

### NFHSDP Support for a Mobile VCCT and Awareness Program at Public Offices in KIUNGA

The NFHSDP valued the opportunity to support the Kiunga STI clinic staff to conduct a mobile 'Voluntary Confidential Counselling and Testing' (VCCT) and awareness program at a number of public offices in Kiunga from 8-12 July. The team visited Kiunga Hospital, District health office, Works office & Awe Ambip North Fly House.



*Above: Elsie Kadibu & Anna Kambui, Planning and Monitoring officers*

Basic information about HIV and AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and the purpose of VCCT was explained to attendees, as well as strategies to minimize the risks of contracting these communicable diseases. Attendees also had the opportunity to have a HIV test and a counselling session with a qualified health worker.

This is an important step for addressing HIV, as it is just as important to combat the stigma of HIV as it is to develop medical cures to prevent or control the spread of the disease. Changing attitudes is not an easy task and some of the research suggests that something can be done through a variety of interventions, such as focused information dissemination and counselling.

A public servant who attended the VCCT said "This program on HIV/AIDS awareness is the first of its kind in North Fly and we are very happy to receive the team from the STI clinic and NFHSDP. Most times we do not think of going to do a HIV test at the hospital. This program should be conducted here in Awe Ambip every 6 months".

### NFHSDP Coordinates Water Tank Installations at Kungim Sub Health Centre

This project was carried out upon request from the Catholic Health Services (CHS) through the Malaria and Environmental Health/Healthy Village PAG.



*Above: NFHSDP EHO showing final outcome of the tank installations.*

The six water tanks were purchased by the CHS and NFHSDP assisted in the installation with support from our partners from the Government who provided the technical personnel, an Artisan and an EHO. Three volunteers from the village also assisted the team to complete the water tank installations.

The six 5000 Litre tanks were to replace the defective and rusted tanks at four staff houses and two at the Health Facility. The Health Facility including the delivery room and staff houses now have a clean and safe water supply for patients and staff.

Three medical students from Griffith University, Queensland Australia accompanied the team for two days. They also assisted the team staff by accompanying an emergency case (a child who sustained an injury after a sago palm fell on him) back to Rumginae Rural Hospital.

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 is a 5 year program which began in 2009. 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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## Basic Computer Training for Catholic Health Services Officers

The Catholic Health Services (CHS) with the assistance of the NFHSDP Data Manager conducted a 1 week basic computer training from the 29th August - 6th September, 2013.

A total of 12 participants attended, of which 2 were males and 10 females. All were community health workers (CHW) from North, Middle and South Fly districts and were first time users of computers.

Computer illiteracy was one of the main problems identified by the management of the CHS, thus prompting the management to organize a computer training for their health staffs, especially the CHWs.

The Basic Computer training was aimed at introducing the participants on how to use computers and the basics knowledge and skills in improving their work from manual writing of reports to computer base writing of reports for easy convenience. As identified, reporting and submitting of reports by respective health facilities to CHS management has been a major problem and as such they would like to improve in this area.

During the closing one of the participants thanked NFHSP for providing the personnel to facilitate the training and quote "When we all entered the training room on the first day of the training we all have no idea how to put on the computer and to shut it down. We don't know what to do with computers but now after this training we can now use computers and use the programs. We all have learnt something new."

The NFHSDP will continue to support staff development trainings within the district.



*Above: CHWs using computers during the training.*

## District Administrator chairs NFHSDP ICC Meeting

The Implementing Coordinating Committee (ICC) members for the NFHSDP were delighted to welcome Mr. Dume Wo'o, the North Fly District Administrator to his 1<sup>st</sup> ICC meeting in April this year as chairman.



*Above: Mr. Dume Wo'o, DA (center with green cap) attending Mogulu HC Opening - 22nd May, 2013*

Mr. Wo'o's participation at this level of Program Coordination and Governance is critical to the sustainability of ICC and his chairmanship of the ICC is such a positive step for the NFHSDP as the Program's strategic plan, developed in 2009, identified this need at this stage of the Program.

This transition is a testament to the fact that the Program continues to meet its obligations to not only transition this role, but also continues to work with Program Activity Group members to transition the secretariat roles for the PAGS to partner agency key personnel.

The NFHSDP Program Manager who was the previous chairperson will continue to support Mr Wo'o in the chairmanship role as the ICC members look forward to continuing to work with the District Administrator over the coming months in his capacity as ICC Chair.

This now paves the way for the ICC to transition to District Health Management Committee (DHMC) in line with National Health Legislation requirements.

## NFHSDP Supports TB DOTS Training for Community Health Workers

Eighteen (18) Community Health workers from across North Fly attended a Tuberculosis (TB) 'Directly Observed Therapy-Short' (DOTS) training program in Kiunga from 22-25 July that was facilitated by Dr Moke, the Western Province TB Specialist from Daru. Participants included 10 CHWs from Catholic Health, 3 from Government Health, 3 from ECPNG Health and 2 World Vision International (WVI) officers from Bosset and Lake Murray.



*Above: TB DOTS training participants with Dr. Moke (on the far right)*

The training was specifically CHW focused where participants were taught basic level information about TB and about how to guide and support TB patients who are on DOTS treatment. Wangimop, the Microscopist from Kiunga Hospital assisted Dr Moke to deliver the training by teaching participants how to smear sputums in the laboratory. Those who attended were also provided with information on how to support the families of TB patients.

At the closing the Provincial Health Adviser said that "the Administration is aware of the TB problem in WP and they are committed to the TB program as it is captured in the WP Strategic Plan 2012-2016".

Mr. Usa Sagi, District Rural Health Coordinator said "the New CWH DOTS Training Manual was precise and easy to understand. Dr. Moke facilitated down to the level of the CHWs and sessions were informative and clearly understood by all".

NFHSDP supported the training by funding airfares for 4 CHWs from remote locations. Travel allowances for participants were also paid for by NFHSDP. Provincial Health contributed K24, 000 towards the running of this program.