

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH



LOFA COUNTY HEALTH TEAM KOLAHUN HOSPITAL KOLBA CITY

March 17, 2020 *

Office of the Medical Director Kolahun District Hospital Kolba City, Kolahun District Lofa County-Liberia Email <u>ombeni1982@gmial.com</u> Contact # +231770512553

Sub: SOS Call from Kolahun District Hospital for support

TO: Restore Hope-Liberia.

Our sincere compliment and best wishes to you.

Kolahun District Hospital is a government Hospital located in Lofa County, in Kolahun District serving the people of Kolahun District which are estimated to be 72,000 catchment population and the people of neighboring districts which are Foya and Vahun Districts.

Due to the financial crises that the government of Liberia is going through, the hospital has not been able to receive any allotment from the government since last year which is making the hospital to be in shortage of drugs, medical and no medical supplies.

Kolahun Hospital has a number of 80 deliveries a month which include cesarean sections and normal deliveries.

- > Total number of patients per year: 26050.
- > Total number of children per year: 7000.
- Total number of pregnant women per year: 2600.
- > Total number of malaria cases per year: 8000.
- > Total number of pneumonia per year: 3200.
- > Total number of surgeries per year: 4100.

Other cases per year: 1150.

Because of these financial crises, patients are buying expired drugs from pharmacies around affecting our performance. There are patients who are on chronic treatment who come and cannot receive their treatment because it is not available in the hospital.

Scenario 1: There is a patient who is known epileptic who came to receive drugs and could not get them until he started having seizures in the hospital and the family was requested to go and buy the drugs because they were not available at the hospital.

Scenario 2: A known diabetic patient came in hyperglycemia and the insulin was not available at the hospital and the family was requested to go and buy it and they could not find it in the pharmacy until the patient got in coma and died. Because of the above situation we are appealing to Restore Hope- Liberia to come to our rescues by supplying us with essential drugs, medical and non medical items to save the lives of the people in Kolahun District and beyond.

Signed:

AL MEDICAL D Dr. Raphael O. Shamavu

Medical Director Kolahun District Hospital

March 16, 2020



To: Friends of Foya Hospital To: The Community of Restore Hope: Liberia To: All Who Love Liberia

As nations around the world, including Liberia, confront the medical challenge of COVID-19, pause for a moment, and consider whether things could be worse.

You could live in Liberia, where all hospitals are in a state of dire need due to a lack of material resources: drugs and medical supplies, such as IV catheters are stocked out. The hospital staff tells you to go out and buy everything *they need* to treat you. I did all this when I was in Liberia in 5 months ago.

An elderly man had pneumonia. We took him to Kolahun Hospital where the P.A. informed us that we would need to buy the necessary injectable antibiotic and IV catheter because the hospital had no supplies of either. Nurse Gladys Zarbay and I ultimately purchased the required materials from a private 'drug store' about a half kilometer from the hospital. We spent some USD \$12. Most families in Liberia would struggle to come up with such funds, and many simply wouldn't be able to do so. That's why the hospitals in Liberia are nearly void of patients. While doctors, nurses and physician assistants show up for work (despite not being paid for months on end), patients realize that treatment orders cannot be carried out because *there are no drugs or other necessary supplies*.

The consequences? Many Liberians have stopped going to hospitals. They don't have the money to buy the medical supplies. Many are dying at home - untreated.

Sure, there must be a better, sustainable, longer-term solution but I don't know what that is right now. If you have a quick fix in mind, please contact me. I do know that if we join forces, if each of us contributes something, we can get enough life-saving drugs and medical supplies to two hospitals in Liberia that are in desperate need. We can make a difference in the lives of all patients - from infancy through old age. We can provide healthcare staff with the tools of their trade; we can improve outcomes for patients in both Foya and Kolahun Districts. Yes, this is a short-term fix. But, sometimes, a 'band aid' is the first vital step in the longer journey toward a sustainable solution.

On behalf of the populations in Kolahun and Foya Districts, please pause to consider the health of the United States. Take a moment to consider how bad things could be. Then, make a bold difference, knowing no nation is an island. Help two hospitals in Liberia get back on their feet. I thank you for donating to supply both Foya Borma Hospital and Kolahun District Hospital with essential drugs and medical supplies.

Sincerely,

Barbara g

Barbara J. Burke, MD, MPH Advisor, RESTORE HOPE: LIBERIA BarbaraBurke@restorehopeliberia.org

Foya-Borma Hospital

Foya Kama Foya Statutory District Lofa County, Liberia

Below is information on the Foya-Borma Hospital and the current needs:

- 1. The Hospital catchment population is about 100,000 inhabitants including the neighbouring communities of Guinea and Sierra Leone. This figure is 2008 census report.
- 2. Number of beds are 120
- 3. Number of Vaginal deliveries per year is 650 (2019)
- 4. Number of C-sections/yr is 116 for 2019
- 5. Number of other surgeries is 18 (Appendectomy-4, Leftiguinal Hernia-7, Incision and Drainage (IND)-1, Bowel Obstruction-1, Accident or Trauma-2, Umbilical Hernia-3)
- 6. Number of clinic visits is 7,905
- 7. Energy capacity: we have a 60KVA Generator which operates the entire hospital with all its medical equipment but it is not use now due to the lack of no subsidy allotment from government since 1 year now. We bought a small generator just to do lab and C-sections. We also have few solar panels to help the nurses serve their medication at night.
- 8. The chief diagnoses by age group are:
 - Malaria for Children under five ------ 13,000
 - Malaria for Adults------9,000
 - Anaemia for children under five------386
 - Anaemia for Adults ----- 79
 - Malnutrition for Children under five-----283
 - Hepatitis for Adults------ 39
 - Snake bite (Adults)-----10
 - Hypertension (Adults)-----200
 - Peptics Ulcer Disease (Adults)------ 280
 - Caustic ingestion for children-----10
 - Caustic Ingestion (Adults) -----7
 - Burn (Children)-----12
 - Burn (Adults) -----5
 - Tuberculosis (Adults) -----20
- 9. The chief causes of mortality by age groups (2019) are:
 - Malaria for Children under five ------ 30
 - Malaria for Adults------3
 - Anaemia for children under five------30
 - Anaemia for Adults ------ 10
 - Malnutrition for Children under five-----5
 - Hepatitis for Adults-----15
 - Snake bite (Adults) -----4
 - Hypertension (Adults) -----25
 - Peptics Ulcer Disease (Adults) -----20
 - Caustic ingestion for children-----2
 Burn (Children) ------5

- Tuberculosis (Adults) -----5
- 10. Below are the list of the most urgently needed drugs and consumables:
 - Ringer Lactate 500ml
 - Normal Saline 0.9% 500ml
 - Normal Saline 0.9% 500ml
 - D -50%
- Assorted IV cannulas, IV Tubulins
- Sterile gauge
- Examination gloves- need more of these- 500 cartons
- surgical gloves, GYN gloves-need more of these-500 cartons
- Hand Sanitizers- need more of these-1000 bottles
- Nose masks, isolation gowns- 500 cartons
- Sutures as many as may available
- Ascorbic Acid 250mg
- D5W
- Ketamine
- Ceftriaxone 1g-IV
- Ciprofloxacin 500mg-PO
- Ampicillin 1g-IV
- Chloramphenicol 1g-IV

We think that this is a worthwhile collaboration between RHL and Friends of Foya-Borma Hospital. As we speak, there are no examination gloves in the entire county, no hand sanitizers, etc.

Today, I have officially reinstituted all Ebola time precautionary measures with immediate effect to include limited visitors, compulsory hand washing, no sitting in group, etc.

Please pray with us as we do not have the strength like the west to battle such global pandemic.

Francis T. Forndia Executive Director Foya-Borma Hospital