

Elisabeth Bangura, our patient of the quarter
Joan Bintu Koroma, our employee of the quarter
Expansion of the solar system
The Outreach program
Testimony of Fatmata Jalloh, MCS student
Modernizing the laboratory
Formation of L'APPEL
The quarter in figures
Sponsor a child



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SWISS
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LEONE**



ASSL 2025 – Newsletter 1

We hope that you will enjoy reading this Newsletter, illustrating the life in and around the Magbenteh Community Hospital. Many outstanding achievements have been made possible through the donations of our Friends and Sponsors. Thank You for Your help!

Patient of the quarter



Little Elisabeth Bangura, 13 months old, arrived at hospital in a worrying condition: severe malnutrition and malaria were threatening her life. Her young mother, aged 17, had seen her weight drop to 3.6 kg, whereas she was born weighing just 2.6 kg. Incompletely fed, between partial breastfeeding and rice porridge, Elisabeth

also suffered from acute anemia and had to undergo tests to rule out tuberculosis. Stabilized thanks to a therapeutic diet, antibiotics and anti-malaria treatment, she is closely monitored: her weight is measured every day and her mother receives advice on how best to feed her. It is hoped that little Elisabeth will soon be able to regain sufficient strength to leave hospital.

Please help us

The Magbenteh Community Hospital exists thanks to your generous donations. Thanks to you, we can ensure the sustainability of the hospital and continue to save and change lives in Sierra Leone!

You can support us by making a matching donation to:

Care for one day	USD 50
Hernia operation on a child	USD 300
Medicines and supplies for one day*	USD 1,000
Salaries one day*	USD 1,000
Salaries one month*	USD 30,000

**for the entire hospital*

Employee of the quarter

Joan Bintu Koroma, born in 1989 in Makali, is sales manager for the water plant, one of SSLDF/MCH's flagship projects. Thanks to the implementation of a solid monitoring and control system, she has considerably reduced wastage, making this department the organization's main source of income.

Joan says she is delighted to be working at MCH, not least because of the spirit of unity and the warm atmosphere that prevails within the hospital. The water plant provides significant financial support for other services, to ensure free medical care for pregnant women and nursing mothers.



Proud of the experience she has gained, Joan remains motivated to develop her service further, encouraged by the MCH management team.

Expansion of the solar system

ASSL has obtained funding for the extension of the solar system at the MCH. Work began with the construction of the foundations. To date, the expansion of the solar system is still under way. The solar energy engineer and his team have installed all the photovoltaic panels, batteries and associated equipment.



The complete connection of the new solar system to the generator and the national electricity grid is in the final stages.

The technical teams are continuing their work, and the completion of the project is imminent. Once operational, this project will provide essential support for the hospital's day-to-day activities and generate substantial financial savings.



The Outreach program

Our medical care visits to four isolated communities demonstrate our commitment to those who need it most. Every Friday, our team goes out into the field to offer a listening ear, support and care. The aim is to help eight communities between 24 November and 25 October, ensuring that each is visited at least six times over the course of a year, within a radius of around 40 km of Magbenteh. We are adapting our actions to the specific needs of each community, so as to be as close as possible to their realities and minimize the risks.



We have been deeply touched by the warm welcome we have received from the local people right from the start of our mission. The smiles of children under five, the joy of expectant mothers and the confidence of our elders remind us every day of the importance of our commitment. To date, 765 people have been screened for diseases such as malaria (253 children screened, 168 of whom tested positive) and hypertension, while the fight against malnutrition remains a major challenge in the region. In addition, 100 patients were referred to the Magbenteh Community Hospital for the additional care they needed. This mission is above all a human story, where each encounter brings us a little closer to the hope of a better future for all.

New equipment to modernize the MCH laboratory

Thanks to the support of the ASSL, the MCH has been able to purchase a number of important pieces of medical equipment, including :

- A machine for analysing the health of the liver, kidneys, salt balance in the body and other elements;
- A machine to carry out a complete blood test;
- A specialized machine for testing hormone levels;
- And a machine to check electrolytes (such as sodium and potassium) in the blood.



All the equipment has already been installed. We are currently following a few recommendations made by the technician before we can start using them fully for medical analyses.

Testimonial from a student at Magbenteh Community School

Fatmata Jalloh was born on 15 March 2011 in the village of Kamasiry, Falaba district, Sierra Leone. At a very young age, she was diagnosed with sickle cell disease, a hereditary blood disorder that causes fatigue, infection and pain.

After the loss of her father, Fatmata was brought up by her mother, a small shopkeeper who faced many difficulties. In search of better care, they moved to Makeni, where Fatmata was enrolled at MCS. Despite her health problems, she thrives at school and appreciates the support of her teachers, who understand her situation.



At MCS, she regained her self-confidence after being stigmatized at her old school. Fatmata dreams of becoming a nurse so that she can look after herself and help other sick children.

L'APPEL capacity-building training in advanced pediatric emergency skills (PEATST)

The L'APPEL team, led by Dr Nicolas Aschoff and accompanied by other European experts, ran an intensive 14-day training course in Makeni. Two groups made up of nurses and clinicians from the MCH, as well as professionals from other health establishments in the region, took part. In all, around thirty-six nurses and clinicians benefited from the training.



Participants strengthened their skills and broadened their knowledge around the ETAT+ (Emergency Triage, Assessment, and Treatment Plus) guidelines, a comprehensive approach to improving the quality of pediatric emergency care.

The quarter in figures



446 inpatients



1'330 outpatients,
including 502 children



162 births



596 children
vaccinated



1'953 laboratory
tests

Sponsor a child from our school

Offer more than an education:
offer a future.

In Magbenteh, 268 children dream of being able to learn, laugh and grow, but without you, many will be left by the wayside.

For just CHF 95 a year, you can give a child a uniform, shoes, books... and above all, the hope of a better life.

Every smile, every step forward, every dream achieved will be a little bit yours too. Reach out today. Sponsor a child and change their world forever.



For just CHF 50, you can help fund a daily meal for every pupil at our school throughout the school year!

Make a Difference!
DONATE!

All donations, big or small, are always welcome.

We appreciate all gestures which will allow our action in Sierra Leone to succeed.

We accept donations in several currencies. In Switzerland, the donations are tax deductible.

For bank transfers:

Beneficiary: Action Swiss Sierra Leone
Bank: UBS SA, 1260 Nyon, Suisse. CCP 80-2-2
BIC (Swift): UBSWCHZH80A

For the hospital:

IBAN for donations in **CHF**: CH30 0022 8228 5536 2701J
IBAN for donations in **EUR**: CH84 0022 8228 5536 2761V
IBAN for donations in **USD**: CH53 0022 8228 5536 2760A

For the Friends of the Magbenteh Community Hospital

Would you like to become a Friend of the Magbenteh Community Hospital?

Visit our website : www.assl-ch.org

Set up a standing order with your bank:

IBAN: CH41 0022 8228 5536 27M3 U
Account «Action Swiss Sierra Leone»
Monthly standing order of CHF 50.00

For the school sponsorship:

IBAN for donations in **CHF**:
CH85 0022 8228 5536 27M1k



For Swiss donors, **DO NOT MAKE DONATIONS DIRECTLY AT THE POST OFFICE COUNTER**

because we are not given the name of the donor. This makes it impossible to identify the donor and send a tax certificate. Contact us to obtain a referenced QR.

For Swiss payment (replacing the "payment slip")



A big thank you to your generosity. Thanks to your contribution, we can continue our action in Sierra Leone and therefore, support the most in need.



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