



MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 2018

SUMMARY

Orant Charities Africa (OCA) operates in four thematic areas and thus Health, Water, Agriculture and Education. The mission of Orant Charities Africa is to inspire hope, improve lives and empower the poor. OCA provides high quality developmental programs to rural communities around Kasese, Dowa, Malawi. Our Health centre (Kasese Health Centre) has seen up 5043 patients in the month of February.

Compiled by **Gabriel Kapanda**

Contents

MAJOR PROJECTS	2
CLINIC REPORT	3
WATER PROGRAM REPORT	5
WATER WELLS/BOREHOLE REPAIRS	5
COMMUNITY BASED MANAGEMENT TRAININGS	7
SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROMOTION	7
AGRICULTURE PROGRAM REPORT	9
INTRODUCTION	9
MAJOR ACTIVITIES	9
School Garden Training at Primary School	9
OCA Farm and Garden	11
CHALLENGES	12
EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM	12
PREAMBLE	12
PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2018	13

MAJOR PROJECTS

1. Solar Power Installation



Power outages at Kasese Health Centre is no longer news as OCA has installed Solar panels and reliable batteries both at the OPD and Maternity. This will reduce number of patients especially women who are referred to other hospitals because of power outages.

2. Opening of the 24 hours Children's Observation Ward



A 10 bed capacity children's admission ward was officially opened on 2nd March 2018. The Guest of honour was Traditional Authority Chakhaza. OCA board members were also present during the ceremony. T/A Chakhaza speaking on behalf of all the chiefs and community thanked OCA for taking another bold step in saving lives especially children who used to be referred to other hospitals while Kasese health centre had the required drugs and personnel to treat the patients.

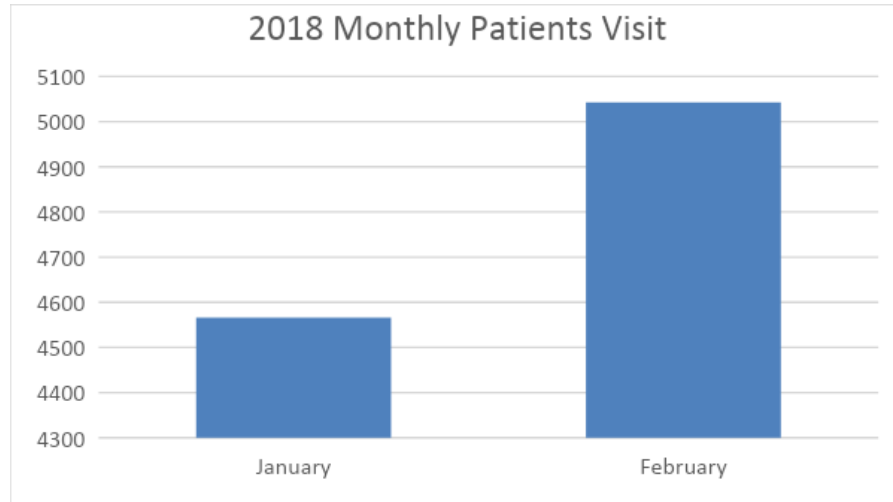
Below: OCA Board Chair, the Councilor and other local leaders appreciating the Children's ward



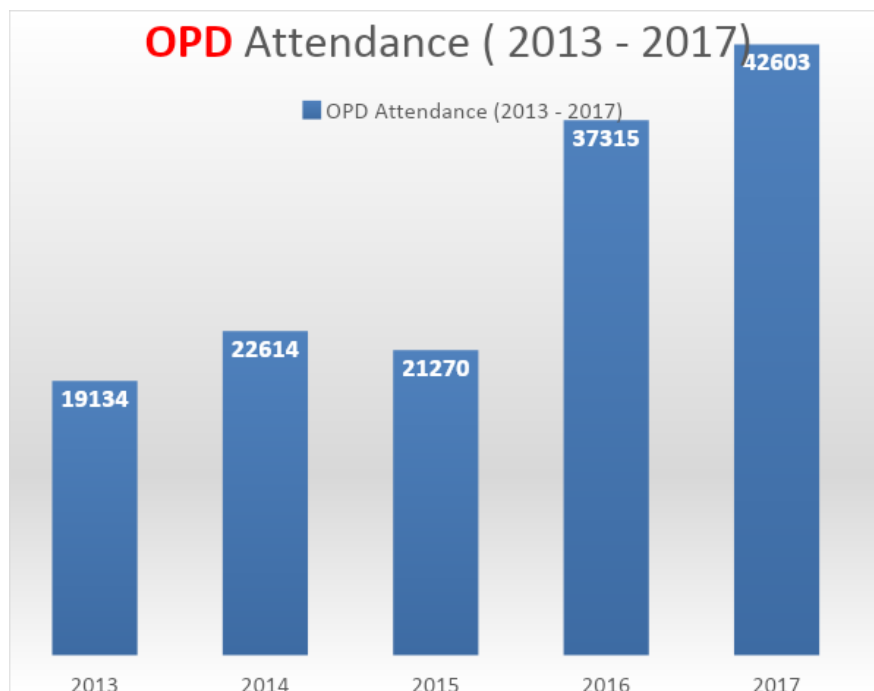
CLINIC REPORT

The report provides a summary of the following departments: Maternity, Ante-natal, OPD, Outreach clinics, and pharmacy.

The month of February 2018, has been quite busy and we have seen a total of **5,043** patients. The high incidence of patients has been attributed to the malaria epidemic disease season and influx of patients from outside of our catchment area due to periodic shortage of drugs in nearby government health Center's. Despite the huge number of patients, staff are always striving to provide high quality service.



With this trend we expect to have more patients this year than all other years before. Below is graph showing annual patients attendance from 2013- 2017.



Maternity

Maternity had 46 deliveries, which includes two sets of twins.

Outreach Clinic

As further enhancement of service provision, four routine outreach clinic were conducted at our catchment area. At one of our outreach clinic Mtambalika, Ministry of health through Dowa DHO has deployed a nurse and one health surveillance assistant, who are currently providing family planning and under-five clinics. Kasese health Centre still conducts routine outreach clinics at the facility and we have not received official communication from DHO of the health posting of the government staff.

Antenatal

We distributed ITN at antenatal clinics.

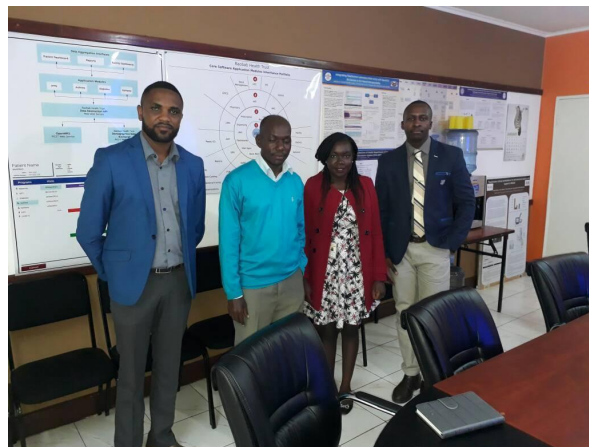
Administrative Issues

Uniform materials for the staff were procured and now a tailor is preparing them for the patients care attendants, nurses and one cleaner (temporally).

To address the power outage, separate solar panels in maternity and outpatient's buildings have been installed and it's working properly.

New staff were recruited, which includes a clinician and a nurse. We have also promoted Mr. Zuzeni Kadzamira and Anderson Chimpopi for the position of patient care attendant and Security guard respectively.

The Country Director and the Lead Clinician, held meeting with Baobab Health staff to enquire about the computerized data systems and they are ready to provide and install EMR at Kasese Health centre.



Baobab Health will visit Kasese between 12th and 16th March to conduct a field assessment.

WATER PROGRAM REPORT



Introduction

Water is life and the role of OCA is providing clean water cannot be overlooked by the community in Kasese, Dowa. OCA is working with communities in borehole repairs, community based management trainings and improving sanitation and hygiene in Kasese catchment area.

WATER WELLS/BOREHOLE REPAIRS



OCA conducts huge repairs of boreholes which the community cannot manage and these includes rehabilitation. In the month of February, OCA has repaired a borehole at Chinguwi primary school and provided new spareparts which the school cannot afford. Before OCA repaired the the Afridev pump at the borehole, pupils were struggling to find clean water.

Below: Shows Repairs done, waiting for the civil works to dry and after repairs



The table below depicts a detailed summary of all boreholes repaired

Summary of repairs (**table 1**)

Name of village/Borehole	Repairs/Replacements done	Remarks
Kankhande Vg	Foot valve, Plunger, 4 bush bearings, 3 pump rods, and 8 centralizers.	Successfully done
Mandevu Vg	2 pump rods, 1 plunger, 3 double end sockets, 5 pipes, 12 centralizers and 4 bush bearings	Successfully done
Makombwa Vg	2 pump rods, 3 double end sockets, 10 rod centralizers & 4 Bush bearings	Successfully done
Chiwoza Vg	2 pipes, 1 pump rods, 1 fulcrum pin & 4 bush bearing	Successfully done
Kaweresu Vg	Cylinder, 3 double sockets, 4 pump rods, 1 foot valve & 10 centralisers	Successfully done
Chinguwi School	Full set- inner parts, pedestre, pump head and handle	Successfully done

COMMUNITY BASED MANAGEMENT TRAININGS

OCA continues to train communities on how to repair wells and govern their water supply. 3 days' trainings were conducted with the following water points committees Chilinkholi, Inje, Ndalama, Mano, Tchale primary school and Kachala.



Trainings in Kachala Village



SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROMOTION

Community artisans have been trained on how to construct low cost sanitation technologies such as corbelled pit-latrines. 5 latrines have been constructed and households were providing building materials while OCA was providing expertise and training. 15 Masons have been trained. The trainings were conducted in Bweya and Msosa villages.



One of the constructed latrines before thatching

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM REPORT



A lead farmer on her demonstration plot showing how she is managing her soya bean plot.

INTRODUCTION

The Agriculture program continues to work hard on OCA farm, School garden projects and other extension work. Various activities were done at OCA farm, Chinguwi primary school and demonstration plots sites for the OCA Lead farmers.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Trainings/Extension

Number of trainings - 4

Total number of participants - 124

Four trainings were conducted on Lead farmers (on farm training) under extension program and Primary school garden.

School Garden Training at Primary School

The training in primary school was conducted at Chinguwi Primary school (under the school garden project) covering seed bed making, manure application, sowing and fertilizer application. Students were trained on raised beds since it is rainy season to avoid water lodging. The application of manure was applied at the rate of 5-10kg of well decomposed manure per square meter and was mixed with soil.

Transplanted of vegetables at Chinguwi School



Lead Farmers Training

Lead farmers were trained on the importance of keeping the field free from weeds and banking the crops. A Field which is free from weeds reduces the competition for nutrients, sunlight and moisture with the crop. It also helps in checking the occurrence of pests and diseases, which are harbored in the weeds.

One of the Lead farmers showing his well-maintained farm



Banking aims at rebuilding the crop ridge to avoid loss of nutrients and exposure of plant roots to the outside environment. In termite prone areas, banking was encouraged to be done before the plant reaches knee high.

OCA Farm and Garden

The main activities carried out on OCA farm and OCA garden are listed below

- Banking in maize field
- Pesticides application to maize and soya bean
- Herbicides application in maize field
- Fertilizer application and weeding on OCA farm
- Land clearing for garden establishment
- Manure application
- Seed Bed making
- Vegetable Sowing

MEETINGS

The main meeting attended was the Dowa Agriculture Extension Coordinating Committee (DAECC) where OCA is a member. The agenda for the meeting was on fall army worms outbreak and field days preparations to be conducted in Dowa district.

Other Activities

There was a field day at Kachulu village which was organized by Farmers World under a theme of Customized fertilizers are key to improved agriculture productivity. The crops shown at the field day include beans, soya, Groundnuts, Maize, sweet potatoes and cassava.

Figure 2: Field day organised by Farmers word in Kachulu village



CHALLENGES

Pest's and Drought Outbreak

Prolonged dry spells, erratic rainfall, high temperatures and the presence of fall armyworm have significantly reduced the cereal production around Kasese catchment area.

The Fall Armyworm, which first emerged last season, has compounded the situation as it continues to spread. The pest is now present across Malawi and almost all field have been attacked but the degree of damage only differs.

PICTORIAL FOCUS OF EXTENSION WORK



A demonstration plot for groundnuts in kachala section being managed by a lead farmer.

Compiled by Peter Kapenda (Agriculture program manager)

EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM

PREAMBLE

The month of February was a busy month. We visited all nearby schools to pay for school fees. In distant schools, fees were deposited and we have been acknowledged.

SPONSORED STUDENTS

The schools we visited include; Madisi secondary school, Chamkango CDSS, Natola CDSS, Ngala CDSS, Tchale CDSS and Nkhamenya girls Secondary school. In visiting the schools, we also managed to get the results for first term. A lot of students have done well although there is need for improvement to some students. We had time to talk to these students and encourage them to work extra hard. We also stressed the fact that scholarships have expectations which when not met you end up losing the scholarship.

MEETINGS

- Had meetings with head teachers, discussed better ways on how we can help our students do better
- Meeting with Nkhamenya secondary school head teacher on our proposed idea of shifting OCA students to be under Rotary International donors
- Meeting with Constance Chaula's Head teacher

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2018

- buying school materials (exercise books, mathematical box e.t.c) for day school students
- Collect students' letters to their donors



Having some talk with the students at Nkhamenya Girls secondary school.

Complied by Lonjezo Chauya (Education support program manager)