

REPORT ON VISIT TO SERINYA PROJECT JUNE 11TH - 12TH 2004

INTRODUCTION:

During the 43rd Executive board meeting of Uganda Society for Health Scientists (USHS) held on 18th May 2004, it was agreed that a team of (4) four members from the society visit Serinya Project. The 4 members included Dr. Israel Kalyesubula, Dr. Alphonse Okwera, Dr.,Lorrna Nshuti and Mr. Turyahebwa Anthony the secretariats' Program Officer. The main objective of the trip was to assess the progress of the project after the project had utilized all the funds that had come through USHS.

NAME OF THE PROJECT

Serinya Project is located on Serinya Island, one of the 84 islands comprising Kalangala District. The purpose of the project is to provide education and health care to the community and the surrounding island. Engineer Paul Mujugumbya, the Project Manager offered 5 acres of land where construction of a primary school and a Health center have commenced since February 2004.

The Primary school, which started in February 2004, has an enrolment of 30 pupils and started with 4 classes, nursery P1, P2, P3.

Distribution of pupils per class

Class	No. of Pupils
Nursery	14
P1	5
P2	4
P3	17

The health center started operating on 2nd February 2004 and is managed by a midwife.

Midwives' report

Most patients who attend to the clinic suffer from malaria. She gave a report of the number of cases since the beginning of the clinic. In February, she saw 41 patients: 22 were suffering from malaria, 3males: gonorrhoea, 3women came for antenatal, 1 was HIV positive, 3 were school children suffering from cold, cough and malaria.

In March, 70 cases attended the clinic: 13 children were suffering from malaria and cough, 40 from minor complaints, 3pregnant mothers delivered in the Health center, 7children had diarrhea and malaria while the rest had minor complaints. In April, 42 cases attended the clinic: 18cases had malaria, 5children, malaria and vomiting, 1 child was struck by lightning, 1 lady delivered at the clinic, 2women visited for antenatal, 1case was HIV positive, 1man had a wound and was swithered. The rest had minor complications.

In May, 41 patients attended the clinic, 12 had malaria, 8 had malaria and vomiting, 3 were antenatal cases, 5 had syphilis who failed to bring their spouses, 3 women came for injector plan, other cases had different kinds of diseases, 5 school children had malaria and cough.

PROBLEMS FACED BY THE CLINIC/MIDWIFE

- The midwife expressed the desire of the clinic to be connected to TASO as she has 5 HIV/AIDS patients.
- The Health center would like to link up with Kalangala Directorate of Medical Services so as to provide immunization to the community.
- The center does not have drip stands, delivery towels, weighing machine.
- The midwife is alone in the center and thus needs atleast another nurse.
- The drugs are not enough.

OBSERVATIONS

The group visited the premises where workers stay. A pile of bricks from Katebo was seen on the site. There were also machines used to cut timber for the school activities. There was timber meant to make

school furniture. Residential house is used to accommodate staff members in the meantime. The same premise houses the clinic where the midwife operates to treat patients.

The clinic structure is only roofed (incomplete). Next to the clinic structure, is the staff quarter's structure, which is not roofed. Another staff quarter's structure still at the foundation level. 2 other staff quarter's structures are roofed.

The school has 1 toilet, which is temporary because of the nature of the soil. Next to the toilet, are 2 roofed staff quarter's structures. There is a temporary kitchen structure.

The school block has seven classrooms, Headmasters office, secretary's office and the staff room. The school building is roofed but not cemented, no doors and no windows.

HEADMISTRESS' SPEECH

The Headmistress; Miss Elizabeth Nakacwa said that the school began in February 2004 with only 14 pupils from Nursery up to P3. She revealed that the school has a staff of 4 members. These include:

Name	Title
1 Miss Elizabeth Nakacwa	Headmistress
2 Mr. Manga Richard	Deputy Headmaster
3 Miss Birungi Harriet	Baby Class teacher
4 Miss Namutebi Rebecca	

All the teachers are from Kampala.

PROBLEMS OF THE SCHOOL

The Headmistress outlined the problems facing the school:

- School fees - Parents don't want to pay the school dues. Pupils don't have pens, pencils and books. They expect to find all the scholastic materials at the school.
- Pupils come late - most of them come at 10:00am
- Missing classes
- Sickness every time
- Pupils are not motivated. They have no work models on the island.