



North Fly Health Services Development Program

Newsletter

Issue: 9

Volume: 2

Jan - March 2014

The North Fly Health Services Development Program (NFHSDP) is an OTML initiative to deliver better health services to the people of North Fly District. It began in 2009 and will continue to 2018. The program promotes partnership in delivering health services, with the current health service providers:

- Catholic Health Services (CHS)
- North Fly District Health Services (Government)
- ECPNG and
- Others.

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OLSOBIP SPECIAL IMMUNIZATION PATROL IN RESPONSE TO SUSPECTED MEASLES OUTBREAK

The NFHSDP supported District and Catholic Health Service health workers to deliver Mother and Child Health (MCH) services that integrated a special measles immunisation program to Olsobip and surrounding villages from 20-30 March 2014. A total of nine villages were covered that included Kamfurabip Aidpost catchment villages: Kusa 1, 2 and 3, Dumunak, Lobip, Kongabip and Mission corner.

Measles vaccines were administered to children aged six months to young adults 20 years of age. The 3rd round of Tetanus Toxoid was also provided to women aged between 15-45 years of age who missed out last year during the Supplementary Immunisation Activity program. Other activities included: school medicals at Olsobip Primary School



Immunization rollout activities



measles vaccines for all students, tetanus toxoid for school entry and leaving students and reproductive health education programs for grade 7 & 8 girls (no grade 6 class at this school).

A total of 553 vaccinations were administered including; measles -293, Tetanus toxoid-165, Sabin-33, BCG -2, Pentavalent-28 and Vitamin A-A total of 147 children under 5 years of age were reached and all of children were also assessed for their nutritional status. It is encouraging note that none were malnourished, 19% moderately nourished and 81% well nourished.

Other services provided in each village included: antenatal care clinics, supervisory visit at Olsobip Health Centre, on the job training for health facility staff on the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI), community education on TB, reproductive health, cervical and breast cancer, family planning, exclusive breast feeding and obstetrics emergencies (post-partum haemorrhage and ectopic pregnancy). The team also took the opportunity to distribute a range of over 60 health promotion materials including the NFHSDP Healthy Living Flier, IMCI flip charts and a range of baby and adult clinicbooks.

NFHSDP fully funded this patrol which included providing travelling allowances and accommodation for District Health workers and providing logistical support for Catholic Health Service nurses. Due to the remote locations of Olsobip and the surrounding catchment villages, the modes of transport used included road vehicles and air transport including charters and chopper transport.

Next 5 years agreed for North Fly Health Services Development Program

Planning for the second five years of the North Fly Health Services Development Program began in 2013, the final year of the first five year program, with a proposed program design submitted to and approved by the Board of Ok Tedi Mining Ltd.

Another aspect of preparing for program continuation was the participation of the program management team and key North Fly partner agency managers at the Western Province annual planning workshop, hosted by the Provincial Health office in Daru in October.

The purpose of continued participation at provincial level forums is to not only continue to strengthen existing relationships and dialogue with provincial and Middle and South Fly district counterparts, but also to ensure that the way forward for NFHSDP is suitably aligned with the Provincial Health Annual Implementation Plan for 2014 and continues to support the existing provincial 2010- 2015 Strategic Implementation Plan. These key documents incorporate the vision, mission, strategic goals and key objectives for health in Western Province.

Following the endorsement of the program design by OTML, a one day workshop for key stakeholders was held in Kiunga in December. Independently facilitated by Annmaree O'Keeffe, the purpose of the workshop was to review achievements during the last five years of NFHSDP and to clarify partner requirements and NFHSDP support moving forward into 2014.

Annmaree has previously facilitated NFHSDP stakeholder workshops and her extensive experience in international development and her understanding of the complexities of providing health care in challenging environments are among the reasons she was invited by the NFHSDP team to facilitate the December 2013 workshop.

The outcomes of this workshop provided a solid platform for a subsequent workshop in January 2014, where partners came together again to put together a high level plan of NFHSDP activities for 2014 and to allocate program funds to priority activities. With the 2014 activity plan finalised, the focus is now on implementing the plan in partnership with stakeholders.

Not unlike other health programs, the NFHSDP is not without challenges, therefore as we move forward into phase 2 we will continue to work with key partners and stakeholders to address those challenges and through better communication and dialogue will endeavour to further strengthen this already successful public private partnership.

OTML has committed K32 million over the next five years for NFHSDP

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS IN KIUNGA

International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8th across the world. This global day celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women in the past, present and future.

The NFHSDP and CMCA Middle & South Fly Health Program teams came together on Wednesday 05 March in Kiunga to observe International Women's Day. This special salute to women around the world, especially in developing countries, started with a walk from the office in the heart of Kiunga town to the grounds of Kiunga District Hospital.

Along the way, purple ribbons and an invitation to join the walk were extended to the general public including young girls, teenagers and women and men of all ages. Team members relayed messages via loud hailer about the purpose of this special day and encouraged men to respect and encourage their wives, sisters and daughters not only today but every other day.

The 2014 theme 'Ending Poverty for Women and Girls through Economic Empowerment' was shared and the ladies operating little stalls along the street before the hospital were given purple ribbons to wear proudly, as these ladies are already on the path to economic empowerment through their sales of snacks, peanuts and soft drinks for passers-by.

Although only a short walk followed by a light lunch, observing International Women's Day for both health program teams was an important activity, as it was not only an opportunity to express their support for women worldwide in their struggle against poverty, but was also an opportunity for the teams to unite with the communities of Kiunga in an effort to network and mobilise for meaningful change.

Visit the new NFHSDP office

In February the NFHSDP team moved into its new office in Kiunga. Prior to this the management and administration of the program was based in Tabubil, while the Area Wide Services team had an office at Kiunga Hospital. Everyone is now located at the new office, which is near the Post Office in Kiunga. The CMCA Middle & South Fly Health Program office is also just next door. Please drop in and visit.

The Tabubil Urban Clinic team remains in Tabubil where outpatient services are provided Monday – Friday.

Employee of the Year 2013

Cynthia Sigayong has been awarded the NFHSDP Employee of the Year award for 2013. Cynthia is the Sister in Charge at Tabubil Urban Clinic, and has worked with NFHSDP since January 2010. Throughout this time she has shown commitment to her role and demonstrates Abt JTA values in all of her work. Congratulations Cynthia and keep up the good work!

NEW NORTH FLY SOLAR POWER INSTALLATIONS TO ASSIST WITH HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY IN REMOTE LOCATIONS

The NFHSDP team travelled with 2 technicians from Dulas Solar Agents from Madang from 17-31 March to install solar panels and solar vaccine fridges in four remote health facilities, aimed at supporting the delivery of health care services.

Installation sites included Gasuke Aid Post, a government health facility, Biangabip Aid Post, a government health facility currently managed by Catholic Health Services and Fuma and Dahamo Aid Posts, both ECPNG health facilities.

Place in the sun

The Earth receives more solar energy in one hour than the world population consumes in an entire year. Almost all developing countries have enormous solar power potential

Loading the panels for transportation



Refilling halfway towards Gasuke



Locals helping out at a health facility



Solar panels installation at Fuma A/Post



Preparing for installation at Biangabip



Lights on

The CHW on behalf the community thanked the NFHSDP "for thinking of them in such a time where such services were desperately needed in remote areas like Biangabip"

World TB Day celebrated with partners in North Fly

World TB day was celebrated in Kiunga on 21 March. The Master of Ceremony was Mr John Lari, District Health Manager.

Lead up activities to the main day celebrations included visits by the inter-agency team of eight officers to twelve schools from 17-20 March. The purpose of the lead up activities was to provide community TB and HIV advocacy and awareness, to undertake school health checks and provide awareness programs to students and teachers and to advocate attendance and participation at the main World TB Day celebrations in Kiunga town on 21 March.

A total of 12 schools were visited in North Fly during the lead up to World TB day and over 4,000 people were reached, including 3,986 students 32 teachers and 100 community members. Topics covered included signs and symptoms of TB, treatment and the current situation of ordinary TB and resistant TB in PNG and the TB and HIV co – infection message. Other cross cutting issues such as law and order problems, life style diseases and the importance of good sanitation and personal hygiene were also addressed.

The team also distributed over 1,300 health promotion materials including TB and HIV posters and pamphlets. An interactive question and answer session was also included and students and teachers asked about not only TB but also enquired about malaria, typhoid and other life style diseases. Teachers reiterated out teams' messages to students and also resolved to support such programs as a component of strengthening school health programs.

The World TB Day celebrations on 21st March started with a march from Kiunga main market and around town to the ECPNG church grounds where a host of activities were held. The Program included providing those present with general information about TB and its prevalence in Western Province. J Box group of musicians and Dae Bisi drama group provided light entertainment through songs that incorporated messages about TB and how it affects the communities of Western Province.

A range of short talks were delivered by senior health and administration professionals in the District including Dr. Modowa Gumoi-Provincial Administrator, Mr. Dume Wo'o- North Fly District Administrator, Mr. Samson Kove-NFHSDP, Sr Anna Sanginawa-Catholic Health Services, Mrs. Kanasus- Women's representative and Mr Yokowor, Deputy Provincial Health Director.

After the official proceedings TB patients at Kiunga Hospital were provided with a special lunch and invited guests enjoyed light refreshments.