



JANUARY, 2023

ORANT CHARITIES AFRICA MONTHLY REPORT



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Table of Contents

Healthcare Program	2
Executive Summary	2
Monthly Patients Attendance	3
Reproductive and Family Planning Health.....	6
Malaria Report	10
Water and Sanitation Program	16
Water point repairs and rehabilitations	17
Water point committee (WPCs) training.....	17
WASH Joint Sector Review (JSR).....	18
Agriculture and Business	19
Agriculture.....	19
Flooding	19
Community Meetings	20
Pests control.....	21
Weeding of crops	21
Business and Financial Empowerment Microloans.....	22
Monitoring Visits	22
Weekly Village Savings and Loan (VS&L) groups	23
Knitting/ Crochet project	24
Refresher training for Book keeping	24
Education Support Program	25
Selection of Orant Ulemu scholarship students	26
Selected students for the Orant Ulemu Scholarship.....	27
Current Students under the Orant Ulemu Scholarship	27

Healthcare Program

Executive Summary

Kasese Health Center is in Traditional Authority Chakhaza, Dowa District along M1 road (Kasungu – Lilongwe) in Malawi, Africa. The Health Center is operated by Orant Charities Africa in coordination with the Ministry of Health (MOH). Orant Charities Africa healthcare program assists patients through Kasese Health Center (static clinic) and Mobile Outreach Clinics (MOC) which reaches parts of Kasungu District. The Healthcare program provides curative and preventive health care services to impoverish rural communities. Kasese Health Center operate a busy Outpatients Department (OPD), **10** bed capacity **24** hours children observation ward, and a **7** bed capacity maternity ward, twice a week Antenatal Program, weekly Cervical Cancer Screening and monthly Eye Clinic, Under-Five Clinics (immunization and child growth monitoring) e.t.c. MOC takes the services to hard to reach areas thereby making healthcare accessible. Tropical infectious diseases are common health problems which includes: malaria, respiratory disease like pneumonia and bronchitis. However, non-communicable diseases are at the rise for example diabetes and hypertension.

For the month of January 2023, Kasese Health Center (KHC) saw **1755** clients at (OPD). Only **44** patients were seen during weekends and night. Total patients seen in the month of January is **1799**. MOC in Kasese catchments areas saw **667**. Kasungu (Bowe) Outreach clinic saw **2481** clients. MOC total patients seen is **3148**. Total patients seen in the month of January 2023 is **4947** (KHC: **1799 (36%)** & MOC **3148 (64%)**).

The Laboratory department tested **1026** for Malaria, out of which **238** were positive, representing **23%** positivity rate. The Maternity department admitted **38** mothers and referred **13**. A total of **38** babies were born and **7** had complications (Prematurity: **4**, Weight < 2500grams: **2** and Asphxia: **1**).

The Public Health department with the help of Health Surveillance Assistants (HSAs) administered **1011** doses of J & J.

The HTS department tested **193** clients out of which **2** were positive, representing **1%**. Total patients seen at the eye clinic by an outsourced clinician is **29** and **5** were booked for surgery. **21** women were screened for Cervical Cancer and **1** was VIA positive.

Monthly Patients Attendance

Table 1 Below shows monthly patients seen in both KHC and MOC.

Months (2023)	Jan
OPD Static	1755
Bowe MOC	2481
Kasese MOC	667
Children Ward	0
Nights/Holidays	44
Total	4947

Table 1 : Total monthly patients seen at KHC and MOC (2023).

Table 2 below shows Outpatient Service Utilization rate

Months	Total Patients (OPD,Kasese MOC,Nights/Holidays)	OPD Service Utilization Rate
January	2466	1428.5

Table 2: Outpatient Service Utilisation Rate (January 2023).

According to Malawi National Health Indicators Handbook, the **Outpatient Service Utilisation Rate** is defined as number of outpatient department visits per 1000 population per year. This indicator measures the availability and quality of outpatient services as people are more likely to attend outpatient clinics when barriers to entry are eliminated (cost, distance) and when they feel that they receive quality services (National Health Indicators Handbook for Monitoring Health Sector Performance,2018). In general, rising numbers indicate greater access to services.

Figure 1 below shows total patient attendance for both KHC and MOC in January 2023

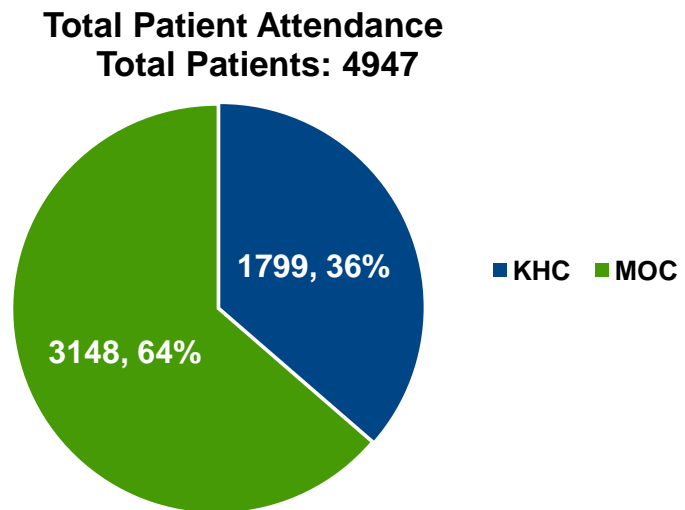


Figure 1 : Total monthly patient attendance – KHC & MOC (2023).

Figure 2 below shows total number of patients seen at KHC (OPD Static and Kasese Outreach) and Bowe Outreach in January 2023.

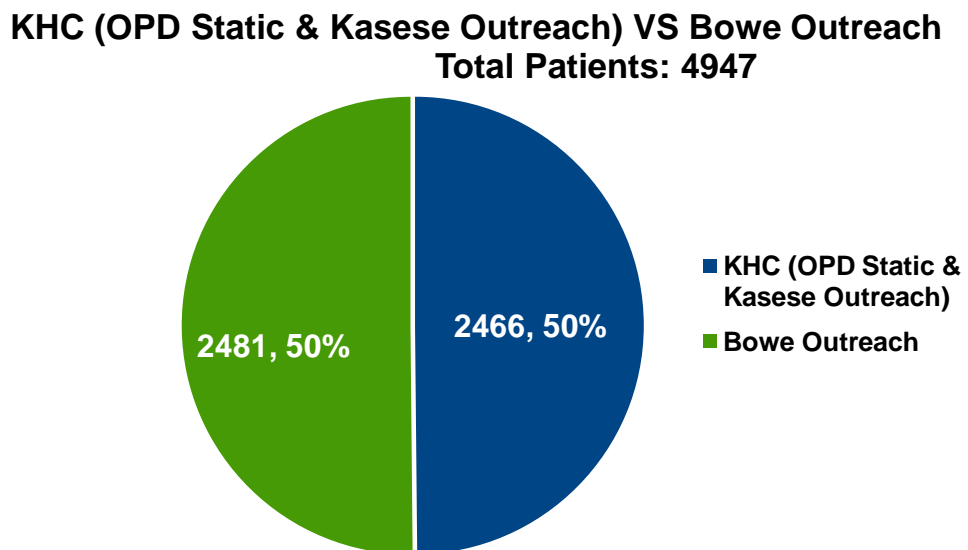


Figure 2: Total patients seen at KHC (OPD Static & Kasese Outreach) and Bowe Outreach – 2023.

3. COVID -19 Situation Updates.

The COVID-19 situation in the country remains low and in January 2023, no test was conducted. The Health Center continues to provide vaccines at the facility and in our communities and also the clinic continues to observe the preventive measures(face masks, social distancing and hand washing/sanitizing).

3.1 Cumulative COVID-19 Data – KHC Static.

Table 3 below shows Cumulative COVID 19 Data.

	Staff (OCA/HSA)	Others	Total
January Tests	0	0	0
January Positives	0	0	0

Table 3: COVID 19 Cumulative Data.

3.2 COVID 19 Vaccine (Pfizer) – KHC Static.

Table 4 below shows Vaccine Doses Administered in 2023

Dose	Male	Female	Total
1st Dose	0	0	0
2nd Dose	0	0	0
Booster	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

Table 4: Pfizer Administered at KHC Static (2023)

3.3 COVID 19 Vaccine (Johnson & Johnson – J&J) – KHC Static

Table 5 below shows Vaccine Doses Administered in 2023

Vaccine Type	Male	Female	Total
Johnson & Johnson (J & J)	269	394	663
Booster	123	225	348

Total	392	619	1011
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Table 5: J & J Administered at KHC Static (2023)

3.4 COVID 19 Vaccine (Astra-Zeneca) – KHC Static.

Table 6 below shows Vaccine Doses Administered in 2023

Dose	Male	Female	Total
1st Dose	0	0	0
2nd Dose	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

Table 6: J & J Administered at KHC Static (2023)

3.4 COVID 19 Vaccine Status – KHC Static.

Table 7 below shows Vaccine Status in the month of January 2023

Vaccine Type	Beginning Balance	End Balance
J & J	470	0

Table 7: Astra-Zeneca Status at KHC Static (January 2023)

Reproductive and Family Planning Health

4.1 Maternal and New-born Health Care

Months	Jan
Admissions	38
Referrals	13
New Babies	38
Alive Babies	38

Table 8: Maternity Data - 2023

Table 9 below shows Maternity Data of new babies with complications for January 2023.

Months (2023)	Jan
Weight <2500g	2
Prematurity	4
Asphyxia	1
Sepsis	0
Still Birth Fresh	0
Still Birth Macerated	0
Neonatal Death	0
Total	7

Table 9: Newborns with complications – 2023

Figure 3 below shows total maternity complications for January 2023.

Figure 3: Maternity Complications – January 2023

Cumulative Maternity Complications - January 2023
Total Complications : 7

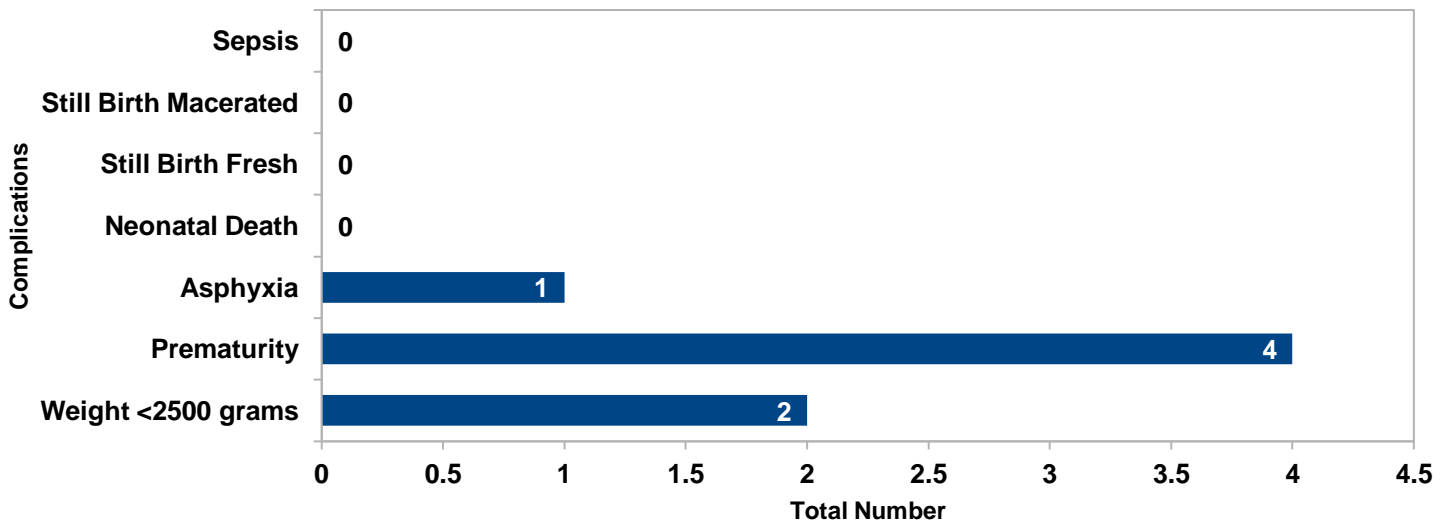


Figure 4 below shows total monthly Maternity attendance.

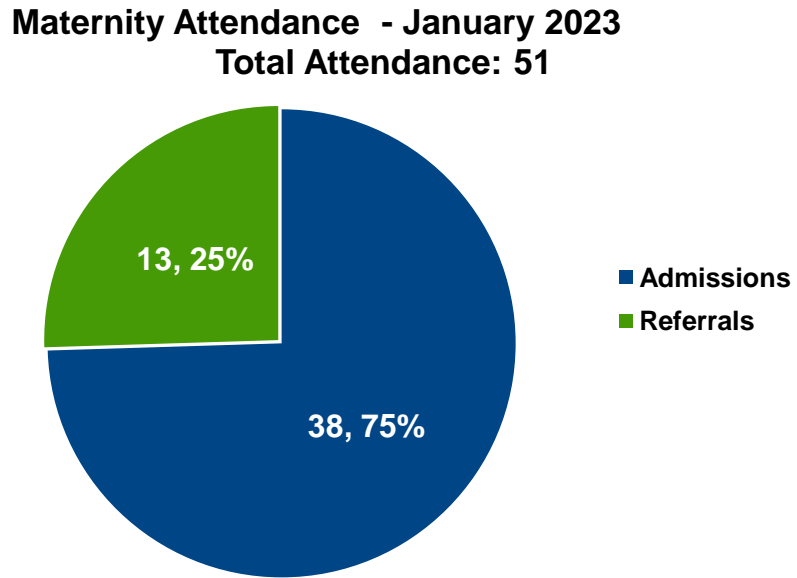


Figure 4: number of Admissions and Referrals (January 2023)

Table 10 below shows the reason for the referrals

Referral Reason	Referred
Foetal Distress	2
OPL	1
CPD	2
Preterm Labour	1
Young Prim	3
High Parity	1
Pre-eclampsia	1
Anaemia in Pregnancy	1
Other	1

Table 10: Referral Reasons - January 2023

Table 11 below shows ANC Attendance for the month of January 2023

Month	Total Attendance	New ANC Visit	First Trimester
January	222	69	22

Table 11: ANC Attendance - January 2023

4.2 Cervical Cancer Control Clinic Report

Table 12 below shows 2023 Monthly Cervical Cancer Screening.

Months	Jan
Total	21
VIA Positive	1

Table 12: Monthly Cervical Cancer Screening 2023 Table.

The monthly Cervical Cancer screening remains to be low, there is a need for more community sensitization.

5. Eye Clinic

The outsource eye specialist continue to provide service in Kasese Health Center and operation is done at Kasungu District Hospital.

Table 13 below shows total number of clients treated for eye infections and those booked for surgery.

Month (2023)	Jan
Eye Infections (Treated)	27
Eye Surgery (Booked)	2
Total Seen	29

Table 13: Monthly Eye Clinic Table - 2023.

Malaria Report

Table 14 below shows Malaria tests for January 2023

	Total Tested	Positives	Negatives	Positivity Rate
Under 5	433	74	359	17%
5 Years and Over	593	164	429	28%
Total	1026	238	788	23%

Table 14: Total Malaria Tests (January 2023).

Table 15 below shows total Malaria Cases (MRDT's Positive), LA Issued and Dispensed(Kasese Outreach Included)

2023	Jan
Suspected Malaria Cases	1026
Suspected Cases Tested MRDT	1026
Confirmed Malaria Cases	238
New Malaria Cases Registered	238
LA Dispensed	233
LA Issued	0

Table 15: Total Malaria Cases, LA Issued and Dispensed Table.

The Health Center continues to observe a drastic decline in malaria cases this year following timely interventions which include distribution of insect treated nets and its usage education in the community.

Figure 5 shows total KHC (Static and Kasese Outreach) Malaria tests (January 2023)

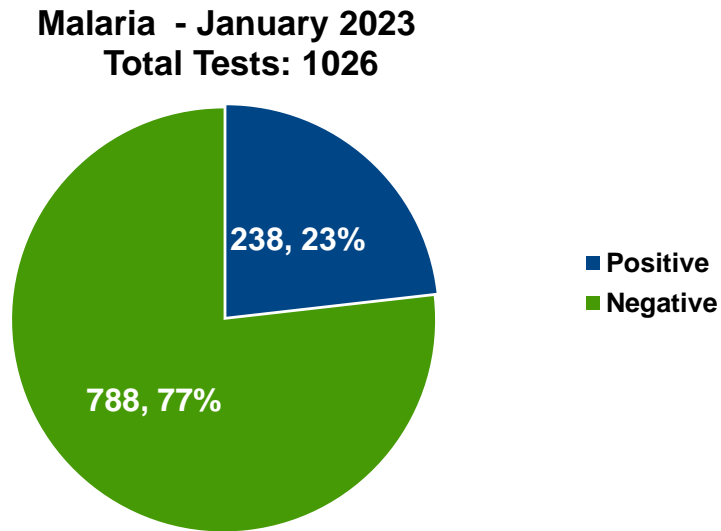


Figure 5: Total KHC (Static and Kasese Outreach) Malaria tests (January, 2023).

Figure 6 shows total KHC (Static and Kasese Outreach) Under 5 Years Malaria tests

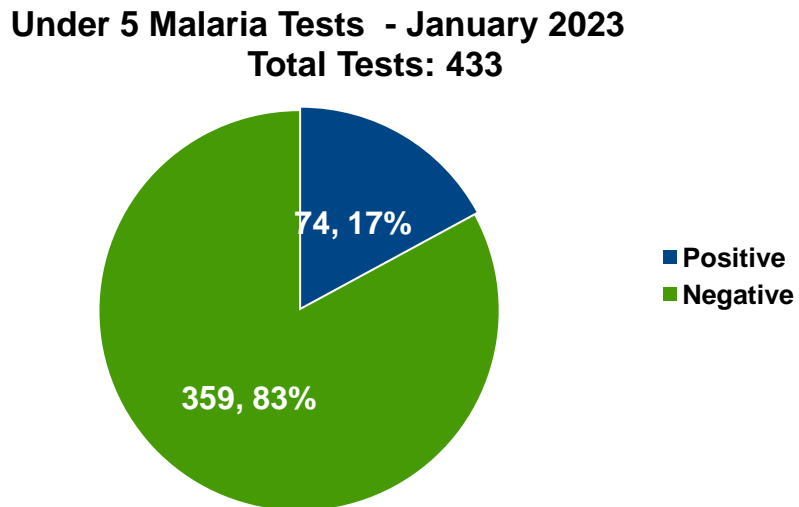


Figure 6: Static and Kasese Outreach, Under 5 Years Malaria tests (January, 2023).

Figure 7 shows total KHC (Static and Kasese Outreach) 5 Years and Over Malaria tests

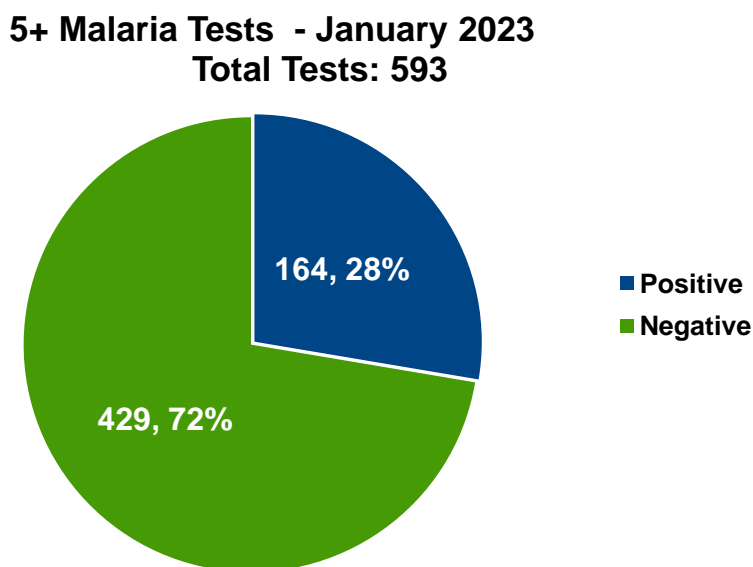


Figure 7 : Static and Kasese Outreach, 5+ Malaria tests (January, 2023).

7. HIV Testing Services (HTS)

Total Tested	Positives	Positivity Rate
193	2	1%

Table 16: HTC Monthly Data 2023

Kasese catchment area positivity rate remains to be low, this could indicate that, people adhere to HIV/AIDS preventive measures.

8. Laboratory Services

Table 17 Below shows qualitative Laboratory tests conducted in January 2023 (KHC Static and Kasese Outreach).

	H. Pyloris		Salmonella		Hep B		HCG		COVID 19	
	Total	Pos	Total	Pos	Total	Pos	Total	Pos	Total	Pos
Jan	52	3	9	0	3	1	38	14	0	0

Table 17: Qualitative Lab Tests Data Table for KHC Static - 2023.

Figure 8 below shows qualitative lab tests – January 2023

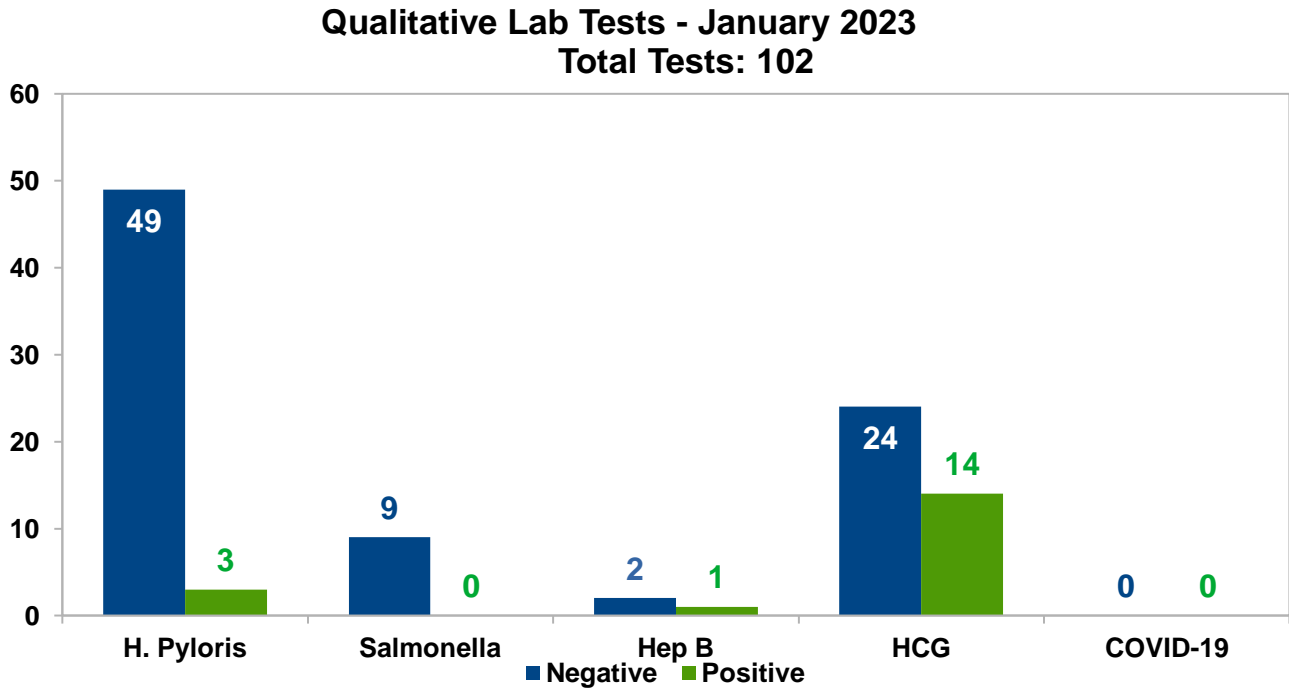


Figure 8: Qualitative Lab Tests – 2023.

Table 18 Below shows quantitative Laboratory tests conducted in January 2023 (KHC Static and Kasese Outreach).

	Glucose	HB	Urinalysis	FBC
Jan	124	137	16	95

Table 18: Quantitative Lab Tests Data Table for KHC Static.

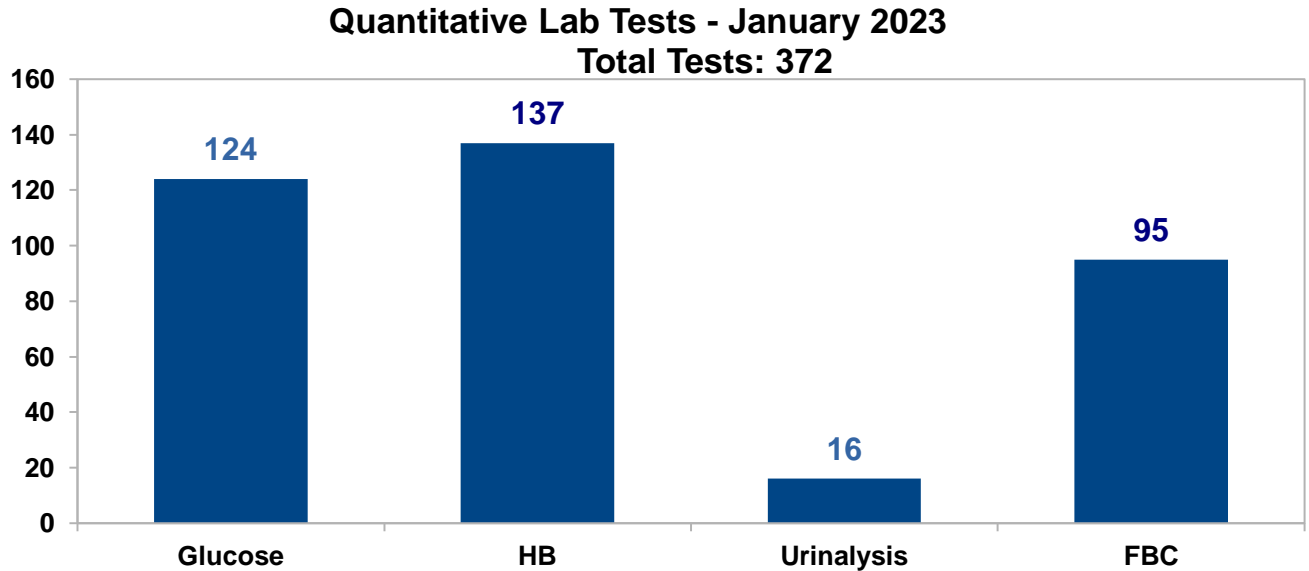
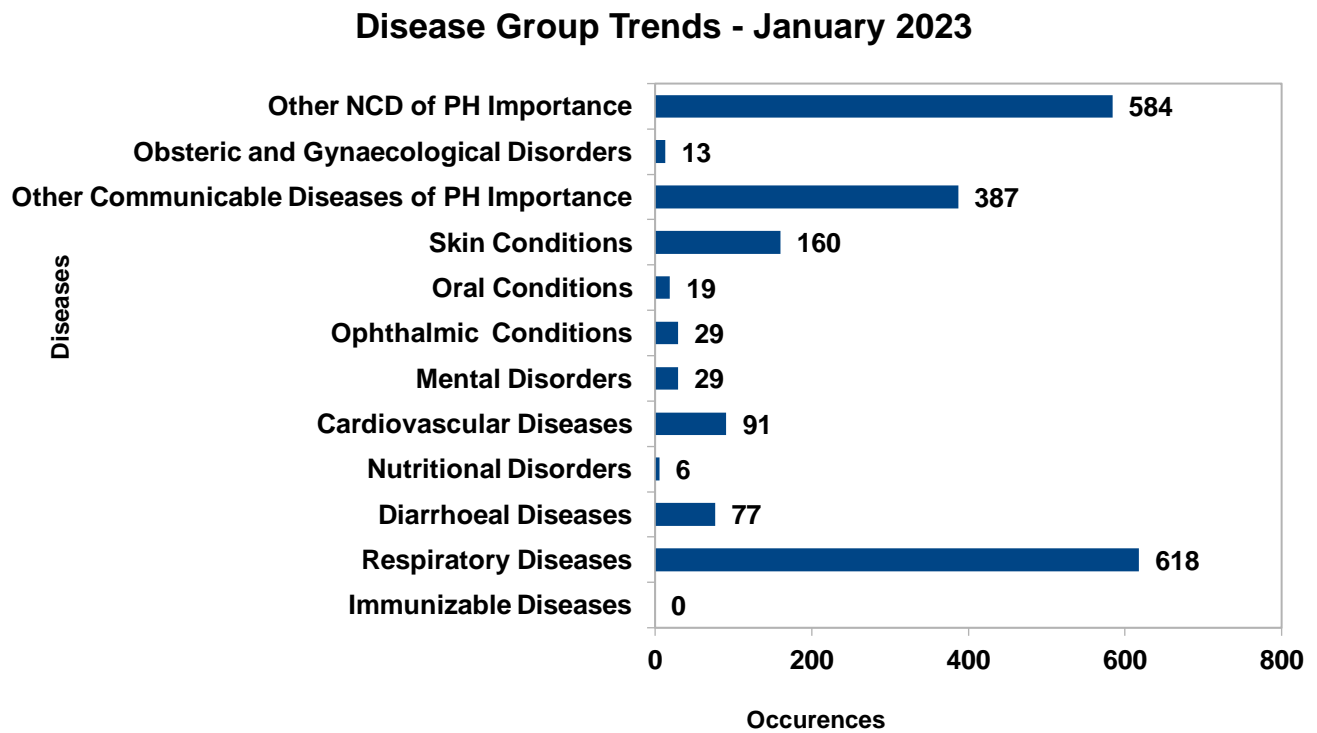


Figure 9 shows quantitative lab tests for the year 2023

Figure 9: Quantitative Lab Tests – 2023.

9. Disease Group Trends.

Figure 19 below shows disease occurrences for January 2023



Disease Occurrences (January, 2023)

B. Healthcare Finance and Administration

Table 19 shows clinic finance table for 2023.

2023	Amount Collected	Amount Spent on Referrals (Bills)	Average referral cost / client
January	MK 2,625,400	MK 276,575	MK 13,828.75

Table 19: Clinic Finances – 2023.

Water and Sanitation Program



Introduction

The month of January means a new beginning for the WASH program. Despite this new beginning and new plans, the mission remains the same. In 2023 improving access to access to WASH services in the Kasese catchment is at our hearts. The WASH program focused on planning and wrapping activities which were not completed in the just-ended year. Therefore, this report provides a summary of progress for these key interventions and other activities in December and the entire year at large. Below is a summary of activities conducted in January by the WASH program;

- Supported 42 water point repairs (Service/preventive: 38; Repairs: 4; Rehabilitated: 0)
- Water point committee training for Gwazeni and Mdaunda
- WASH Joint Sector Review (DCT Meeting)

Detailed Narration of Monthly Activities

The WASH program carried out the following key activities in January 2023.

Water point repairs and rehabilitations



Pump repair session at Mimba water point during the month

To ensure sustainable access to safe water within the Kasese catchment, water point repair is among the key intervention for the OCA WASH program. In January, the WASH program repaired a total of **42** water points (Service/preventive: **38**; Repairs: **4**; Rehabilitations: 0). The WASH program continues to promote the preventive maintenance of water points. Preventive maintenance aims to promote the sustainable functionality of water points through proactive maintenance rather than waiting to fix the water points during major breakdowns. Major breakdowns are relatively expensive compared to preventive maintenance.

Water point committee (WPCs) training

To ensure that water points are sustainable, the WASH program trains water point committees in the management of water points. At each water point, **10** volunteers are trained in minor repairs, water point sanitation, community mobilization, water point fundraising and management. In January, the WASH program trained **2** WPCs from **Mdaunda** and **Gwazeni** villages. The 2 water points in Mdaunda and Gwazeni were drilled in December 2022 and are currently in use.



A classroom session during water point committee training for Mdaunda and Gwazeni villages

WASH Joint Sector Review (JSR)



The Participants during the WASH Joint Sector review meeting in Mponela

To promote coordination with stakeholders, the WASH program attends stakeholder meetings both at district and community levels. In January the WASH program was invited to attend a WASH Joint Sector Review (JSR) meeting which was organized by the Dowa district council. The meeting was organized to review the progress made by WASH NGOs and government departments in 2022. During the meeting, all WASH NGOs were asked to present annual reports for their program implementation in the just-ended year. OCA WASH program was privileged to present its annual report during the meeting. Following the OCA WASH program presentation, stakeholders were satisfied with what

the program was doing in Kasese. During the meeting, stakeholders encouraged OCA WASH to continue doing a good job and also consider expanding to other areas which are not covered by the program.

Conclusion

The new year promises to be exciting with new plans and resolutions for the WASH program. In 2023 the WASH program plans to implement new projects on a pilot basis such as promoting community sanitation as well as water resources and environmental conservation.

Agriculture and Business

Agriculture

Introduction



Farming is one of the important activities which builds the economy of Malawi. Smallholder farmers depend on farming to improve their economic status and feed their families. OCA supports smallholder farmers by equipping them with knowledge of farming as a business. The activities are done in both irrigation and rainfed farming through the provision of farm inputs as micro-loans and

agriculture expertise. The activities conducted during the reporting month have been explained below;

Flooding

Mvunguti irrigation club is one of the clubs working with OCA which was planned to start harvesting in the month of February. The club cultivated Maize and tomatoes but it was affected by natural disasters namely; floods and hailstorms. The hailstorm caused several

damages to crops, especially tomatoes since it was already at the level of fruiting. Flooding has also caused a big loss to the Maize crops as the crops are wilting due to high amount of water in the field. This is a big challenge to their farming season since it has left them with no hope for food and finances. Farmers had big hope that they will be able to get enough food from Maize and income from Tomatoes. This has affected the club in terms of food security for their homes and micro-loan payments.



Maize field affected by floods

Community Meetings

The food distribution meeting was conducted to discuss the plans of supporting the community with food during the critical period of hunger which is the month of February for the country of Malawi. During lean season and depending on availability of Maize, OCA distribute Maize to households with hunger problems within the Kasese catchment area, BOMFA Cooperative, and Bowe parish in Kasungu. The meeting was done to gather ideas from different groups of people which are Chiefs, Health Surveillance Assistants (HSAs), Area Development Committee (ADC), Area Stakeholder Panel (ASP), Agriculture Extension officer and Coordinator from Madisi Extension Planning Area (EPA). During the meeting, there was a discussion of the targeting criteria of beneficiaries and how stakeholders should coordinate well during the entire processes. The people to be identified as beneficiaries from the program were pointed out as those without food, the elderly, orphans, child-headed households, widowers, and people with disability. Another meeting was conducted with our partners whom we are working with in

demonstration farming. The aim of the meeting was to see how demonstrations are benefiting the community and the way forward for the field day. The field day was suggested to be done in the month of March and the dates will be communicated.



Mapping way forward on maize distribution

Pests control

The fields of Maize and Soya where OCA is working were heavily attacked by termites. Termites are dangerous pests since they can destroy the whole field of unmaturred crops which will be a loss to the farmers. Terminates are supposed to be controlled at an early stage so to minimize damage. Mwayiwathu club members were directed on the dilution rate and the rate of application of pesticides. This will ensure good quality and quantity of harvest since the damage has been minimized.

Weeding of crops

Groundnuts and soya beans are crops that can be cultivated without the addition of synthetic fertilizers by smallholder farmers and be able to get enough returns in the end. This is greatly achieved when the field has been kept weed free all the time. Farmers of the Mwayiwathu club were encouraged to keep looking after their fields and ensure that they were always weed-free. Weeds brings several challenges to the crops such as competition for nutrients, moisture, harboring pests, and diseases just to mention a few. The activity of weeding was extended to other fields where OCA is working including on the demonstration sites. This will help in coming up with good quality and quantity crops.



Mwayiwanthu club member weeding the soya field

Business and Financial Empowerment Microloans

Introduction

The Financial empowering microloan program continues to provide financial and literacy support to women entrepreneurs around Kasese catchment area. The aim of the program is to ensure that women are economically empowered at a local level. It is believed that if women are empowered financially, they are able to make proper financial decisions that may contribute to their well-being and a community as a whole. In the month of January, the FEM program had planned and conducted a number of activities as narrated below.

Activities planned and Achieved

Monitoring Visits

In the reporting month, follow up monitoring visits to individual businesses was conducted with the aim of assessing loan investments, documenting previous year's successes as well as how the businesses are faring. For Takondwa members, it was exciting to note that most of the start-ups have kicked off very well and their businesses seem to be promising. For the existing groups, it was also very interesting to see that the women are able to diversify businesses, taking into account the rainy season we are in.

The businesses are still operational and have not been affected with farm activities as most of the women entrepreneurs remain on their business posts during the business peak hours. It was also fascinating to note that most of the women are now able to keep

track of their business transactions. This has really helped them in deciding on which business is viable at the moment.

In the just ended year 2022, each of the women entrepreneurs had outlined a number of goals they wanted to achieve. During the monitoring visits, we were also able to verify whether they had managed to achieve their short-term goals, the challenges they had encountered and plan for this year's goals.



Picture 1 Selina (L) and Dorothy (R) on their business posts

Weekly Village Savings and Loan (VS&L) groups

The weekly VS&L meetings have started on a good note as we have seen high turn up of members to meetings as compared to last year. The deposits have also improved from a minimum of MWK 500 we had in 2022 to MWK 1000. There have also been interests for non-FEM members to join and be part of our VS&L groups. In Tikondane FEM group, the women entrepreneurs have accepted and welcomed one new member to be part of their VS&L. in the reporting month, Tiyanjane members also shared out their 2022 savings. The member with highest savings walked away with MWK 127, 300 and the lowest MWK 47,900. Being Tiyanjane's first year of VS&L, this is impressive and has given the women entrepreneurs courage to do better this year.

	Name	Shares	Emergencies	Interest	Total
1	Emily	30,000.00	1,600.00	18,900.00	50,500.00
2	Editta	34,500.00	4,400.00	9,000.00	47,900.00
4	Maness	96,000.00	4,300.00	27,000.00	127,300.00
5	Sofilet	32,000.00	1,200.00	40,800.00	74,000.00
6	Gladys	27,500.00	2,000.00	19,500.00	49,000.00
7	Dorothy	31,500.00	2,800.00	64,800.00	99,100.00
8	Ireen	37,000.00	2,600.00	36,300.00	75,900.00
9	Tamale	57,500.00	4,000.00	19,800.00	81,300.00
10	Patricia	92,000.00	1,200.00	19,800.00	113,000.00
11	Stella	30,500.00	1,800.00	19,800.00	52,100.00
12	Ndazona	28,500.00	2,800.00	11,700.00	43,000.00
13	Malita	53,500.00	4,000.00	31,800.00	89,300.00
	Total	550,500.00	32,700.00	319,200.00	902,400.00



Picture 2 Individual share-out of Savings for Tiyanjane members Picture 3 FEM members during VS&L meeting

Knitting/ Crochet project

The women entrepreneurs continued with the knitting practice during their free time and have managed to bring in more hats which they are planning to resell and share out the proceeds. Those that have finished their projects come to collect yarn and once they are done, they bring in the item for safe keeping before selling. A checkout system for the knits and crochets was developed to keep the items in check and safe.



Picture 4 Poncho Knitted by Emily



Picture 5 baby Hat and boots Knitted by Ndazona

Refresher training for Book keeping

In one of the VS&L meetings, the women entrepreneurs were reoriented on how they may record business transactions. To ease their work, a simple and small cashbook ledger

booklet was devised (in Chichewa) and distributed out to the women entrepreneurs. In the booklet, the women entrepreneurs will basically be recording transactions that are causing money to come in and out of the business. From the booklet, we would be able to ascertain whether the businesses are profitable or not. It will also help them to know how much profits have been made for the month.

Ndalama Zolowa ku Bizinesi			Ndalama Zotuluka ku Bizinesi		
Tsiku	Njira Zopezera Ndalama	Ndalama	Tsiku	Njira Zotulukira Ndalama	Ndalama

Education Support Program

Introduction

Orant Charities Africa (OCA) implements an education sponsorship program that pays the school fees for students attending primary and secondary schools and university in Malawi. The scholarship is continuous until each student has acquired the necessary knowledge and skills. The program also includes monitoring performance, counseling and mentoring.

The month of January was the beginning of a new term (second term) for secondary students and some University students. During this month, the education program focused on selecting students for the Ulemu scholarship for the 2023/2024 academic year.

Selection of Orant Ulemu scholarship students

The OCA education program received 13 applications for the Ulemu scholarship. During the reporting period, the OCA education committee sat down to assess and select best students based on merit and other factors such as need or vulnerability.

From the 13 applications, the committee selected **two** students who deserve the scholarship. They are all boys, needy and hardworking and they come from Kasese Catchment Area. OCA team led by the Education program manager conducted a verification exercise of the selected students and met them in their homes since they are close by. We found that they are indeed needy students. However, OCA has other students who wrote the 2022 MSCE and are expected to be selected into University this year (2023). Therefore, we will open applications again after the release of names of students selected into University to select other students since the targeted number of students in a year is four.



Education committee meetings during selection of Ulemu students

Selected students for the Orant Ulemu Scholarship



Steven Chiwandira is from Bweya village, one of the villages in Kasese Catchment and is going into second year at Malawi University of Business & Applied Science (MUBAS) on 30th January, 2023. He is studying Bachelor of Industrial Engineering. In his first year,

Steven was supported with school fees and stipend by the government loan. He had no hopes of continuing his studies and he was planning on reserving a place for the next academic year since he has not been given the government scholarship loan.



Gibson Ketulo is from Chikwangula village and he is going into third year at Mzuzu University in April, 2023. Gibson is studying Bachelor of Culinary Arts and he comes from a poor family. For his first two academic years he was being supported

with the government Scholarship loan. In his third year, Gibson has not been offered the loan hence the need to be helped by Orant Charities Ulemu scholarship.

Current Students under the Orant Ulemu Scholarship

Name of Student	Gender	Name of Program	Course Duration	Year of Study
Mary Chipala	F	Bachelor of Education in Business Studies	4	2 nd Year
Bridget Khunga	F	Bachelor of Science in Industrial Laboratory Technology	4	2 nd Year

Chrispine Kaferapanjira	M	Diploma in Pharmacy	3	3 rd Year
Clara Mzumara	F	Bachelor of Arts in Communication & Cultural Studies	4	2 nd Year
Esther Maupa	F	Diploma in Agriculture	3	3 rd Year
Gibson Ketulo	M	Bachelor of Culinary Arts	4	3 rd Year
Steven Chiwandira	M	Bachelor of Industrial Engineering	5	2 nd Year