

FOURTH INFORMATION BULLETIN

Our last *INFORMATION BULLETIN* to you was in August 2010. This is the fourth ZimHealth *INFORMATION BULLETIN* to bring you up to date with what has been happening since then.

The Zimbabwe Network for Health (ZimHealth) in Europe is a non-governmental association registered in Geneva, founded by Zimbabweans as a non-profit organisation. It seeks to mobilise the support of Zimbabweans living in Europe, as well as other interested individuals, agencies and development agencies to strengthen health-care services in Zimbabwe.

ZimHealth seeks to make a difference in Zimbabwe primarily through the following:

- Raise funds directly from Zimbabweans in the Diaspora, in Zimbabwe and from friends of Zimbabwe all over the world.
- Through a transparent and highly targeted system, procure and distribute drugs, diagnostics, vaccines and other medical and non- medical commodities and essential equipment to rehabilitate the health facilities in Zimbabwe.
- Inform and engage interested stakeholders about the needs, successes and impact of the support to the health-care system in Zimbabwe.

1. Administrative matters

- a) During the course of 2011, ZimHealth continued activities through its Executive Committee and other active members. On October 14 2010, the ZimHealth Executive Committee welcomed and confirmed Bianca Mathe as the Deputy Chairperson. Bianca served as the Deputy Chairperson up to the time of the AGM in May 2011 when she informed ZimHealth that she not only was expecting a baby, but she and her husband were also moving to South Africa. ZimHealth wished her well and a happy delivery of her baby in Africa!
- b) In September 2010, ZimHealth established a PayPal account to enable donations to be made via PayPal. This proved to be useful as ZimHealth was able to receive some donations from people outside Switzerland through this mode of payment. The PayPal account is still operative.
- c) ZimHealth identified a number of people in Zimbabwe to act as ZimHealth local representatives. They are Brian Pazvakavambwa in Harare (taking over where the late Dan Makuto was the local representative), Nokwakhe Fuyana in Bulawayo, Farai Mahaso in Masvingo and Abigail Kangwende in Mutare. Albert Ndowa in Harare continues to be focal person for distributing to the local representatives items such as the ZimHealth stencils and spray paints. He has successfully sprayed most of the items delivered to the Edith Opperman Maternity Hospital and Nokwakhe has labelled items at the Pelandaba clinic and will soon do the same at Thorngrove Infectious Diseases Hospital. Abigail will soon put ZimHealth labels on items donated to Sakubva Polyclinic in the City of Mutare.

- d) Yemurai Ndowa has continued to provide voluntary services to update and maintain the ZimHealth website, <http://zimhealth.org>.

2. The Annual General Meeting

ZimHealth-Europe held its third Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 7 May 2011. The minutes of the AGM and the Financial Report can be viewed on the ZimHealth website, <http://zimhealth.org/about-zimhealth/agm/>.

ZimHealth was pleased to welcome new faces onto the Executive Committee. The new Executive Committee line up for 2011 is as follows.

Mike Mbizvo	Chairperson (retained)
Rutendo Kuwana	Deputy Chairperson (new)
Shiva Murugasampillay	Treasurer (retained)
Ian Menzies	Deputy Treasurer (retained)
Marlon Zakeyo	Publicity Officer (new role)
Alisdair Menzies	Resource Mobilisation Officer (retained)
Francis Ndowa	Secretary-General (retained)
Nyaradzo Imbayago	Legal Advisor (new)
Carol Gray	Executive Committee member
Venge Imbayago	Executive Committee member

Carol Gray has since volunteered to be the focal person for media communications.

Lorraine Mangwiro opted not to stand again for office as she was likely to leave Geneva soon. Bianca Mathe also stepped down on account of her move to South Africa.

3. Follow-up visits of projects

We have been fortunate again this year that some members of ZimHealth have had either holiday in Zimbabwe or passed through while on other business travel. As a result there has been first-hand information on the ZimHealth projects throughout the year.

One of the highlights of 2011 was the handover ceremony of commodities marking the final phase of deliveries to Pelandaba clinic in Bulawayo. On the 20th January 2011, at short notice, Nokwakhe Fuyana was able to make a quick tour of the Pelandaba Polyclinic before attending the handover ceremony of goods donated by ZimHealth. The event organized by the City Council attracted a crowd of about 100 people, among whom were members of the communities surrounding the clinic, including members of Home Based Care, distinguished guests, such as the Mayor of Bulawayo (Councillor Thaba Moyo), the Town Clerk and the City Council Chief Medical Officer, Dr Hwalima. This was a good example of the importance of local ZimHealth representatives in Zimbabwe.



ZimHealth donations arriving at Pelandaba Clinic in Bulawayo in November 2010



A picture in the Chronicle newspaper showing the Mayor of Bulawayo, Councillor Thaba Moyo, trying out the dental chair donated by ZimHealth in 2011

4. Progress on current projects – Mutare, Masvingo and Gweru

ZimHealth Project 5: Sakubva Polyclinic, in Mutare

Sakubva Polyclinic is situated in one of the oldest, densely populated suburb of Sakubva and provides an impressive array of health services to its inhabitants. The polyclinic also provides key services to the population of the city of Mutare as a whole. ZimHealth adopted this institution for its 5th project.

ZimHealth has just delivered the first phase of commodities for this Polyclinic in June 2011. The procurement was made through DAETA International Trading in South Africa as before. The clinical commodities and other amenities delivered totalled US\$ 19,265.71, including freight, handling, documentation and insurance. The goods were well received and a handover ceremony was held on 15 August 2011. Unfortunately, no ZimHealth representative could attend the event. However, on 24 August, one of the members of ZimHealth based in Geneva was able to visit the project and met with Mr Michael Mawadza - Clinical Officer (ZimHealth -contact person), Mr O. L. Muzawazi – Town Clerk – Mutare, Mr Simon T. Mashababe - Chief Hygiene and Administrative Office and Sister Mary Saungweme. Mr Muzawazi expressed his and the City of Mutare's gratitude to ZimHealth for the assistance received by Sakubva Clinic. Most of the equipment was already in full use at the time of Martha's visit. Some photos taken at the handover ceremony are shown below. ZimHealth has received from the Mutare City authorities their priority lists for phase 2. Among the lists are centrifuges, haematology analyser, incubators for microbiological procedures, refrigerators for the laboratory, gowns for patients, chairs for the laboratory and materials for orphan children to make weighing bags for babies and hospital aprons. These children have a workshop at the clinic premises and are trained to make a living from making hospital items for sell.



Handover ceremony and a sample of commodities delivered to Sakubva Polyclinic in 2011



Viewing of items delivered to Sakubva Polyclinic in 2011

ZimHealth Project 6: Mucheke Mazoredze, Rujeko, Runyararo clinics, in Masvingo

ZimHealth also initiated phase 1 of Project 6. The Masvingo City Health Department authorities asked for support for three clinics of the *Curative Section* of the Health Department, consisting of two primary health care clinics, namely **Rujeko** clinic and **Runyararo** clinic and one polyclinic, the **Mucheke Mazoredze Polyclinic**. The Polyclinic has an establishment of 12 trained nurses, 14 auxiliary staff and five ambulance drivers, and it houses 40 inpatient beds. The three clinics together process approximately 2,400 patients per month.

In July 2011, ZimHealth procured through DAETA International Trading in South Africa, a consignment with included electrical goods, such as a washing machine, spin dryer and an autoclave as well as surgical instruments and bed linen for the Mucheke/Mazoredze Polyclinic. The cost for the full list for Mucheke/Mazoredze Polyclinic was US\$ 7,673.20, including freight, handling, documentation and insurance. A second consignment, which included an autoclave, diagnostic sets and bed linen for Rujeko clinic totalled US\$ 5,241.41, including freight, handling, documentation and insurance, and the third consignment which also included an autoclave, diagnostic sets and bed linen for the amount of US\$ 5,561.78, was for Runyararo clinic. Thus, for Phase 1, the total amount of goods donated by ZimHealth to the City of Masvingo for the three clinics was US\$ 18,476.39, including freight, handling, documentation and insurance. ZimHealth is currently waiting for news of the handover ceremony and photographs of the items. An assessment is being made to embark on Phase 2 for the 3 clinics.

ZimHealth Project 7: Mkoba Polyclinic, in Gweru

Gweru City Council runs 10 health facilities, including four polyclinics, three primary health-care clinics, one Infections Diseases Hospital as well as two centres for pre- and post-test counselling for HIV infection. The biggest of the health facilities is Mkoba Polyclinic which is situated in the high density residential area of Mkoba 13. The Mkoba Polyclinic handles 3,000 attendances per month

and 110 mothers are delivered per month, with approximately 114 monthly postnatal attendances. The clinic has approximately 7,000 people collecting AIDS treatment drugs (antiretroviral treatment) per month and 200 collecting treatment for tuberculosis. The clinic also sees about 160 people per month for sexually transmitted infections, other than HIV infection. This was the institution selected by ZimHealth as its 7th Project. It is anticipated that this clinic will be supported in 3 phases, and phase 1 consignments have been procured through DAETA International Trading in South Africa. The consignment includes electrical goods such as a washing machine, refrigerator and tea urns as well as linen for patients. The goods procured amount to US\$ 14,130.01, including freight, handling, documentation and insurance. Information on handover ceremonies and photographs are still to be received.

5. Fundraising Efforts

ZimHealth members have done well to contribute funds on a regular basis to respond to the requests so far. However, our own contributions alone would not have enabled us to achieve as much as we have done so far. We were able to do this through additional resources mobilised from the City of Geneva, the Oak Foundation, and the International Olympic Committee. The Parish of John XXIII Church donated towards the purchase of the dental chair for Pelandaba clinic in Bulawayo.

ZimHealth will prepare a full report to give feedback to these donors as soon as the consignments have all been accounted for and the inventories have been received.

As you can imagine, we are currently writing proposals to submit to these established funding channels as well as to new ones, to enable completion of Projects 5, 6 and 7 and to reach out to new projects which are already under consideration.

Please note that ZimHealth has both a Swiss franc and a US Dollar Account. Subscriptions can be made directly into one or the other, thus, avoiding some significant losses of money through varying exchange rates from one currency to the other. The account details can be seen on the ZimHealth website, <http://zimhealth.org/about-zimhealth/making-a-donation/>.

6. Fundraising event 2011

The date for this year's fundraising event is Saturday 22 October in Geneva. Please come and support the event. It will be an evening of entertainment, fun and relaxation. The event envisages parting with donated items through a raffle and an auction of Zimbabwean arts and crafts. The items have been donated by friends of Zimbabwe and supporters of ZimHealth, ZimHealth members, artists and sculptors. One of the items donated, a Shona stone sculpture "Mother" from Coleen Madamombe, has been valued at 1,200 Swiss francs. The metal birds shown below have been valued at over 300 Swiss francs each! Other raffle prizes include a dinner for 2 at Le Richemond, Geneva, to a value of 400 Swiss francs donated by Swiss Independent Trustees S.A. All proceeds will go towards improving the health of Zimbabweans in Zimbabwe.



Some of the items donated to raise money for Zimbabwe at the ZimHealth fundraising event on Saturday 22 October in Geneva

We hope that these achievements give you more incentive to continue supporting the goals we set out to achieve together. On behalf of the ZimHealth Executive Committee, I would like to thank you all for your continued support.

With best wishes
Francis Ndowa
ZimHealth Secretary-General