



CHURCH OF CENTRAL AFRICA PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD OF LIVINGSTONIA



DAVID GORDON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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LIVINGSTONIA

RUMPHI

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NEWSLETTER

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Our Vision is to be a Christ-like, growing, exemplary and compassionate health care provider of choice in our region.

DAVID GORDON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

PRAYER ITEMS.

- We thank God for new hospital staff.
- We thank God for protecting us during this time of cholera outbreak and that no staff member has been affected.
- We pray for good relationship between staff members and the community.
- We thank God for Protection during the hard times of cyclone Freddie Freddy
- We pray for the government of Malawi and for God's intervention on issues of SLA invoices to be paid in good time for survival of our hospital.

Current DGMH Management members.

Ishmael Jonathan Nyirenda – Medical Officer In-Charge

Dyson Matimati - Principal Hospital Administrator

Andrew Chunga - Senior Human Resources Management officer

Daudie C Banda -Senior Administrative Officer

Wadana Mkandawire -Principal Nursing Officer

Dr Dennis Chauma –Head of Clinical Department.

Frank Nyirenda– Senior Hospital Accountant

Rev. Hathor Mhone – Hospital Chaplain

Erasmus Blessings Mbemba-PPHO.

Innocent Kayula—Staff Representative

NEW HOSPITAL BOARD MEMBERS

The hospital has got its own board which will be overseeing the operations of the hospital .

This is one way of accelerating decision making at institutional level in the health department. All decision made by this board are binding and few issues would be reported to the main Synod Health board.

Here are the names of DGMH board members ;

- Professor Nyengo Mkandawire– Chairperson
- Mrs Tazirwa Chipeta– Vice Chairperson
- Mr Willan Kalinda Kumwenda– Finance & Audit chairperson
- Mr Muteyu Banda
- Mr Abel Gondwe
- Mrs Mep Chipeta
- Principal Zimakazi
- Rev MGW Tembo
- Dr W T Nyirenda

Orientation and induction of these members was done on 10th and 11th March 2023. and they will be meeting quarterly to look into issues pertaining to the hospital.

In addition to the above members the Synod Health Director, MOIC, PHA and accountant will be attending the Board meetings.

The first meeting for DGMH board members has been scheduled to take place on 29th May 2023 at Livingstonia. This is also the time these board members will be introduced to members.



DAVID GORDON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

“Whatever you do, whatever kind of work you are doing, work heartily, with all your heart, diligence, integrity, humility as for the Lord and not for men’

Colossians 3: 23-24

“Give ,and it will be given to you, Good measure , pressed down , shaken together running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you .”

Luke 6 :38

CONDITION OF THE WATER SOURCE

Livingstonia is one of the hardest to reach areas in Malawi. One of the major challenges at the plateau is access to clean and safe water, communities depend on rivers, springs, open surface and Lake Malawi as main sources of water which have proved to be a big challenge.

DGMH gets it’s water from the nearby mountain. The source is at the top of the mountain and canals were constructed where water moves down up to the collection point. From there pipes were connected up the water reservoir (Tank) at the Mission Station. From there it is distributed to the hospital and staff houses.

This was constructed long time ago and most of pipes needs replacement. Due to the heavy rains this years the canals were destructed with the running water and land slides in some areas blocked the canals.

Currently the metal pipes from the source to the hospital tank are worn out because of rusts, heavy rains, and land slides. These pipes were installed long time ago.

WATSAN is supplying water to the hospital while waiting to replace the pipes this resulted in having no water at the hospital for hours since the water is being rationed.

Currently the water is only filtered but there is need to start treating the water to avoid spreading of water borne diseases like cholera

The pictures below show the land sliding at the water source and the rotten pipe which can not be repaired and needs to be replaced.

PRAYER ITEMS

- Pray for all our partners who assist us both in material and financially and not forgetting our prayer partners. God should give us good health and protect us.
- God must enlarge your territories in everything that you do to us .You have been assisting us in all our request and even in times when we were not expecting to receive we receive from you our brethren's.
- In the process to prepare for the enemy we decided to reach out to you our dear brethren for financial help for us to procure different materials required in preparing and fighting the pandemic you did not fail us.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL !!!!!





The picture above, the newly recruited WASH officer Loynah Nyirenda.

DGMH has recruited a Water, Sanitation and hygiene (WASH) officer, Loynah Nyirenda to support WASH effort in the community and at the hospital. She has been an intern under PHC department for more than a year. She will be under Cholera response project being supported by LHP.



The picture above showing community members taking the oral Cholera vaccine and was after the community engagement meeting on cholera.

After registering a number of cholera cases, the hospital started engaging community on how to prevent cholera and encouraging them take cholera vaccine

CHOLERA EPIDEMIC

DGMH registered its first cholera case in September, 2022. As of 02nd May, 2023, DGMH has registered 16 Cholera cases with 0 deaths. The hospital has 4 health centers namely Luwuchi, Mlowe, Tcharo and Msumbe and 1 health post at Zunga. 3 health centers and 1 health post have been also hit hard with cholera outbreak. Luwuchi has registered 132 cases and 1 death, Mlowe has registered 151 cases and 1 death, Tcharo has registered 29 cases and 1 death, Zunga has registered 2 cases and 0 deaths. Msumbe health center has not yet registered any Cholera case. Cumulatively, DGMH and its health centers has so far registered 330 cholera cases and 3 deaths.

One of the major challenges is access to clean and safe water, communities depend on rivers, springs, open surface and Lake Malawi as main sources of water which have proved to be a big challenge. In addition, women travel long distances to access water from unsafe sources. Lack of access to safe and clean water in most parts of Livingstonia, is the contributing factor to the increase of waterborne disease outbreaks such as Cholera and typhoid. The only way to ensure such problems are combated is by ensuring there is safe and clean water. DGMH has been installing shallow wells in Livingstonia and beyond.



The above pictures show the sources of water in some most of the areas.

SURGICAL NETWORKING

DGMH, like any other CCAP mission hospital experiences a number of challenges in the provision of surgical services due to shortage of qualified surgeons and inadequate operating theatre which was constructed some time back and does not meet standards and thus effective, timely and quality provision of surgical service.

All mission hospitals under CCAP in Malawi have created a surgical network where a team of Doctors will be going around the hospitals to provide surgical services. This network is being funded by MBF and chaired by the Livingstonia synod health director Mrs Mphatso Ngulube Chikhwaza

This network is expected to improve the provision of surgical services in all CCAP hospitals including DGMH. The community around Livingstonia will be able to get improved surgical services within shortage distance at an affordable price. A team of doctors have been identified and some have been sent for training in preparation this networking

SO^LAR PROJECT

The Hospital through synod coordination office has secured funds to install solar power at facility. This will be the main back up when ESCOM power goes off. Currently the hospital is experiencing a prolonged black out due load shedding.

The generator is being used as back up but the challenge is the scarcity of fuel and also the rising cost of diesel on the market.

The Solar system will be installed by Kuunika Electronics and is being funded by Presbyterian church of Canada through International Ministries.

Once this project has been implemented, the revenue for hospital will increase since a lot of money were used to purchase fuel and payment of electricity bills. There will also be uninterrupted services due to power cut-offs.

Below is a picture of DGMH management team and Synod Health Coordination team taken after the solar project briefing meeting which was held at DGMH PHC hall on 12th Jan-



DGMH EMBARKED ON A TREE PLANTING EXERCISE

This year DGMH embarked on a tree planting exercise. After considering that the structures of the hospital are very old and can easily be blown up by heavy winds, the management decided to plant trees around the hospital which will act as wind blockage.

Some of the trees were donated by a local organization known as Rise for Phoka and other trees came from the University of Livingstonia, Laws campus.

Management members also agreed to plant fruit trees around the hospitals which will be consumed by patients and staff members.



The above pictures shows the MOIC and other people participating in the tree planting exercise.

TIKOLORE PROJECT UPDATE

Tikolore project rolled out its activities in April 2022. Here are some of the updates of the project.



The project bought 10 goats and distributed to one of the animal club in Tchenachena. Two more groups are also expected to receive the goats.

The picture to the left shows the goats which were purchased

Through the project, we also purchased a new maize mill sheller replacing the old mill sheller

Picture of the new maize mill sheller which was planted at Livingstonia Trading centre.



GORDON ROAD

The shortest route to the health centers (lake shore side) is the Gordon road. However, the road is in a very bad state in such a way that in April, the road was impassable for some days due to landslides because of persistent heavy rains. Out of the 20 bends of this road, only bend 2 to bend 4 are always passable since they have a slab. During rainy season, the road is always in a bad state. The back road (Livingstonia – Phwezi) is now in a good state since it is tarmacked.



Pictures above & below showing the state of the road



TIKLORE PROJECT UPDATES

We purchased and supplied fingerings, pipes and lime to 30 fish club farmers under the Tikolore project. A total of 32 PVC pipes class A, 20 bags of lime and 19,000 fingerings were supplied. The picture below, hand over ceremony of pipes and bags of lime to farmers.



During the last growing season the project supported farmers with maize seeds and fertilizer. Upon harvest, the farmers returned the agreed harvest so that they could be used to support them again in the next growing season. Harvests were collected and sold to the community and members of the staff at the hospital. This was timely and useful as the maize was sold during the time when maize was scarce.

One the of the beneficiary of goats who built a nice kraal for the goat he benefitted from Tikolore Project.



DENTAL SECTION

The hospital would like to thank SMILEAWI, a Scottish organization which has been tirelessly supporting the dental section with equipment, training of the dental personnel and support.

The dental technician Mr Lusekero Kyumba has finished his training and currently the dental section is fully operating.

Because of this people around Livingstonia are able to get access to safe dental services

The hospital is also expecting to receive a new dental chair and other equipment from SMILE-AWI through a container which is in transit to Malawi .

DENTAL AND EYE SECTION

The 2 sections which were not operational for some time at the facility are now open. With support from Smileawei and the Ravern Trust (UK) the community is now able to get dental and eye services at the facility.

The picture below shows a client receiving dental services at DGMH.



EYE SECTION

Apart from donated glasses, the hospital has beefed up the eye section with other glasses, like photochromic glasses which are currently on high demand.

In the picture below a patient getting services at the Eye section.



The picture above is the awareness campaign at the University of Livingstonia.

Through the Eye project, awareness campaigns have been conducted and free eye screening to the elderly in the community. These activities have been so far done in Phoka, University of Livingstonia, community day secondary school in Livingstonia, Matchewe and other areas. Elderly with reading problems have been given free reading glasses. These glasses were donated by Karonga Diocese to DGMH



SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me

John 14: 1 (NIV)

“And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt: but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.”

Deuteronomy 7:15

The service Charter at the entrance of the hospital where all services provided at the hospital are being listed not forgetting the mission statement and the vision of the hospital.

People are able to know the services provide at the facility without asking any person since the information is displayed at the entrance.



Readers Response

Readers are encouraged to comment on issues raised in this Newsletter.

Please kindly inform us if you know someone who may be interested in this Newsletter. Do not hesitate to inform us if you do not need another copy of this Newsletter in future.

All correspondences and donations must be forwarded to:

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We can also be contacted through the office of Presbyterian Church in Ireland (+442890322284). Presbyterian Church Offices in Scotland and USA can also serve as contact points Or

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Most of the hospital structures are old and dilapidated and need to be replaced or renovated. One of these structures was the incinerator.

Currently the hospital has just finished building the new incinerator with the funding from WASH project as one way intensifying hygiene at the facility. Animals like dogs and pigs were able to enter the old incinerator which was very hazardous to the community around the hospital.



Thanks for taking your time to read Newsletter writer;
Daudie Chrispine Banda
Senior Administrative Office (SAO)