

A REPORT OF THE 2013 OBINWANNE FOUNDATION - MEDICAL MISSION

Obinwanne Foundation Inc. is a charity and not-for-profit organisation. Its primary goal is to save lives through the provision of free quality medical care to the poor and most vulnerable people in rural communities who cannot help themselves because they have no means to afford medical care, and unfortunately, there is none provided through the government.

7th February 2014

*2013 Medical
Mission Outreach*

Obinwanne
Foundation

... Saving lives
Transforming communities
Making a difference in people's life

www.obinwanne-foundation.org
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A REPORT OF THE 2013 OBINWANNE FOUNDATION INC. - MEDICAL MISSION OUTREACH PROGRAMME

The 2013 Obinwanne medical mission took place at Akpodim, Mbaise, southeast Nigeria on December 6 and 7 2013.

It was a 24-member medical team, comprising of 5 medical doctors, who did the clinical consultations on general medicine and eye care, 2 nurses with 3 nursing assistants, who rendered the nursing services (checking visual acuity, blood pressure, weight, counselling on voluntary HIV test etc.); 2 lab scientists with a volunteer, who were in charge of the blood sugar test, malaria parasite test and HIV screening, 1 optometrist in charge of refraction and prescription glasses with 2 assistants who were in charge of reading glasses, 3 pharmacy assistants in charge of dispensing the prescribed medications, 4 volunteers, who were in charge of registration, order accommodation; and 2 volunteers in charge of catering services.

A total of 415 patients were registered and attended to. At the beginning each day, a brief and comprehensive health talk was given by a doctor, after introducing our mission. Each person (adult) had a BP check, body weight measurement, visual acuity, blood sugar and HIV testing before seeing a doctor. Malaria parasite tests were done mainly on children and on request by the doctors. Prescribed medications and glasses were then given. Those with chronic debilitating diseases like severe hypertension, diabetes mellitus, eye diseases like glaucoma etc. were properly counselled on the nature of their problems and on the need for continued medications and coming for monthly review by the foundation nurse every last Friday of the month starting from January 2014. Those that needed urgent detailed attention were given referral letters to major hospitals around.

What is quite unique about the 2013 mission is that elementary school pupils had their visual acuity assessment done in their schools. Teachers from the respective schools were thought and equipped on how to conduct visual acuity measurement as an ongoing preliminary assessment of their students.

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Table 1: The disease conditions diagnosed during the 2013 Medical Mission

Disease Type	Number of Affected Persons
Malaria	295
Typhoid fever	111
Hypertension	196
Arthritis	68
Diabetes mellitus	40
Respiratory tract infection	23
Peptic ulcer disease	19
Pelvic inflammatory disease	18
Urinary tract infection	12
Partial stroke	7
Parkinson's disease	4
Benign prostrate hypertrophy/	5
HIV infection	1
Presbyopia	252
Glaucoma	59
Cataract	68
Allergic eye disease / dry eyes	117
Refractive error	98
Skin lesions	18
Bacterial conjunctivitis	4
Pterygium	20
Bilateral blindness	9
Blepharoptosis / Proptosis / intracranial SOL	1

SPONSORSHIP

We acknowledged with sincere thanks the sum of four hundred pounds (£400.00) from our UK friends, one thousand, one hundred and sixteen dollars (\$1160.00 CDN) from our Canadian friends and twenty seven thousand naira (#27,000.00) from our Nigerian friends. We also received with thanks medications, medical and diagnostic facilities donated by individuals that enormously helped us to deliver the services.

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SHORTCOMINGS

The 2013 mission witnessed a sharp increase in the number of patients that needed medical attention, almost double the number of patients we saw in 2012. This was a little beyond our projection, and consequently, we ran out of vital medications and eye glasses early on the second day.

PROJECTIONS FOR 2014

Due to the urgent need to help these very less privileged members of our society, and to be able to monitor the progress of our collective efforts, we are considering conducting two medical missions in 2014, one in June and the second one in December. To make sure those with chronic medical conditions like diabetes and hypertension are not neglected, we have already employed the services of a community nurse who monitors the progress of these patients once every month and re-in force their medical education and compliance with their medications.

Some of the patients we've seen over the last 3 years require non-invasive surgeries like cataract extraction and we would like to sponsor such surgeries to help them before it is too late.

APPRECIATION

We are greatly indebted to you all for your assistance at this life saving mission. It was a huge success. This year's episode was better organised and everyone was happy despite all odds. This success wouldn't have been possible without your generosity. The outpourings of thanks and prayers from these recipients of your generosity have been tremendous. (<http://www.obinwanne-foundation.org/Photo.htm>). We are thankful to Dr. Stella Onwubiko, the co-ordinator of the mission and her medical team, as well as all the volunteers who made the mission a huge success. We are also grateful to Theo Anosike, our Canadian representative who monitored the mission.

Finally, we need your support to continue the mission. We will appreciate with thanks, your monthly donations or one time donation, as well as medical and diagnostic equipment. No amount is too small (<http://www.obinwanne-foundation.org/charity.htm>). Accept our thanks and God bless.

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