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NEWSLETTER

CHANGING LIVES, CHANGING COMMUNITIES

Welcome to CCBRT

CCBRT is the largest indigenous provider of disability and rehabilitative services in Tanzania.

Through its disability hospital, community programmes and outreach schemes in and around Dar es Salaam and Moshi, more than 120,000 people directly benefit from CCBRT's services each year.

www.ccbtr.or.tz

www.baobabhospital.or.tz

Quarterly Highlights

- Five-Year plan for Maternity Hospital launched
- Mama Salma Kikwete visits CCBRT
- New classroom built for deaf children
- Day care centre starts activities
- Partner meeting focuses on reporting and fund-raising
- Link up on hydrocephalus and spina bifida services

Five-Year Plan for Baobab Maternity Hospital Launched

On June 2nd, the Five-Year Strategic Plan which will guide the creation of Baobab Maternity Hospital was launched by Hon. Mr. Samuel Sitta, Tanzania's Speaker of Parliament and Patron of CCBRT during a historic event. Baobab Maternity Hospital is a new maternity hospital being established by CCBRT and the Government of Tanzania in a public-private partnership. The comprehensive plan is the result of months of work from a large team of people and we are extremely grateful to everyone who has been part of shaping this document.* The event, attended by around 200 people from the government, the diplomatic and development community, and civil society took place at the site where the new hospital will be built. If funding can be secured, construction is due to begin in eight months time.

During his speech, Mr. Sitta outlined some of the shocking maternal and newborn mortality statistics in Tanzania; underlining the strong need for additional maternal health services in the country. Describing the creation of Baobab Maternity



Dr. Slaa, Mr. Sitta and Mr. Erwin Telemans (L to R) arriving at the launch ceremony.

Hospital as a 'turning point' for Tanzania's health sector he stressed that the project was in 'safe hands' with CCBRT and urged development and corporate partners to get involved. Also speaking at the event, Dr. Slaa, CCBRT's Chairman, referred to the choice of the new hospital's name. The giant Baobab tree is ubiquitous in Tanzania and is often called the 'Tree of Life'. There is a huge Baobab tree at the new hospital site so the choice of its name along with its connotations seemed apt. The launch event was covered on national television and in the print media.

Our thanks go to the many people who helped make the evening a success, in particular to

Anne Clarke who organised the event for us. Thanks also to our sponsors: Knight Support, KLM, BOA Bank, Vodacom, AY&R Group, Coca-Cola, Red 'n White.

Building health expertise at other hospitals in Dar es Salaam both in terms of quality and quantity is a key aim of Baobab Maternity Hospital. In this quarter, together with CBM and APDK in Kenya, we submitted a proposal for funding of this phase of the strategy to the European Commission and we await that decision.



Against the backdrop of the Baobab tree, Mr. Sitta praises CCBRT during his speech.

*The Strategic Plan can be downloaded in PDF format from the new Baobab Hospital website: www.baobabhospital.or.tz.

First Lady visits CCBRT Disability Hospital

We were delighted to welcome Mama Salma Kikwete to CCBRT at the end of May. Tanzania's First Lady toured the disability hospital chatting to patients and CCBRT staff. Her visit concluded with a speech in which she stressed the importance of early intervention; urging mothers of children born with disabilities not to hide them away but to seek treatment promptly. She said: "You are aware that this facility offers



Tanzania's First Lady with two young patients at CCBRT.

numerous services. As for the children under the age of five

they are attended to for free. I dare you to take up this opportunity and not let either you or a child both suffer silently at home when solution is right here."

She also commended CCBRT for its role in caring for people with disabilities and called upon CCBRT staff to keep up their good work. The visit and her words were covered in the national newspapers.



Pupils and CCBRT Community Programme Directors in the new classroom for deaf children at a Dar es Salaam school.

CCBRT Secures New Classroom for Deaf Children

In early April, 25 deaf children in Dar es Salaam were able to have their lessons in a brand new classroom. CCBRT secured support from two corporate sponsors, NMB Bank and KLM, for the construction of the classroom at Maweni primary school in Kigamboni (a suburb of Dar es Salaam). Previously, the children had to have their lessons in shifts at the back of classrooms while other lessons were taking place. KLM and NMB kindly donated 10 million Tanzanian shillings each (approx. €5,500). As well as securing the funding, CCBRT oversaw the construction process in collaboration with the school.

Complete with furniture, the new classroom was opened at the beginning of April. CCBRT's school coordinator Edward Masamgwa said: "The new classroom will make a big difference to these children. We hope that the new facilities will also encourage other parents of hearing impaired children in the area to send them to this school."

Renovations are also underway at CCBRT's new day care centre being established with support from New Zealand Aid in a very poor district of Dar es Salaam. Building work at the site was nearly complete but security issues have unfortu-

nately slightly set back progress with some equipment stolen from the premises. We hope to open the day care centre early in the next quarter.

Activities such as literacy courses, school support, physiotherapy and counselling have already begun at our other day care centre project which is being led by CEFA. We have closed our two support units in that area with staff and clients now using the new day care centre. A contractor has been appointed to completely renovate the building and work is due to start soon.

Fathers Welcome Training Sessions



120 fathers of children with disabilities attended a training day at CCBRT in June.

We often find that with mothers as the primary carers of their children with disabilities, many fathers miss out on the training we provide at homes and at our 10 support units because of their work commitments during the week. So CCBRT dedicates a number of weekend training sessions to fathers so they can learn about their child's disability, the importance of the rehabilitation process and be educated about their children's rights, such as their right to an education. 120 fathers turned up on Father's Day for a training day at CCBRT in June. As well as

learning about various disabilities such as cerebral palsy, hydrocephalus, spina bifida and epilepsy, they also learned about our new HIV/AIDS project funded by PEPFAR/CBM. This will give access to HIV/AIDS services for people with disabilities. We also discussed our proposed Community Contribution System (see below) with them and the idea received overwhelming support. These fathers' meetings are growing in popularity and we aim to hold four per year.

Many fathers and mothers brought their children with dis-



Fun and games during the activity day held in May.

abilities to an activity day in May organised by community programmes. Nearly 350 people attended and enjoyed a day of play, sport, music and art.

Clients Support Community Contribution System



Clients using community services will soon contribute towards their running costs.

Along with the restructuring of CCBRT's community programme we have also made a commitment to make our services in the communities more sustainable. And this involves encouraging those who use the services to contribute towards the cost of running them. Up to now, services on our community programme have largely been offered free of charge. This quarter we have made progress on looking into the introduction of

a community contribution system whereby clients will make a small regular contribution towards the services based on their ability to pay. Money raised will be pooled and a committee elected by our clients will decide where best to allocate the funds. The system has been developed by CCBRT staff under the guidance of a consultant. We have also involved our clients in the process and a survey showed that 98% of

clients would be willing to pay for services. More on this in our interim report, due out in July. Greater proactivity on the part of CCBRT in providing its own income streams and more focus on fundraising was also one of the topics discussed with partners at the 2nd Partner Meeting in May. Shortly afterwards we launched our 'Friends of CCBRT' fundraising scheme to encourage regular donations from supporters.

Link Up On Hydrocephalus Saves Services



A former hydrocephalus patient being assessed.

In April, we regrettably had to close our hydrocephalus and spina bifida unit due to lack of funds and a shortage of appropriately qualified surgeons.

CCBRT has been providing vital services for children with hydrocephalus and spina bifida for around a decade and, more recently, we were the only organisation offering the ETV procedure. However, the provision of these services became untenable. It was of considerable concern to us

that parents of children with these conditions should still be able to find good quality and affordable treatment for their children. So we have linked up with the disability charity, BethanyKids, who will continue the programme on shared space at CCBRT Disability Hospital.

A CCBRT team visited a BethanyKids project in Kenya so they could learn about the organisation and the work it does.

Following positive feedback from the visit, a memorandum of understanding between CCBRT and BethanyKids is being drawn up to clarify the details of the link up. It is expected that CCBRT will refer patients to BethanyKids and, following treatment, BethanyKids will refer the children to our community programme for regular follow up services at home and in the community.

Meet The Team: Desderia Kihalalwa



Desderia Kihalalwa, CCBRT's Nurse of the Year.

Desderia Kihalalwa, a registered nurse in the orthopaedic theatre, was made CCBRT's 'Nurse of the Year' at a ceremony in May to coincide with International Nurses Day.

Desderia, age 37, who has worked at CCBRT for the last eight years said that she and her family were extremely proud that her work had been recognised. "I could not believe it when they told me I had won," commented Des-

deria. "I have worked in the orthopaedic ward, the VVF ward and now I am in orthopaedic theatre. I like the variety of the work here; I am building up my experience all the time. The people are professional and the surroundings are good." According to Emelda Lwena, CCBRT's Hospital Matron, Desderia thoroughly deserved her award. "She has worked extremely well this year, coming up with constructive ideas and introduc-

ing protocols in theatre which are being strictly followed. We find the award a good motivator for the staff and our congratulations go to Desderia."

Desderia's photo will be displayed in the outpatients department for the next 12 months and the award will form part of her performance review at the end of the year.

Farewell And Thank You



Mr. Klaus Seyffer, long standing supporter of CCBRT, who passed away in April.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the passing away of Mr. Klaus Seyffer in April. Klaus worked with CBM for over 30 years and for many of those he had responsibility for Africa based projects.

Over the last 15 years Klaus was a very committed supporter of CCBRT and always maintained

strong links with the organisation. It was partly due to his encouragement and expertise that CCBRT was founded in the first place back in 1994.

Many of CCBRT's developments over the years have been made possible through the continuous support of Klaus and his teams at CBM. This also

includes technical support through CBM co-workers, many of whom are stationed at CCBRT.

We will miss him greatly and our thoughts are with his family and friends.