



**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 Protecting us from Cholera and no life has been lost due to this pandemic.
- 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 – Acting Medical Officer In-Charge

Dyson Matimati - Principal Hospital Administrator

Andrew Chunga - Senior Human Resources Management officer

Daudie Banda -Senior Administrative Officer

Wadana Mkandawire -Principal Nursing Officer

Dr Dennis Chauma –Head of Clinical Services

Frank Nyirenda– Hospital Accountant

Rev. Hathor Mhone – Hospital Chaplain

Erasmus Blessings Mbemba-PPHC Director

Innocent Kayula—Staff Representative

NEW MANAGEMENT MEMBERS AT DGMH

Dr Dennis Chauma (Medical Officer) has joined DGMH in April 2022, currently has been entrusted with leadership position as the Head of Clinical department



In the picture Dr Dennis, the Head of Clinical Services

Dr Dennis has taken over from Moses Silungwe who had been acting as Head of Clinical services for almost a year.

Moses, who is a Senior Clinical Officer had gone for annual leave and thereafter will proceed for studies in Zambia where he will be doing a Bachelor in Medicine and Bachelor in surgery (MBBS) for 6 yrs

Mr Erasmo Blessings Mbemba is now the Principal Preventive Health Care Director. He has been acting as the PHC Director for some years and this year in June 2022 a vacancy for the position of PPHC Director for DGMH was advertised and he attended the interviews where he was successful and was offered the position.

Mr Mbemba has just graduated with Master of Science in Sanitation. DGMH is grateful to have him because he is one the hard working people at the facility.



DGMH has got also a new staff at the pharmacy. Agness Mkhara, who is a pharmacy technician . Agness replaced Chancyrose Mvula who resigned a couple of months ago.



Agness is currently the in charge of the pharmacy who monitors the stock levels of drugs at the pharmacy.

Her role is to advise the drug committee on the consumption rate of drugs depending on seasons.

She also makes sure that essential drugs are always available on stock and advises the Internal Procurement Committee when drugs have reached re-order level.

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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

Eye Conference -

DGMH conducted an eye conference on 13 October 2022 in Mzuzu at Grand Palace Hotel. A total of 80 delegates from various district hospitals, Mission hospitals, training institutions, private eye providers, ministry of health officials among others. This was done to commemorate the World Sight Day. The activity was supported by The Raven Trust (UK). This activity was part of the eye project in Livingstonia



In the picture to left

DGMH showcasing the eye services provided at the facility during the conference at Grand Palace Hotel



In the picture below

There was an overwhelming response from the people around Mzuzu after hearing that there

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 received 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. You timely helped us .

GOD BLESS YOU ALL !!!!!

was free eye screening at Mzuzu Shoprite as part of world Sight Day celebration.

Due to this response the activity was extended to the next day just to make sure that everyone was assisted. An indication that the services are in high demand in this region. A total of 475 clients were assisted at the eye conference



This the Eye clinic at DGMH taking a new shape with support of eye equipment from the Raven Trust (UK)

In the picture to the left one the clients being screened at the

CHOLERA RESPONSE IN LIVINGSTONIA

Malawi is currently experiencing one of the worst cholera outbreaks in years. The first case was registered on 02nd March, 2022 and the Ministry of health declared cholera outbreak on 03 March, 2022.

Meanwhile, the country continues to register new cholera cases in different parts of the country. As of 31st October, 2022, the outbreak had claimed 183 lives with 6,056 cases being registered in 27 districts while 147 are still admitted in the treatment units. Rumphi District has not been spared from the outbreak, it has registered 788 cumulative cholera cases, 14 deaths and some are currently admitted in the treatment units

DGMH registered its first case in September 2022 and this was the same with its 4 health centers.

Below is the data for the registered cases of Cholera for DGMH and its Health Centres;

	Name of Facility	# of Cases	# of Deaths
1	DGMH	14	0
2	Luwuchi	94	1
3	Mlowe	118	1
4	Zunga	2	0
5	Tcharo	26	1
6	Msumbe	0	0

CHALLENGES FACED IN COMBATING CHOLERA OUTBREAK

- Inadequate drugs and supplies.
- Lack of tents for isolation of cholera patients as a result the whole of Female Ward is being used as an Isolation and Treatment Unit for Cholera patients.
- Inadequate fuel for community surveillance and referral.
- Inadequate funds to provide safe water sources such as shallow wells in the community since most of the registered cases were related to use

Cholera Outbreak



Soon after registering cholera cases DGMH embarked on the sanitization campaign about Cholera in areas where these cases were coming from.

In the left picture

The community is being sensitized about cholera.

DGMH was also involved in the exercise of providing Chlorine in areas where they do not have access to clean water.

The community was also taught how to use Chlorine in their home.

Chlorine provision at Livingstonia market as response to the cholera outbreak



The hospital also had community engagement meeting with chiefs & religious leaders on cholera prevention & control..

They were told to encouraged their people to have toilets in their homes.

During sensitization campaigns by the hospital it was discovered that most houses do not have toilets especially in very remote areas.

After registering a case of cholera at DGMH in September 2022, the Management sat down and formed the Cholera Response Team. This team is comprised of members from different departments. The team came up with a number of measures on how to deal with cholera patients and other related diseases. Some of the measures were allocation of an ambulance special for cholera response, redesigning of patient flow at the hospital. A tent was elected before the hospital entrance as a screening point for all patients before meeting doctors.



PROJECTS



DGMH embarked on a project of molding bricks for the new mortuary. The current mortuary is very small with no cold rooms. Through the collaboration between DGMH management and community 65,000 bricks have been molded and burnt currently waiting for the project.



ROADS CONSTRUCTION MARKING THE BOUNDARIES BETWEEN THE HOSPITAL AND THE COMMUNITY.

In the picture above a new road has been constructed from the guardian shelter up to House No 1 commonly known as Mabuto. The road has been constructed in the boundary to avoid land encroachment.

This was supported by Mota-Engil, a company constructing Phwezi-Livingstonia road as one way of corporate social responsibility

David Gordon Memorial Hospital experience a number of challenges in the provision of surgical services due to inadequate operating theatre which was constructed some time back and does not meet required standards and thus ineffective, timely and quality provision of surgical service.

The hospital would like to have a modern theatre which will address all the above listed shortfalls



DGMH is not spared with the problem of land encroachment by the surrounding community and this has led to the construction of the new roads marking the boundary between the community and the hospital.

THE NEW THEATRE SITE

This is the site reserved for the construction of the new theatre.



Tikolore project has rolled out its activities. Currently it is supporting 215 farmers in 7 clubs around Livingstonia. Others are irrigation farmers, others are doing animal farming, rearing animals like goats and cows.

Another group of farmers are doing fish farming and currently fish ponds have been renovated and fish fingerlings will be distributed with the help of Mzuzu Aquaculture Centre.

TIKOLORE PROJECT UPDATE - PARTNERSHIP WITH SEED-CO



After a successful partnership with Seed-co Malawi, PHC Department has embarked on a project of growing various crops at PHC farm. The hospital provides land and labor while Seed-co provides inputs like seeds, fertilizer and agricultural expertise.

On the left picture, maize field for famers under Tikolore Project. Farmers have received fertilizer and seeds for irrigation farming . A total of 215 farmers and 7 clubs are benefiting from the project.



Provision of fertilizer and seeds to various farmers who are beneficiaries of Tikolore Project. This is supported by Mournie Presbyterian Church.



As a hospital, through PHC Department, we have started animal rearing at the PHC farm. The aim is to raise animal in order to supply to farm clubs and for income generation for sustainability of farm activities.

Below is a picture the newly built shallow well being handed over to the community by Acting Medical Officer In Charge Mr. Ishmael Nyirenda .

Maintenance of Shallow wells

DGMH has repaired and built a total of 51 shallow wells in Livingstonia and some parts of Karonga District (TA Wamsambo). The aim is to improve access to clean water



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

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE HOSPITAL & VEHICLES

BUILDINGS



The hospital is still incurring huge costs on the maintenance of the old buildings. The water and sewer systems need to be overhauled. Similarly there is need to repair leaking roofs and replace the old ceilings before the rainy season.

TRANSPORT



The hospital is still incurring high operating cost on vehicles especially on ambulances. Livingstonia is privileged to have a new tar marked road from Phwezi. But this has brought little impact to the hospital especially transport section since all of its health centres are on the other side of the newly constructed road and still use Golodi road to visits these centres and referral of patients to DGMH. The Golodi road situation is worse and pathetic needing serious maintenance work.

Scarcity of fuel has also negatively affected the operations of the hospital on transport system and electricity back up

Lastly high staff turn over has also negatively affected the hospital and the centres is just being used as the training ground for other cadres and after gaining experience they go to other facilities or join government main stream

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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