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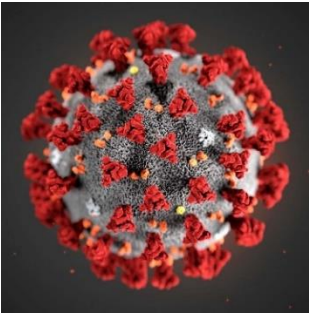
**ACTION
SWISS
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Newsletter Quarter 4, 2021

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. But the COVID-19 has further exasperated the situation - Thank You for Your help!

Covid situation



As Europe and the Western World is fighting the Omicron, the effects in Sierra Leone are so far little talked about. Though the use of face masks is promoted in media and on posters in the streets, not many people are seen wearing them. With an estimated vaccination rate of

around 25%, what will happen when Omicron strikes? So far, the government's efforts to impose mandatory PCR testing before departure and on arrival in Sierra Leone seem to have had the desired effect. And considering the brief spike and subsequent decline in South Africa, perhaps the arrival of summer and the milder form of the Omicron virus will spare not only Sierra Leone but other sub-Saharan countries from a devastating toll. At Magbenteh Community Hospital, no cases of Covid have been reported in the last quarter and most staff have been vaccinated twice.

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*

Management Review



A delegation of ASL from Switzerland arrived in mid-January for a review of the year 2021. An in-depth discussion on the 2022 budget and the various projects to make the hospital more and more financially independent took place. You will find more information about this visit in the Newsletter of the 1st quarter.

Employee of the quarter

James Fornah is Assistant Head Cleaner at the Magbenteh Community Hospital where he has been employed for over 17 years.



"I enjoy working at the hospital, because we are a big family, especially now with the encouragement that we receive from the new management. As a cleaner, I know that I have an important task to create a nice and pleasing environment that is appreciated by the patients. Although the management is doing its best, we have some challenges. Key among

them is to get a bigger lawn mower suitable for the large surfaces that we have here at the hospital. This is especially important during the rains when the grass grows at great speed".

Life at the hospital

In December, the volunteer doctor Sarah Luc from Belgium left after 1 year at the hospital. The hospital staff, which is now about 100 strong, gave Sarah a warm farewell.



Sarah saying farewell

Mid-January, we welcomed Inge Hendriks, a pediatric surgeon from Holland with considerable tropical experience and in February another Dutch doctor and her husband will arrive. They will be a welcome addition to the medical team which is now tending to an increasing case load and we will report more about them in the Q1 newsletter.



Inge with her new colleagues, among them Dr. Tourey, Medical Director

New solar powered photovoltaic installation

In December the solar powered photovoltaic installation donated by the Addax & Oryx Foundation in Geneva went live. This installation will bring sustainable and stable electricity to the hospital. It also means a monthly saving of nearly CHF 3'000 each month. Money that can now be spent on providing care and medicines for those who otherwise could not afford it.



The solar panels are fixed on top of two 20 feet containers

Case of the Quarter

The sad story of Abdul Karim Kamara

Abdul Karim Kamara, a 3-year old boy, was admitted at the Magbenteh Community Hospital in November and was diagnosed with an advanced stage of cerebral Malaria. Following a request made by his relatives Abdul Karim was later discharged because they believed that he could not be cured medically and decided to take him back to his village. Sadly, shortly after his discharge he passed away at home.



Millions of children in Sierra Leone are vulnerable to malaria and other infectious disease. Unfortunately, poor education and ignorance often make the children come too late to the hospital. This poses serious pressure on the limited medical resources, as late admissions require much more efforts and, as was the case of Abdul Karim

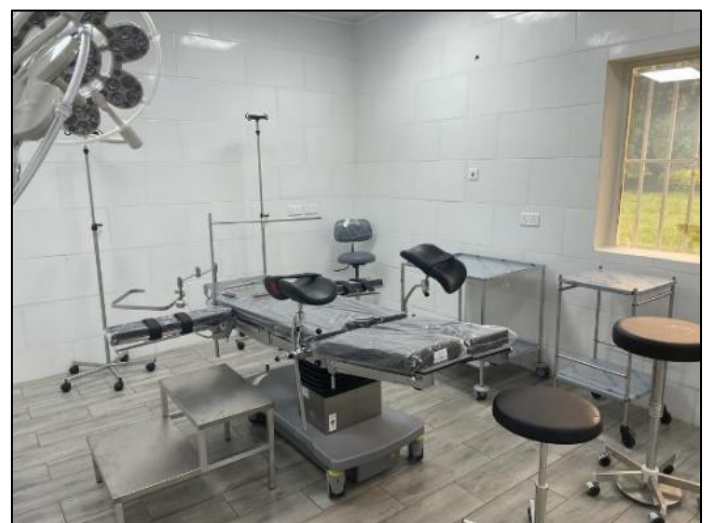
are often life threatening. At the Magbenteh Community Hospital we try to do our best to educate new mothers how best to take care of their children. However, it would be wonderful to have sufficient resources to be able to go to the villages in order to educate the population in hygiene, nutrition and prevention. Such a program would also enable us to spot, early on, children and mothers who are victims of malnutrition and infectious disease.

After six months of rain - maintenance

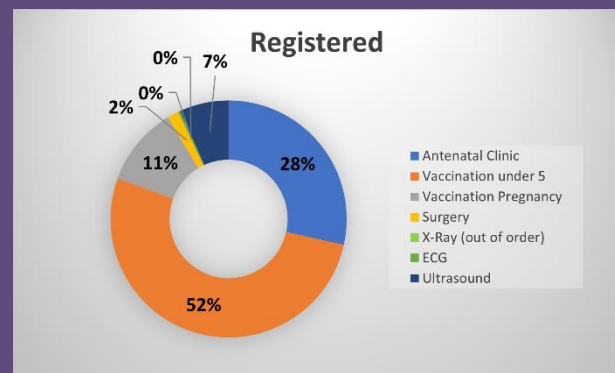
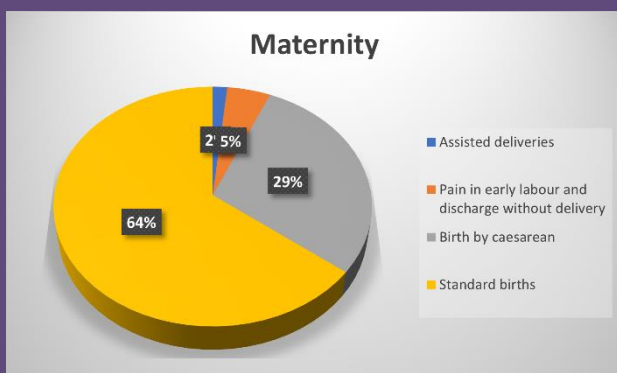
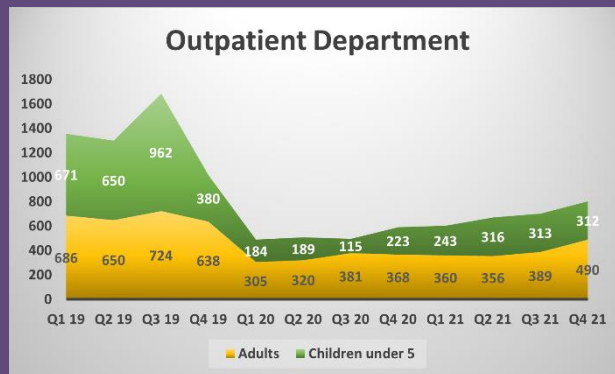
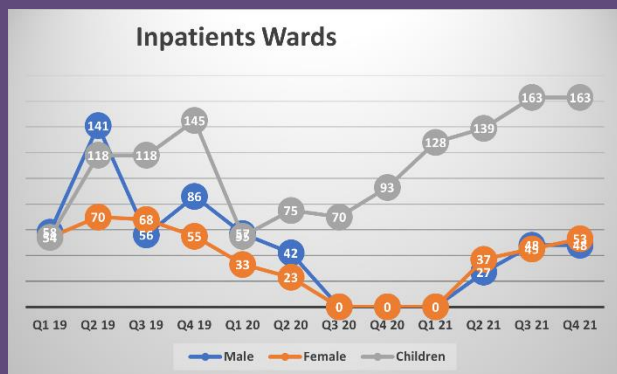
The six months long rainy period takes a heavy toll on the buildings and continuous maintenance has to be done. During the fourth quarter, the maintenance team repainted many of the buildings.



Also, towards the end of December, the first surgeries were performed in the two brand-new operating theatres donated by Rotary Nyon-la-Côte. Although some instruments are still missing, the staff appreciates the modern equipment including the double overhead LED lamps in each of the two operating theatres. The hospital supplier Schmitz AG supplied the operating table and donated several elements of the surrounding equipment



Quarter Numbers



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

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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