Road) Mutengene. Main campus is located at Ombe.



How to Apply

- Filled Application forms obtainable from BSPH or downloadable from the BSPH website <https://bsph.cbchealthservices.org/admission>.
- A photocopy of the receipt a non-refundable application fee of 10,000 FCFA which is paid into account **No. 706100/638**, in any CBC institution.
- Photocopies of the required documents (GCE Advanced/Ordinary Level Certificates, transcripts of any Certificates, Birth Certificates and National Identify Card).
- Candidates must ensure that their application form carries their email address, and WhatsApp number.
- The completed application files should be deposited at the BSPH or any CBC Health Services facility Alternatively, applications can be sent via email to: registrar@bsph.cbchealthservices.org copying goddard.nwenfu@yahoo.com.

Scholarship available

The Dutch based AFAS Foundation and Liliane Foundation that have been supporting children with Disabilities for several decades in Cameroon is providing full and partial scholarships to the following category of persons:

- Students with disabilities
- Students from needy backgrounds
- Student with outstanding performance at the GCE "O" or "A" levels.

Tuition fees

500,000frs CFA- 1,000,000frs
depending on the course, CBR, MRT, PT or OT.

All applicants should be addressed to:

The registrar
Baptist School of Public Health
CBC Health Services Complex, Mutengene, Buea Road
South West Region, Cameroon

NOTE
30TH
AUGUST

For admission 2024/2025 academic year, the deadline of receipt of application is August 30th, 2024.
Short listed applicants will be invited for an interview.

Goodbye to Electricity, Water Crises in Ngounso Baptist Hospital



Community leaders coming to lend support



Cutting of the ribbon to inaugurate the solar power and water project



Solar panels control room

The friendship between the CBC Health Services and Hope and Healing International has paid off beyond the scope of helping children with disabilities, which is their mainstay.

A working visit to Ngounso Baptist Hospital two years ago by a senior official of Hope and Healing International, Nicholas Biswas exposed him to the sad reality of how acute electricity and water crisis was hindering healthcare services in the hospital. Faced with this reality, the Hope and Healing International official committed his organization to solve this twin problem once and for all.

The friendship came to fruition on March 20, 2024 when the Divisional Officer of Magba cut the inaugural ribbon and the Director of CBCHS, Prof. Tih Pius Muffih handed over the

57.6 kilowatt solar power plant and 15 cubic meters water system to the administration of Ngounso Baptist Hospital with a caution for them to manage the donation as a jewel. Prof. Tih rained praises on Hope and Healing International for such a gift tone of the CBC Health Services institutions. The DHS thanked the administration of Magba for welcoming the project and the CBC Health Services Technical Services Department for implementing it to the letter.

All the living forces of Magba subdivision led by the D.O and the Mayor, the Chief of Ngounso, the representative of the DMO of Malantouen Health District and the CBC Magba Field Pastor paid unreserved homage to Hope and Healing International for such an undeserved gift in their municipality. They admonished the

administration of Ngounso Baptist Hospital to jealously preserve the solar energy and water system that is already serving the population.

The Supervisor of Nursing Services, Mr. Lemloh Gerald seized the moment to lavish praises on the DHS, Prof. Tih Pius Muffih for his fatherly and exceptional leadership in steering the affairs of the CBC Health Services resulting in this donation from Hope and Healing International. He confirmed that the entire Ngounso community now fetches water from the hospital for free as a spill over benefit.

The SNS used the occasion to present new X-ray equipment to boost diagnoses. The machine was equally prayed and dedicated alongside the solar energy and water systems.

Maternal and Child Health, a major priority for Ndu Baptist Health Center

After the construction and inauguration last year of an ultramodern theater to cater mainly for pregnant women needing cesarean section and other surgeries, focus is now on Maternal and Child Health. The goal is to completely eradicate mortality during child birth at the Ndu Baptist Health Center that is quickly being transformed into a full-ledged hospital.

An elite couple of Ndu extraction based in the USA, Drs. Odilia and husband, Elias Bongmba together with some of their friends and partners via the Wimbun Cultural and Development Association, WICUDA USA, have raised close to 100.000USD (over 50 million FCFA) to fund the MCH block of Ndu Baptist Health Center. This same couple, Drs. Odilia and Elias Bongmba led in raising funds for the theater and surgical ward block of Ndu Baptist Health Center, which is now being used to near

capacity. At the time of this report, 9 out of the 12 beds in the surgical ward were occupied.

The ground breaking exercise to construct the maternity block took place at the site on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 led by Prof. Tih Pius Muffih, Director of CBC Health Services. The Director was thrilled by the goodwill of the donors, especially towards children and women. Prof Tih welcomed the dignitaries that turned up to witness the landmark ground breaking event.

The Ndu Council was represented by the Second and Fourth Deputy Mayors. Speaking on behalf of the municipality, the Second Deputy said the magnitude of the event warranted two of them to come, especially as the Fourth Deputy was a female who relates better with the maternity. The Deputy Mayor thanked the CBC Health Services

for bringing beautiful projects to Ndu and like Oliver Twist, he requested for more specialized services to come after the theatre and maternity services.

Speaking via zoom, the lead donor, Dr. Odilia Bongmba said, *"There is nothing as beautiful as working together"* – referring to their working relationship with the CBC Health Services. Explaining why they chose a maternity block over other services, Dr. Odilia remarked that *"Success in life begins at birth"*. She extended much appreciation to Prof. Tih, her donor friends and WICUDA, each for their role in realizing the funds. She noted that the ball is now in the court of the CBC Health Services to execute the project and to accelerate the process of raising Ndu Baptist Health Center to a full hospital.

Cont...pg04



Arming for ground breaking



Prayer of dedication



TSD General Supervisor explaining the features of the new maternity block

Speaking earlier on, the Assistant Administrator of Ndu Baptist Health Center, Mr. Nfor Gamngong Emmanuel welcomed everyone to the Ground Breaking event. In like manner, he thanked the donors for such wonderful show of love to the people of Ndu. As head of the institution, the Assistant Administrator pledged to diligently follow-up the execution of the construction works on the maternity block.

In a separate chat with the press to paint a picture of the current maternity and the need for a new structure, the unit head, Lapluh Vera, midwife

said, in terms of staffing and services, the maternity is up-to-date but very lacking in infrastructure and some basic equipment. She revealed that the maternity has five midwives and one COMCHA and they register an average of 20 deliveries per month. Yet, these high points are somehow watered down by the numerous challenges. The maternity needs an incubator, a radiant warmer in the theater, foetus therapy machine, an electronic scale, baby cots in the ward, a standby concentrator and a family planning unit separate from the maternity.

From this background, Ms Lapluh Vera noted that the new maternity block was a welcome relief to better cater for their clients, reduce infection with more working space and boost clients' attendance.

The General Supervisor of the Technical Services Department, Mr. Abraham Chiambah Bujoff presented a pictorial view of the new maternity block to the satisfaction of all. The new structures provided answers to the challenges raised by the current situation.

DHS Tournament 2023 Finals: A Celebration of Health and Sportsmanship!

The Director of Health Services, DHS, Tournament 2023 Finals has come to its logical end. The games that began in 2023 were concluded

in a blaze of glory from March 21-23, 2024 at the Bamendzi Stadium in Bafoussam, Cameroon. Staff from CBC Health Services facilities

across the country participated in a weekend filled with thrilling competition, camaraderie, and a celebration of healthy living.



Bafoussam Baptist Hospital presents a bouquet to Prof. Tih for choosing them as host



Number One Sportsman and entourage pose with Team Handball Male finalists, Nkwen and Yaounde



CBCHS leads the Community for a Health Walk to Bamendzi Stadium

Football Takes Center Stage

The beautiful game lived up to its name with exciting matches across categories. Kumba's female footballers emerged victorious, de-

feating BBH 2-1. In the men's division, Mutengene proved their dominance with a decisive 4-1 win against Mbingo. The veterans' football

match was a close encounter, but Mutengene ultimately secured a 2-0 victory over Mbingo.

Dominant Performances in Table Tennis and Handball

Banyo secured the third-place spot in table tennis, defeating BBH 2 sets to 1. Mbingo then went on to claim the championship title with a 2-set victo-

ry over Bafoussam. The handball court witnessed fierce competition as well. Mbingo women's team triumphed over Kumba with a score of 20-10.

Meanwhile, Nkwen men's handball team emerged champions, defeating Yaoundé 18-14.

Volleyball and Dance Sports Showcase Athleticism and Grace

Kumba's female volleyball team displayed exceptional skills, edging out Douala in a nail-biting 3-set to 2-encounter. The men's volleyball final

saw Mbingo showcasing their power, defeating Yaoundé 3 sets to 1. The dance competition added a touch of elegance to the event. Kumba's daz-

zling performance earned them the top prize with a score of 22.75, narrowly surpassing Mbingo's impressive routine (21.25).

Volleyball and Dance Sports Showcase Athleticism and Grace

Kumba's female volleyball team displayed exceptional skills, edging out Douala in a nail-biting 3-set to 2-encounter. The men's volleyball final

saw Mbingo showcasing their power, defeating Yaoundé 3 sets to 1. The dance competition added a touch of elegance to the event. Kumba's daz-

zling performance earned them the top prize with a score of 22.75, narrowly surpassing Mbingo's impressive routine (21.25).

Nkwen Takes Home the Basketball Crown

The basketball court witnessed an energetic display of athleticism. Nkwen proved their met-

tle, defeating Kumba with a convincing 41-14 score.

Track and Field Ignites the Stadium

The DHS Tournament also featured exhilarating track and field events. The winners and run-

ners-up for each race category showcased their speed and endurance of the participants.

1500m race!

In the female category, First position: Kumba (Yul Mathilda), Second position: Bafoussam (Mbukebam Magdalene),

Third position: Nkwen (Wirsy Lilian). Male category, First position: Mbingo (Ayeah Ezekiel), Second position: Mutengene HSC (Ngong Job), Third posi-

tion: Bafoussam (Ngoran Eugene)

1000m race

Female category First position: BBH (Nah Conscience), Second position: Mutengene (Tatah

Beriel), Third position: Kumba (Ngum Claudette). Male category First position: Banyo (Primus Ngo-

ran), Second position: Nkwen (Tata Clinton), Third position: Kumba (Ngong Philipian)

3000m track race

First position: Mbingo (Mange Lizette) Second position: Bafoussam (Fondzenyuy Majorie), Third

position: Ngounso (Lola Anna). For the Male category, First position: Nkwen (Tata Dylan), Second

position: BBH (Sanyuy Emile), Third position: Nkwen (Nteng Godwill)

Other track races included 400m, 200m, 100m 400m Veteran mix (Male and Female), First position: Mutengene (Ngum Joel), Second position: Kumba (Atem Emmanuel) Third position: Kumba (Mboh Loveline)

200m, Female Category, First position: Mbingo (Fufeh Marion), Second position: Kumba (Tah Bernic, Third position: Douala-Bonaberi (Kimbi Marie). Male Category, First position: Bafoussam (Kingsley Wirnyuy, Second position: Mbingo (Bobga Nelson), Third position: Banyo (Primus Ngoran)

200m Veteran mix, First position: Douala-Mboppi (Mubi Francis). Second position: Bafoussam (Dawah Joda), Third position: Nkwen (Emmaculate Ngisoh).

100m Female First position: Kumba (Wasi Geretta), Second position: Mbingo (Fufoh Marion), Third position: Douala-Bonaberi (Asuh Maurine). Male Category, First position: Banyo (Tamjong Shalom), Second position: Nkwen-DHS (Edmond

Teghen), Third position: Kumba (Ojong David).

100m Veteran Male, First position: Kumba (Anderson Shey), Second position: Mutengene- BHM (Ngum Joel), Third position: Douala - Mboppi (Fai Julius). Female Category, First position: Mutengene-BHM (Ruth Limunga), Second position: Nkwen (Emmaculate Ngiseh), Third position: Kumba (Mboh Loveline). Relay Race Male First position: Nkwen, Second position: Banyo, Third position: Kumba.

The DHS Tournament transcended the realm of sports. It served as a powerful reminder of the importance of health and well-being. Participants from various age groups displayed their dedication to fitness and a healthy lifestyle. The event also fostered a sense of community and camaraderie among CBC Health Services staff.

At the close of the Tournament, the Director of the CBC Health Services in an appraisal noted that the objectives of the keep fit tournament since 2022

have been largely met, given that back in the facilities, the staff are involved in one sporting discipline or another on at least a weekly basis.

"The Tournament came about as a result of an increase in Non-Communicable Diseases and we say if we don't actually defeat it, it will defeat us..... By attending our objectives, I mean that we have effectively installed this tournament in our system, once and forever," the Director made known.

Earlier on before the walk to the stadium on the last day, the Director, Professor Tih Pius Muffih commended the organizing committee and all participants for their contribution to the tournament's success. He called for unity and love amongst the staff so as to keep the flag of the institution high as the case has been in the past years. The DHS Tournament 2023 Finals concluded on a high note, leaving a lasting impression of sportsmanship, dedication, and a commitment to a healthy future.

Prof. Tih, a 21st Century Humanitarian Leader, a Maradona of our Time



CBCHS Administrators and other leaders celebrate their Director on a Well Deserved Award



G2G Officials and Director of CBCHS pose together



Leaders pose to celebrate award

The number one Sports Man of the CBC Health Services, Prof. Tih Pius Muffih has been adorned again with another accolade as the 21st Century Iconic Humanitarian personality by the Grass 2 Grace humanitarian organization, an NGO which has been working in Cameroon for 12 years and counting as a legal Entity.

The award was presented to him by his majesty Thomas Fotang, President of Grass 2 Grace humanitarian organization and a Goodwill Ambassador working under UNITED NATIONS CISRI, a permanent Observatory Mission of the UNITED NATIONS. This iniques activity came on the sidelines during the close of the 2023 DHS Tournament in Bafoussam on March 23, 2024.

It came as a surprise to the Director of the CBC HS as he was recognized for having contributed enormously to the wellbeing of Cameroonians through his work as Director of the CBC

HS. It is important to note that Grass 2 Grace works for people with Disabilities and special needs, orphans, widows and what have you, all in a bid to put smiles on their faces and to make people happy.

The surprise did not end there as the Director was also held back by the Deputy Director for Administration and Finance, Mr. Warri Dennis who on behalf of the staff recognized Prof. Tih as the Maradona of the CBC Health Services, a personality who never gets tired of getting the work done. He dressed the Director with a white Jersey on it written his name, Prof. Tih PM, number 10 and a Medal. Mr. Warri used the opportunity to appreciate Prof. Tih for his tireless efforts in building the CBC HS to the level at which it is.

As if that were not enough for a man who has put smiles on the faces of many, the HIV Free

Project Littoral Region also presented a certificate to the legendary leader for his efforts in building the program to reach higher heights.

As a man who recognizes the efforts of his subordinates to attend success, Prof. Tih awarded certificates to recognize Mr. Wango Barnabas, Mr. Takwe Boniface, Mr. Monju Elvis, Mme Clementine Njang Yong and the Administrator of Bafoussam Baptist Hospital, Mr. Jean Sama for putting in their best for the excellent organization and realization of the DHS keep fit Tournament for the past two years.

Cameroon Tribune, Afrique Media, My Media Prime TV, CRTV West Region and the Guardian Post Newspaper are the media organs that were also recognized for the coverage of the DHS keep fit Tournament in Bafoussam for the past two years.

Surgeons trained to expand clubfoot surgical service in Cameroon

Hope and Healing International Canada, is strengthening and expanding actions towards the treatment of children with clubfoot in Cameroon.

Last month, from February 21 to 23, some ten surgeons from six regions of the country were trained on better clubfoot surgical procedures at the Baptist Hospital in Mutengene, South-west region, Cameroon.

The program is an initiative supported by Hope and Healing International in partnership with

the CBC Health Services through the Clubfoot Program in Cameroon, a project funded by Hope and Healing in six regions across the territory.

Dr. Henry Ndasi, lead trainer and Head of the Orthopedic Unit at Baptist Hospital Mutengene during the training said the training of the doctors is *“to create more treatment centers in the country that will treat the increasing number of children with clubfoot”*.

“Many children and their caregivers often trav-

el long distances from the North and the West Regions to come and receive surgeries here in Mutengene. This sometimes hamper effective follow-ups and healing of the children,” he noted.

For the past three years, Hope and Healing International has been supporting the treatment of children with clubfoot and other musculo-skeletal deformities such as knocked knees and bowed legs in the Northwest and West regions of the country, and over 200 children have already benefitted from this gesture.



Dr. Ndasi Henry engaging his surgeon colleagues



Treating neglected clubfoot for children above five years is a little more complicated and needs more commitment

This year, the project has expanded to six regions of the country namely: Adamawa, West, Northwest, Southwest, Centre, and Littoral. The expanded initiative is said to focus on treating 130 clubfoot cases for children between 0-4 years old, within six months, running from January to June 2024.

“The training of the surgeons is coming to expand and improve access to clubfoot surgical services in the country,” said Tamon James, Coordinator of The Clubfoot Program in Cameroon. “The 130 children target is to add to the about 100 children already treated for Clubfoot deformity from July last year till present, and

we want to make sure the children get quality treatment,” he said.

During the training session, the surgeons were drilled on treatment techniques such as Tendon Transfer, The Ponseti technique, Casting, and other surgical and corrective procedures for treating clubfoot.

It takes six months to two years to have complete healing for clubfoot after surgeries, and surgeons say every procedure from surgery to follow-up is very vital to achieve a corrected foot.

“Dr. Bououe Horline, Orthopedic Surgeon at the Limbe Regional Hospital, Southwest Cameroon, and a trainee in the program said the techniques they have learned will make work easier and more efficient. *“I am so excited because my surgical procedures will be different and more efficient onward,”* she said.

“I have learned an easier and more effective way to handle tendon transfer, which is very crucial during surgery. We thank the CBC Health Services and Hope and Healing International for this kind gesture,” she told us with a bright smile.

Mayor woos Population at Nkambe Health Fair

Musa Shey Nfor, Mayor of Nkambe Council has congratulated the population of his municipality that turned out massively in their numbers to benefit from the specialist services brought to their community by the CBC Health Services. These services included: eye care, ear, nose and throat (ENT), physiotherapy, mental health and profiling of children with disabilities for possible partial or full support from Hope and Healing International towards their treatment and surgical procedures.

The dynamic mayor was speaking when declaring open a two days Health Fair that held at the Nkambe Regional Hospital Annex premises from March 29-30, 2024 as a CBR activity of the Hope and Healing International portfolio of the Socio-Economic Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, SEEPD program.

Mayor Musa Shey Nfor appreciated the CBC Health Services for opening his eyes to the notion of inclusion through the training he received, thanks to an invitation from

Prof. Tih Pius, Director of Health Services. The mayor attested that the SEEPD program has continued to train his Council personnel, which has resulted in the Council taking responsibility in taking actions in favour of persons with disabilities in the community. The Nkambe Council is currently sponsoring a CBR staff for the Council and has rehabilitated an access way into the Nkambe Regional Hospital Annex for easy movement of persons with disabilities.



Attentive audience listening to health talks



Health Talk on Physiotherapy



Mayor Musa Nfor handing school bag to encourage amputee child to go to school

The mayor handed a school bag from Hope and Healing International to an amputee child in class three and took a commitment to sponsor the child through primary school.

The CBC Health Services team leader to the Nkambe Health Fair, Kibong Evelyn who is Assistant CBR Supervisor acknowledged Nkambe Council as a reference for inclusion in the country. She urged the people to take advantage of the specialist services at their disposal for the two days. The team lead also extended appreciation to the Director of Nkambe Regional Hospital Annex for his open-

door policy to collaborate with the CBC Health Services in the interest of his population.

The hospital was represented at the Health Fair by the General Supervisor, Mr. Njoh Alfred Ngwa who welcomed everyone for coming. The hospital official saluted the deep-rooted partnership with the CBC Health Services resulting in physical changes in the hospital in favour of persons with disabilities. The General Supervisor pinpointed that the eye department of Nkambe Regional Hospital Annex now works on clear referral lines with Banso Baptist Hospital, thanks to this cordial

working relationship. Like Oliver Twist, the General Supervisor requested for collaboration this time in orthopedic services.

Before the beginning of the screening proper, the clinicians, all from Banso Baptist Hospital took turns to educate the population on their respective services. A total of 209 clients were screened for the two days Health Fair as follows: mental health – 20, ENT – 40, physiotherapy – 55, eye care – 124 and profile collection – 59.

Prof. Tih receives Another Media Award as Outstanding Healthcare Leader

Accolades, Special Recognitions and Press Awards, have become the wall frames that adorn and beautify the offices of the Director of CBC Health Services, Prof Tih Pius Muffih in Bamenda, Yaounde and elsewhere. These accolades stand out as testimony of the work he has done at the helm of the institution.

The public health luminary with decades of service has continued to receive praise for his selfless services and achievements. The most recent is a National Press Award of Excellence as a Champion of Peace and Welfare of Cameroonians for 2023. The Award from the Watchdog Tribune Media Group recognizes Prof Tih "as the most resilient,

most committed, and most selfless Director with impressive records of never ending the search for excellence within the CBC Health Services. The recognition describes him as **"A GREAT REFORMER AND FOUNDER OF MODERN CBCHS NATIONWIDE"**.



Watchdog Media Group Publisher, Ezikiel Nkunawe Dotta, offering award to Prof. Tih, DHS

The award was handed to the Director during the morning devotions of Saturday, March 9, 2024. In the handing over ceremony, the Publisher/Director of the Watchdog Media Group, Ezikiel Nkunawe Dotta made a litany to justify the choice of the recipient as decided upon by the National Press Award Committee and a Jury of 12 members viz;

- Considering the quite remarkable achievements in the CBCHS by Prof. Tih
- Considering Prof. Tih's strides in healthcare leadership
- Considering that Prof. Tih is one of Africa's most gifted and most performant leaders in healthcare services
- Mindful of the fact that Prof. Tih Pius has led the CBCHS Department for a record of 4 decades with a total selfless commitment in the reformation, transformation of the CBCHS from near-nothing to the best healthcare provider in the state of Cameroon and beyond
- Understanding that the CBCHS under Prof. Tih as Director is the indomitable leader in the provision of high-quality health care services by the church on the African continent
- Considering the several state-of-the-art hospi-

tals and health centers that the CBCHS department runs across Cameroon

- Mindful of the quality training centers in Mbingo Baptist Hospital in partnership with the John Hopkins University in the USA that brings in well qualified medical practitioners from around Africa for specialization in surgery and internal medicines, et cetera;

The CBC Health Services is widely acclaimed as the pride of not only the CBC, but the entire nation of Cameroon.

The award committee acknowledges the team work spirit of Prof. Tih which they admire as a virtue of a genuine intellectual who works closely with Administrators, Senior Staff and also ensures unity and passion in all staff working with the institution.

The award committee extended their appreciation to the work of the 'competent [health] board technocrats' who collaborate with the Director and always strategize for better performance. He [Prof. Tih] refers to all staff as his collaborators and has reminded them often that he only receives

these awards because of the work that they do collectively.

It was a moment for the Director to once more say, THANK YOU to all staff across the Health Board for their indefatigable, passionate and selfless service delivery. He called on them to continue to **"Uphold what builds and not what destroys"**. He has continued to build and will continue in the same spirit, he declared.

In some of his recent tours, the Director has stopped at nothing to continue to encourage staff and ensure the expansion of service delivery. Visiting Pouss in the Far North Region of Cameroon in February 2024, the mission has been to establish a health center that will serve the people of Cameroon and the people of Chad. This announcement received acclamation from staff at the devotion.

The CBC Health Services' progressive expansion reveals the zeal of a health institution that strives to reach out to everyone with quality healthcare delivery.

CBC Health Services commemorates World Hearing Day across its Facilities



Client accessing the ENT department for screening



Staff members of CBM Country Office Yaounde on World Hearing Day

Globally, more than 1.5 billion people experience some degree of hearing loss. Of these, an estimated 430 million have disabling hearing loss. This number could rise to 700 million by 2025 and less than 20% of people in need of ear and hearing care have access to the services they need.

These facts were disclosed by the Ear, Nose, and Throat Clinical Officer, Chia Rephah Ndim in her presentation at the Morning devotions at the Director of Health Services Central Administration during the commemoration of the 18th edition of World Hearing Day which took place on March 3, 2024. The event was commemorated under the theme, "Changing mindsets: Let's make ear and hearing care a reality for all". The theme highlights the importance of correcting misconceptions about hearing loss that are common among the public and primary health providers.

According to Chia Rephah, almost 60% of hearing loss in children is due to causes that can be prevented through measures such as immunization and improved maternal and neonatal care. She added that there is a global shortage of hearing care specialists such as audiologists, and ENT specialists. This shortage is greater in low and middle-income countries, where the need for these services is highest.

During her presentation, she regretted that there are many myths surrounding ear care such as hearing loss is for old people, and is good to clean the earwax, amongst others. She called on the public to avoid cleaning the ear because the ear cleans itself and most especially avoid using cotton buds. Rephah

concluded by encouraging everyone to always consult a health professional when they have any pain or discharge from their ears or any ear condition.

As part of the awareness raising activities, the Director of CBC Health Services, Prof Tih Pius Muffih in a speech to all CBC Health Services institutions and partners, called on all healthcare providers to make intentional efforts to promote Ear and Hearing care and make it accessible to the community because many people in the community still lack access to the services. *"I challenge all CBC Health Services facilities and programs to take deliberate steps to promote Ear and Hearing Care,"* Prof Tih noted.

He disclosed that investments have been made to promote a deaf culture with the development of a sign language Dictionary to facilitate communication with the deaf community as part of a strategy to enhance access to care with further plans to develop a dictionary of medical signs for use in the hospitals.

The day was marked by awareness raising led by ENT staff in Mbingo, Mboppi, Bango, Mutengene, Etoug-Ebe Nkwen Baptist Hospitals. An Outreach Ear screening was organized by the CBC Health Services ENT department at the CBM Country Office in Yaounde where CBM staff there had their ears screened. A week of radio talks was also carried out in some radio stations as part of commemorative activities.

Activities marking World Hearing Day were carried out with support from CBM.

Baptist School of Public Health welcomes New Registrar



Faculty pose as a family



Dr. Fuban Rita (left) takes over office from outgoing Registrar, Dr. Jam Helga



Handing over ceremony in plenary

Baptist School of Public Health, BSPH, Mutengene, formerly called Regional Center for Excellence, turned a new page in its history when staff of the school came together to witness the handing over ceremony of a new registrar. Dr. Fuban Rita takes over office from the pioneer registrar, Dr. Helga Jam who served from 2020-2023.

In a devotional thought from John 15:1-5 titled, *"The Secret of Successful Living,"* Rev. Timlak George chaplain at HSC Mutengene said living a successful life we need to stay connected to God, allow God to prune us and live in humility in order to remain committed and productive. He ended the devotional praying for Dr. Jam Helga as she takes over a new assignment at the CBC Mvan Resource Center in Yaounde.

Dr. Dada Celine, on behalf of the staff of BSPH, welcomed Dr. Fuban Rita and on the other hand appreciated Dr. Jam Helga for her hard work as pioneer registrar.

The Dean of BSPH, Mr. Nkuoh Godlove appreciated the staff for their hard work and the outgoing registrar, Dr. Jam for setting the pace as the pioneer Registrar of the BSPH. He further recognized the many achievements and encouraged Dr. Jam for her hard work.

The Administrator of Health Services Complex, HSC Mutengene, Dr. Ngang Paul M. like the rest of the other speakers, appreciated the outgoing Registrar. He said, *"We should work with the purpose of improving performance"*. He

highlighted the following identifiers for the improvement of performance, process approach, team approach and bench marking.

The incoming Registrar, Dr. Fuban Rita thanked everyone for a warm welcome and said with the foundation laid by Dr. Jam Helga, she wouldn't find it difficult doing her work. She solicited collaboration from all the staff for the school to succeed.

In her own response, Dr. Jam Helga expressed gratitude to the entire school management and the DHS for her time well spent at BSPH. She appealed to the staff to work hand in glove with the new registrar.

Catering Trainees encouraged at End of Theory Phase



Leaders and students



Principal of BVTC, Mr. Kimbi Peter presenting the strengths of the catering students



DHS's representative encouraging catering students as they engage the practical phase of training

Thirty-one catering trainees; 29 females and 2 males of the Baptist Vocational Training Center (BVTC) have been admonished to face the practical part of their one-year training with a similar or double determination with which they gave to the theory session that lasted four months. The trainees now move to the CBC Health Services Center of Excellence in Mvan-Yaounde to continue with their practical for the next five months before graduation.

A brief ceremony at the Baptist Center Hall on March 14, 2024 brought the theory phase of the training to an end and provided an opportunity for the officials to encourage the trainees into the practical phase.

In his exaltation from 1 Kings 17:1-6 and John 14:1-3, Rev. Fongoh Godwin, head chaplain at the CBC Health

Services Central Administration pointed out that God himself is a wonderful caterer who cares about what we eat and where we live. Drawing inspiration from the texts of Scriptures under review, the head chaplain said God sent a bird to provide food to Elijah and also that Jesus went to prepare many rooms in his father's house for believers. He challenged the caterers in training to give themselves as a tool in God's hands.

Speaking for the Deputy Director of Administration who was held back by duty, Mr. Wango Barnabas, Assistant Administrator at the Central Administration assured the trainees of the support of the students during their stay and practice in Yaounde.

The Principal of BVTC, Mr. Kimbi Peter and the Administrator of the Technical Services Department

(TSD), Dr. Nyuongo Kenneth found an opportunity to congratulate the trainees and the tutors for going through the rigorous theory phase of the course. They urged the trainees to carry such good conduct into the practical phase, which according to them, is the most crucial part of the training, because as the Administrator put it, *"Theory learned must translate into a good plate of food on the table"*.

Speaking on behalf of the trainees, the class coordinator promised the school and CBC Health Services administration that they will be of good conduct throughout the practical phase and keep the 100 percent flag of the school at the end of course examination.

Mboppi Baptist Hospital Douala reviews Highpoints of 2023



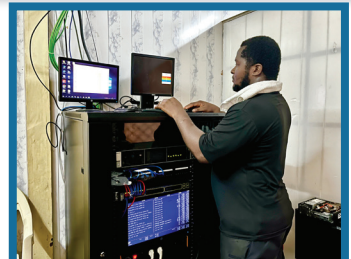
Mr. Yongwa Zacks, MBHD Administrator taking the lead



Dr. Noubissi Simo Herman, new Urology surgeon



Dr. Yecke Macky Frank-Eric, new pediatric surgeon



MBHD DAMA personnel making sure every thing is ok

Mboppi Baptist Hospital Douala continues to maintain a leading role in the provision of quality health care delivery in the Littoral region. Our Mboppi based reporter, Andrew Ekelle says intentional planning and implementation of 2023 goals contributed to the hospital successes.

The recruitment of an additional Gynecologist, Dr. Makwet Tankou Flore has been a great support to the hospital at the level of Gynecological consultations, surgery and quality care. Dr. Leopold Tchokothe, the chief Gynecologist of MBHD attests that her presence has greatly reduced work load, patients' waiting time and increased the number of patients so far as Gynecological issues are concerned.

Two other specialist surgeons for pediatric and urology were recruited. Dr. Yecke Macky Frank-Eric, the pediatric surgeon began work in June last year and has seen more than 50 patients and has done more than 35 surgeries

Dr. Noubissi Simo Herman, the Urology, on the

other hand, began work in September 2023 and has seen more than 30 patients and has done over 12 surgeries. Both specialists have equally created a great impact at the level of consultation and surgeries.

Still on surgery, the MBHD theater had some divisions (partitions) last year to decongest waiting time. The head of MBHD theater, Mr. Diense Julius confirmed to our reporter that these divisions came as a big relief because at first some specialists had to wait for space to be available so they can carry out their procedures. These divisions have greatly reduced patients waiting time as multiple surgeries are now being done at the same time; it has also increased output, number of patients booked for surgery per day and the general performance. The HOD added that the additional two rooms at the Gynecological theater are still to be equipped. MBHD theater performed 3,922 surgeries in 2023.

The introduction of the Electronic Medical Recording (DAMA) in April 2023 is another novelty that boosted services intake last year. In his end of year

address to staff, the senior administrator of MBHD, Mr. Yongwa Zacks said the initiative has created a lot of impact to the hospital. *"DAMA has come to stay,"* he remarked.

The two DAMA focal persons, Nfon Divine and Gabuin Jasper, in an interview with our reporter, said the new method of recording had greatly reduced patients waiting time by limiting registration only at the OPD level. It has decongested payment areas as payment can be done now at any point in the hospital since all information is now automatic.

Mr. Nfon Divine observed that DAMA has solved the problem of communication. At first, some doctors' prescription could not be seen at different levels of the hospital, but with the coming of the Electronic recording all information are stored in the hard ware of a computer which can be accessed by authorized stakeholders at different levels and even simultaneously. The new method had made supervision very easy for the administration as they can see the work done at the level of their offices.

MBHD commemorates World Hearing Day

Mboppi Baptist Hospital Douala, MBHD, joined the international community on March 2, 2024 to mark World Hearing Day under the theme, "Changing Mindset: Ear and Hearing, Health-care for all, Let's make it a Reality".

Developing this year's theme during devotions in chapel, Mr. Ndaleh Peter Rudy, head of the ENT department said, World hearing day was first established in 2007 by WHO to promote hearing health and encourage action to prevent hearing loss. He made the audience to understand that the event was chosen to take place on March 3 as the date 3:3 represent the two ears and also to recognize the efforts of Martin Luther and other civil right activists who contributed a lot for today's human rights.

Qunitus Pedius (who died around the age of 13 years) was a Roman painter and the first deaf person in history known by name. According to research, the HOD said, a person with hearing

loss threshold greater than 20dB and less than 90dB is having hearing loss/impairment. He clarified that hearing is graded into mild, moderate, severe and profound.

Approximately 1.5 billion people are currently affected by hearing loss (HL) in either one ear or both. Globally, it is estimated that 466 million people are living with disabling hearing loss representing 6% of the world population. Also, it is projected that approximately 2.5 billion people will have some form of HL by 2050. Research has proven that Africa and other low income countries have increased conditions that cause HL.

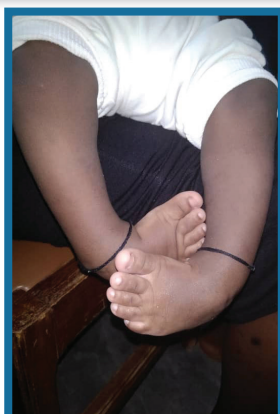
Some of the signs and symptoms of HL include; turning up TV/Radio volume too loud, struggling to hear in background noise, ringing in the ear and no response to speech when not face to face during conversation.

Some major causes of hearing loss are congenital or early childhood hearing loss, chronic middle ear infection, prolonged exposure to noisy environment and ototoxic drugs that damage the inner ear.

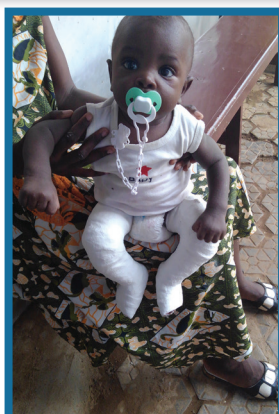
Hearing loss can be managed by early diagnosis, treatment and counselling. Some complications of unaddressed HL were not left out which include; communication and speech, cognition, social isolation, loneliness, stigma, impact on society and economic effects.

In his conclusion, Mr. Ndaleh Peter Rudy, drilled the audience on some preventive measures such as individual regular ear examination, safe listening strategies, eliminating stigma against people with HL, training of hearing Health care staff (HHC) and creating of Hearing Health care clinics.

Mandande's True Life Story



BEFORE TREATMENT



DURING TREATMENT



AFTER TREATMENT

Children born with clubfoot deformity may have a number of life time challenges if their condition is left untreated. This condition will leave the child disabled and makes walking extremely difficult and painful. Other challenges associated with clubfoot deformity cut across social, physical and psychosocial challenges. Most of these children end up facing difficulties to socialize in the community because of low self-esteem or may not be able to partake in sporting activities.

Clubfoot deformities in the Kribi health district were referred to Yaoundé or Douala for correction until early in January 2023 when the newly created Physiotherapy Department of Baptist Health Center Kribi, BHCK, started correcting some clubfoot deformities. This welcomed initiative has greatly impacted the lives of children with clubfoot deformities in this area. Most cases can now be handled onsite without need for any referrals.

Mandande Rael happens to be one of the first children to benefit from this breakthrough services. The obvious deformity has been a source of worry to the child's parents. The parents experienced shock and emotional distress when they first observed their baby's deformed limbs at birth. So far, Mandande has already gone through the correction phase and is currently in the maintenance phase. His parents were so excited to see their child walk freely and unassisted.

Today, Mandande's story is different. He can now walk and play around like any other child. His parents are extremely satisfied with the services of the PT Department. "Nous memes nous sommes tres heureux de sa, vous avez vraiment fait un grand travail, Que Dieu vous benisse" These are the appreciative words of Mandande's mother to the services rendered to her son when she saw her child take his first step in life. So far, 6 clubfoot cases have been

corrected and are currently in the maintenance phase at BHCK.

In spite of this remarkable success, all has not been a bed of roses for the PT staff at BHCK. It has been a challenging task as some parents relax and fail to meet up for follow ups during the second phase of treatment. Seeing their child pass through the first stage makes them over excited and they think that the child's legs are already ok and need no more follow up. Limited staffing and equipment have also been another challenge experienced by the staff.

Nevertheless, the PT department is continuously working hard to identify cases with deformity throughout the district via outreach services to the community. It should be noted that early identification is paramount for intervention.

SEEPD Program acquires, dedicates Three New Vehicles



Deputy DHS for Administration & Finance hands over vehicle keys to SEEPD program chief driver

The Socio Economic Empowerment of People with Disabilities, SEEPD program, Saturday, March 10, 2024 dedicated three new vehicles for effective service delivery, thanks to funding from Hope and Healing International Canada.

Receiving the vehicles, the Director of CBC Health Services, Prof. Tih Pius Muffih paid tribute to Hope and Healing International for

allowing God to use them supply to us instruments to do the services God has entrusted to us.

According to Prof. Tih, vehicles are an effective tool to facilitate services and they're not for pride nor show up. 'The people who gave us the vehicles know that the work we do is important to Cameroonians,' the public health

expert noted.

CBC Health Services Supervisor of Chaplaincy Services, Rev. Ngwang Simon prayed to dedicate the vehicles, the drivers and of course blessing God for the funder.

[#HopeandHealingInternational](#)



Prof. Tih acknowledges SEEPD Program Manager, Jacques Chirac for working towards acquiring the vehicles from Hope and Healing International

STAY SAFE



1. For a healthy work / life balance at every level; for greater awareness and use of dynamic working to restore and promote health and wellbeing. Acts 17:28 In him we live and move and have our being.
2. For strengthening family relationships and quality time together.
3. For relationships across your workplace to be genuine, built on empathy and trust. 1 Peter 3:8 Be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.
4. For colleagues to be solution-focused and divinely inspired with innovative ideas. Daniel 2.
5. For the continuation of stakeholder relationships to be built on integrity and respect.

PUBLISHING TEAM

Publisher/Executive Editor

Prof. Tih Pius Muffih
(Director of Health Services)
TEL: +237 677 936 495

Head of Department

Clementina Njang Yong
TEL: +237 654 258 457

Editor-In-Chief

Bonkung Handerson
TEL: +237 679 369 779

Editorial Team

Freida Fanda Gelam
Njoka Divine
Maureen Moody
Anyang Amedia

Distribution Team

Defeu Colince
Sunjo Divine

Layout/Design

Jini John

CONTACT

PO Box 01 Bamenda
NW Region, Cameroon
Email: pressdivision@cbchealthservices.org
Website: www.cbchealthservices.org

If US residents want to support any of the CBCHB programs, they can send tax deductible donations to:

Cameroon Health and Education Fund (CHEF)
4265 45th St South - Suite 111-13
Fargo, ND 58104

For questions, contact:

CHEF President, Alison LaFrence, MD.
Home phone: **952-898-4054**,
Cell phone: **952-237-4095**
E-mails: alafrence@gmail.com , or
visit the CHEF website:
<http://cameroonhealthandeducationfund.com/chef/>