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ASSL 2024 – Newsletter 2

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



Abubakarr Bangura, a 21-year-old drug user (Kush and Tramadol), was admitted to hospital in June with a serious infection in his right leg. After surgery, he developed abdominal pain and severe anaemia. Despite blood transfusions, a ruptured stomach was diagnosed and repaired, while the leg remained infected. After 17 units of blood and weeks of treatment, he was able to leave hospital. 'I never thought my child could survive this illness,' said his father. Unable to pay the costs, the parents had the hospital write off the debt. This stay may have served as a detox for Abubakarr.

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*

MCH training organised by L'Appel

L'Appel organised a week-long training course for nurses and clinicians from the MCH and other hospitals in the Makeni region, focusing on the assessment and management of emergency triage.



This initiative is part of L'Appel's ongoing efforts to enhance the skills of medical staff, particularly in the management of paediatric cases. More than sixty participants took part in this training course and received a certificate of completion.

What is 'Kush'?

A new drug, mainly consumed by men aged between 18 and 25, is wreaking havoc in West Africa, particularly in Sierra Leone, where it causes around a dozen deaths every week and puts thousands of people in hospital. This mixture, made up of local cannabis, Fentanyl/Tramadol manufactured



illegally in Asia and formaldehyde, is produced by criminal gangs. Kush, another polydrug mix, is also reported in Guinea and Liberia, facilitating trafficking across the region's porous borders.

Two major projects

Two major projects, financed by FEDEVACO and FPFS and managed by ASSL, were launched in the first half of 2024. **The SEB - Solar Extension Battery project** (which will make it possible to supplement the amount of energy supplied by the current solar power plant and reduce the oil consumption costs of the thermal power plant that supplies the additional energy needed) and the **Outreach project**, which will enable the Magbenteh Community Hospital to offer a new service consisting of going into communities to deliver prevention and first aid messages to patients, and even bringing them back to hospital for the most severe cases.



The laboratory needs equipment

The lack of modern diagnostic equipment, such as biochemistry machines, haematology analysers and hormone analysis devices, considerably complicates the work of our doctors and clinicians, preventing them from making a full diagnosis for patients. This puts other hospitals in an advantageous position compared with the MCH and has a direct impact on the potential income of the laboratory department.



Cleaning up the hospital environment



Magbenteh Community Hospital has a reputation for cleanliness. However, despite constant efforts to maintain this reputation, it is difficult to obtain the support of Bombali District Council and the municipality of Makeni to ensure that used medical waste is transported to the main landfill site.

Faced with this situation, the General Manager has taken the initiative to use his own vehicle to transport this waste to the local community landfill.

Additional water production machine



Thanks to support from **Helfende Hande**, SSLDF/MCH has been able to purchase a new machine to increase water production at its plant, thereby improving drinking water supplies and income. This will help to meet growing demand, especially in the dry season, and alleviate the shortage of quality water. The entire SSLDF/MCH team would like to express its gratitude to Helfende Hande for this support.

Employee of the quarter

Sia Sebba, born in Kono in 1976, joined the MCH in January 2023. A nurse highly qualified in in-patient care, she is currently in charge of the women's ward. Her role involves accompanying the doctors on rounds, organising and coordinating nursing activities, and ensuring the timely administration of medicines to patients. Since taking up her post, one of her greatest achievements has been to improve control over the use of medicines and



consumables, while ensuring that patients pay their bills. She has also created a peaceful and harmonious working environment for her team. Her main challenge remains the lack of medical equipment,

particularly diagnostic equipment in the laboratory, for which she is asking donors for support.

Magbenteh Community School



The MCS school, supported by the SSLDF, Helfende Hande and other sponsors, provides the pupils with food, teaching materials and uniforms. For the 2023/2024 school year, 32 pupils (14 boys and 18 girls) sat the national primary school exam, with 25 passing and 7 pupils having to retake the exam.

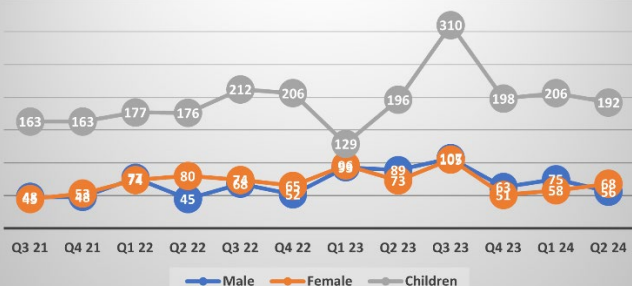
Renovation of the storage building medical supplies and medicines

Due to the poor state of repair of the unit and the operating theatre doors, the management has undertaken renovation work, made possible thanks to the support of Harald Pfeiffer and his family, to restore the building and its accesses.

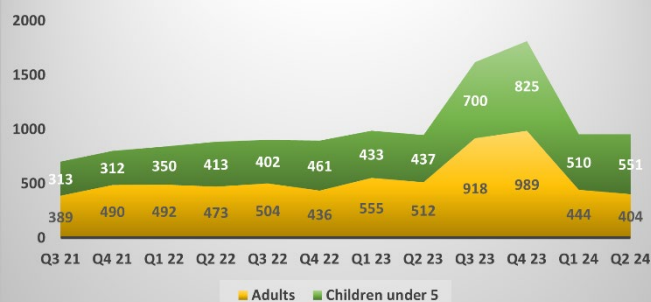


Quarter Numbers

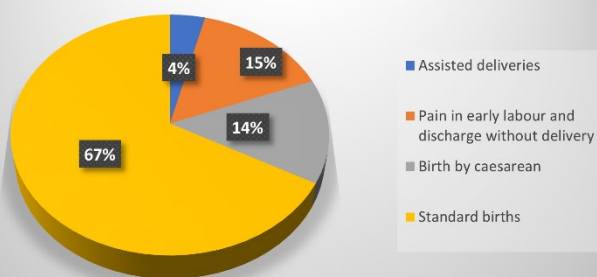
Inpatients Wards



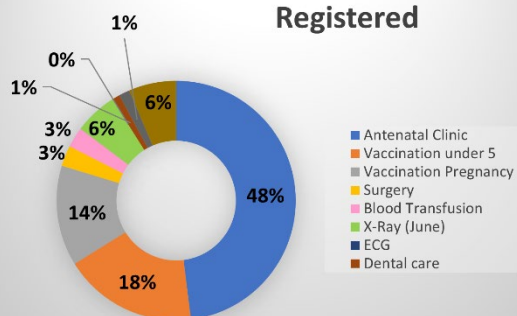
Outpatient Department



Maternity



Registered



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 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:
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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 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.