



Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria
GHM Project #57HD-P0001, Nigeria Health Development

Introduction

The history of Lutheran mission in Nigeria goes back to 1913 when the “Sudan Society” of the Danish Lutheran Church sent Dr. Niels Bronnum to serve in what is now the Adamawa State in Northeastern Nigeria. The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria was later established in 1956 as an independent church with a holistic approach in reaching people through ministries of health, social work and evangelism. During the current decade, Global Health Ministries has engaged the LCCN in planning about how best to build on this impressive history, resources and infrastructure. The result has been a vision for a ministry of health that does not duplicate government and private health services, but rather complements what exists by intentionally investing in long-neglected community-based primary health care. Utilizing the extensive network of congregations, women’s organizations, health dispensaries, the Nigeria Health Development Project will focus on promoting wellness and prevention of disease, while providing basic curative and treatment services and referral to higher levels of care.

The vision for the health programs of the LCCN is to develop a strong community-based primary health care system through its network of 15 dispensaries, 29 health posts, and 2000 congregations of the one million member church served by 350 pastors, with the Demsa Health Center as its hub. The key elements of the church’s plan are to:

- I. **Renovate & upgrade the Demsa Health Center and Dispensaries.** The Demsa Health Center will serve as the center for training and support of the staff and volunteers who carry out the community-based primary health care program, as well as provide secondary-level curative and treatment services including minor surgery. The dispensaries will serve as a regional base of outreach in implementing health education and disease prevention initiatives, including clean water projects, malaria bed net education and distribution, HIV/AIDS prevention education, and healthy practices in child care. The dispensaries will also provide the first level of service for pre-natal care and diagnosis and treatment or referral for a higher level care.
- II. **Provide clean water** through reconditioning of old wells where possible and establishing new sources of clean water where needed by priority in the 5 dioceses and mission fields.
- III. **Recruit and strengthen leadership for management** of a community-based primary health care program. **Train staff and volunteers in implementing a community-based primary health care program**, including clean water and malaria prevention initiatives.
- IV. **Provide regular shipments of needed medical supplies** and equipment to sustain operations.

Through these modest steps, the church plans to contribute to meeting the United Nation's Millenium Development Goals in its region of influence, the State of Adamawa:

- Reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five.
- Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio
- Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.
- Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.
- Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

I. Demsa Health Center and Dispensaries:

From the Demsa Health Center will come direction and training of primary health care personnel, with a small hospital providing secondary level diagnostic and treatment and surgical services available on referral from the dispensary network. Existing regional government services provide for a higher tertiary level of care that will not be duplicated by the Church program. Construction of a new surgical facility at the existing Demsa health center will be a priority, together with additional projects to provide needed operational support, including a borehole, new generator and electrical service, and water storage tower. Drawings for the Demsa surgical facility have been completed, and construction bids are now being evaluated. Over a five-year period, planned construction and renovation projects will provide the essential facilities on the Demsa campus for the envisioned community based primary health care system.

A. Building of a surgical theatre for Demsa Center (hospital), in order to fill the critical unmet need for general surgical services, including caesarean sections, and generate revenue to support the hospital. Estimated cost: \$75,000

B. Additional facilities development at Demsa Center: Patient wards, staff residence, disposal/waste facilities, CBPHC training center, and facilities for families of patients
Estimated cost: \$ 100,000.

At the dispensary level, the highest priority will be placed on providing maternal/neonatal care and first level referral. Maternal/neonatal care is the area where the unmet needs are the greatest. Nigeria's maternal death rate in 2005 was 1,100/100,000 live births as compared to 9/100,000 in the industrialized world (WHO 2007) 40% of under-five deaths occur in the neonatal period (The Lancet Vol 365 March 5, 2005), and three-quarters of all neonatal deaths occur within one week of birth. (The Lancet Vol 365 March 5, 2005). Maternal/neonatal care represents an area where LCCN has experience and expertise, and where the church can make a very significant contribution to health care in the state that is within its means. A good system of prenatal, natal and post natal care including planned and emergency Caesarean sections & basic post-natal primary care of high risk infants is needed to achieve the maternal and under-five MDG goals.

From the dispensaries and health posts trained village health workers will be sent who in turn will collaborate with congregations and their local women's organizations to provide health education, immunization campaigns, and development and management of public health initiatives to prevent illness such as clean water borehole wells and malaria bednet distribution. In addition to the Demsa upgrades, the network of dispensaries and health posts are in need of renovation and repair. These modest community facilities will receive new roofing, secure doors, fresh painting, and interior furnishings for staff and patient care for the first time since 1965 when they were first built. Renovations will engage volunteer labor from community congregations. US based sister congregations will also participate in funding and renovating the facilities.

C. Refurbishing of dispensaries: 15 dispensary/maternity clinics and 29 health posts. Variety of repairs, improvements, equipment. Budgeted goal: \$150,000. US-based sister congregations will be challenged to donate matching funds for the cost of each project to reach the projected goal.

II. Water Projects: The Demsa Health Center borehole and tower have already been completed as the first components of a much larger water project that will reach many Nigerian communities. Plans for three additional projects have recently been finalized at the Dashen and Pella Bible Schools and the Bille Clinic. Jay Johnson, a water engineer and GHM health team member, is providing technical direction for the initiative after surveying the water needs of hundreds of villages in the larger church region. He is presently in Nigeria for two months to complete more detailed plans and priorities. The following pages summarize currently planned projects in each of the church dioceses.

Within two years, all existing equipment and boreholes will be checked for servicing or improvement, be under the control and management of the Local Community, and be supervised by Action Coordinators and local committees formed by the Bishops for Water and Sanitation work in each Diocese. There will be no construction of new boreholes where existing ones can be repaired and put into use. New boreholes will be done only in communities where there are none presently.

Objectives of the Water Project

1. Detailed plans for implementation of initial one year goal with an emphasis on strategic and staff development and planning with LCCN personnel, providing training for technical people in each diocese, as well as representatives of village committees.
2. People are recruited and trained and plans for maintenance and upkeep of the serviced wells/boreholes are in place
3. Wells at Dashen and Pella are serviced and improved as per recommendations of Mr. Adams, consultant to LCCN.
2. Five new boreholes and six new wells per year are planned and installed
5. Seven wells/boreholes per year are serviced and improved over the five year period
3. Plans for period of the next three years are developed with LCCN personnel
4. Three year plan implemented based on experience and learning from the initial two-year period.

Implementation:

- A. Mr. Yakubu Bulama will serve as part-time project manager for the water project at cost of \$1,500. per yr.
- B. Mr. Jay Johnson, GHM volunteer water engineer will be provided a stipend for at least annual visits to accomplish the planning, consultation and training necessary to achieve objectives above, and to participate in development of committee here with plans for committee members to visit in the future and assist in planning and support for the water project. \$3,500 per year
- C. Mr. Bernard Adamu will be engaged as consultant in Nigeria to assess wells/boreholes and make recommendations for inclusion in the project. Estimated cost: \$1,200/yr; plus \$400 for travel, food and lodging.
- D. A yet undetermined person will serve as a trainer for village water committees. Estimated cost: \$ 1,200/yr; plus \$800 travel, lodging and food.
- E. New boreholes: 3 per year @ \$10,000 = \$30,000/ yr.
- F. New wells: 5 per year @ \$3,000 = \$15,000/yr.
- G. Servicing and improving wells/boreholes: 7 per year @ \$1,500 = \$10,500

Water Project Annual Budget Summary

Project Manager	\$1,500/year
GHM Water Engineer	\$3,500/year
LCCN Consultant	\$1,600/year
LCCN Trainer	\$2,000/year
New Boreholes	\$30,000/year
New Wells	\$15,000/year
Servicing	\$10,500/year
Total/year	\$64,100
Five year estimate:	\$64,100 x 5= \$320,500

Consideration may be given to purchasing borehole drilling equipment, which would be a one-time cost of approx. \$24,000, and might reduce cost of new boreholes.

III. Health Leaders Training Program: Key to the success of the Nigeria Health Development program will be the strengthening of a cadre of leaders for management and provision of health services from the service network that includes the Demsa Center as its hub, the 15 village health dispensaries and 29 health posts. Representatives from the church's womens' program will also receive training to carry out congregation based health education, malaria prevention and clean water initiatives in their communities. The staff of the village health dispensaries and the LCCN health program leaders will learn about and apply principles and skills involved in managing a community-based primary health program (CBPHC).

Dr. David Thompson, GHM team leader and former Lutheran Brethren medical missionary who established a CBPHC program in Chad, Dr. Tricia Hall and GHM Nigeria project manager, Gary Sande, were in Nigeria in January of 2009 to begin organizing the training program. The program will emphasize community education and empowerment to engage in practical measures to prevent diseases that account for the majority of developing world deaths and morbidity. The Danish Mission Africa will collaborate in extending training to regions of the Church jurisdiction where it employs outreach mission staff.

Dr. David Thompson will be retained on a part time basis for a period of four years to organize and complete the training program. Dr. David Thompson will be retained for on-going planning, organizing and implementation of training and staff development so that all aspects of the LCCN and its health care program work to identify and provide training for existing and needed staff and leadership, and engage leadership in strategic planning necessary for developing a thriving health care program. Staff to be trained include people at all levels: Health Care Board, medical staff, paraprofessionals and volunteers (MD's, nurses, community health workers, midwives, village health volunteers, clergy, evangelists, members of women's and youth groups).

Goals:

Within four years:

- the Medical Sector of LCCN will be reorganized to provide for an autonomous Health Care Board with separate finances from LCCN accounts;

- trained staff will carry responsibility for health care program, including supervision and training of newer staff;
- Demsa Center facility and training program will be developed; and
- specific disease prevention and care programs of the LCCN will be operative in communities throughout Adamawa.

Five Year Training Budget Summary

Items	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Training Director	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	
Transportation	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	
Food/Lodging	\$1,400	\$1,400	\$1,400	\$750	
Materials	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$1,000	
Student Costs					
Food/Lodging	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$10,000	\$3,000	
Transportation	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$1,000	
Miscellaneous	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$1,000	
Total Training Budget	\$52,900	\$52,900	\$36,400	\$16,750	5,000
Five year budget	\$163,950				

IV-Shipments of needed supplies, equipment and furnishings for the Demsa health center and dispensaries. Needs lists are already being developed and procurement is underway in preparation for a planned 2009 shipment. (Three shipments @\$14,000= \$42,000 + estimated cost of purchased Equipment and furnishings of \$17,000 = total of \$59,000 over five years.

Summary of Anticipated Budget for 5 year Nigeria Health Development Program

	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<u>Revenue</u>						
Sister Congs	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	75,000
MAS	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	50,000
GHM	50,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	130,000
LPGM	5,000	50,000	5,000	50,000		110,000
Mission Africa	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	25,000
Other donors	158,000	118,000	75,500	77,850	49,100	478,450
<u>Expense</u>						
Water Program	64,100	64,100	64,100	64,100	64,100	320,500
Training Program	52,900	52,900	36,400	16,750	5,000	163,950
Demsa Surgical	75,000					75,000
Demsa development		50,000		50,000		100,000
Dispensaries	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	150,000
Supplies/Equip	21,000	21,000		17,000		59,000
Totals	243,000	218,000	130,500	177,850	99,100	868,450