



MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2020

COMPILED BY

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HEALTHCARE PROGRAM

Introduction

Kasese healthcare program is at the core amongst the four programs of Orant Charities Africa (OCA). The programme, strives to provide comprehensive primary health care which commensurate with the health needs of the population of approximately 36,381 in its catchment areas. The program in this respect provides highest quality healthcare and accessible services within its limited resources through curative services at Kasese static Clinic, community mobile outreach clinics (Bowe & Kasese) and many public health programs.



The health center provides in details the following services: Outpatient's clinic (OPD), 24hrs children's observation ward, Maternal healthcare services like obstetrics (Antenatal care, deliveries, provision of family planning methods, cervical cancer screening e.t.c). In addition, the health Centre provides preventive services through public health like (nutrition supplements, growth monitoring and immunizations).

The healthcare program in its provision of services work in collaboration with ministry of health through Dowa district health offices(DHO), other stake holders like Kasese health Centre advisory committee (HAC), St Andrews hospital, Reach Trust, Girls empowerment network (GENET) and Riders for health.

Population and Distance to the nearest hospitals.

Kasese catchment area has a population of approximately 36,381. The distance to the nearest government hospital is 78km (Dowa district hospital) and to Madisi hospital which is under Christian health association of Malawi (CHAM) is 5km.

Monthly Summary Attendance Reports

Table below shows total monthly patients attendance from different clinics under the healthcare program.

Months(2020)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	J u n e	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	n o v
OPD Kasese clinic	3105	2765	4062	3562	2976	2616	1714	1609	1859	1926	
Bowe Outreach	2450	3143	4578	473	0	0	0	0	1927	3,153	
K a s e s e Outreach	469	714	1041	1010	0	0	0	0	480	182	
Children Ward	128	98	152	105	28	39	18	17	37	44	
W K / N i g h t s / Holiday	88	69	122	100	97	23	36	23	46	44	
Totals	6,240	6,789	9,955	5,250	3,101	2,678	1,768	1,649	4,349	5,349	

The health care program continues to provide excellent care to the residents of Kasese Catchment area in Dowa district and Bowe catchment areas in Kasungu. The major diseases of public health concern in both places and Malawi at large is Malaria, with its epidemics in every rainy season. The entire population is affected, however, pregnant mothers and under five children are at higher risk. From the above table, there were more patients seen from Bowe outreach compared to Kasese

Below is the breakdown of patient's attendance per static and Outreach Clinics, totals exclude maternity and antenatal clinics as they are counted separately. As for the month of October 2020:

- ❖ Total **Number** of patients treated in Bowe outreach clinic 3,153
- ❖ Total Number of patients treated at Kasese outreach clinic 182
- ❖ Total number of patients treated at Bowe and Kasese outreach clinics 3,338
- ❖ Total number of patients treated at KHC OPD and kasese Outreach Clinic 2,196
- ❖ Total number of patients treated by KHC and MOC **5,349**
- ❖ Total number of admission at KHC children ward 44

For womens health.

- ❖ Total number of deliveries at KHC maternity ward-**34**

January	32	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Februar	53	7	1	0	0	0	0	0
March	44	3	0	3	0	0	0	0
April	39	3	3	3	0	0	1	1
May	41	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
June	38	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
July	30	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
August	33	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Septem	37	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
October	34	3	1	0	0	0	0	0

Total maternity attendance for october 2020

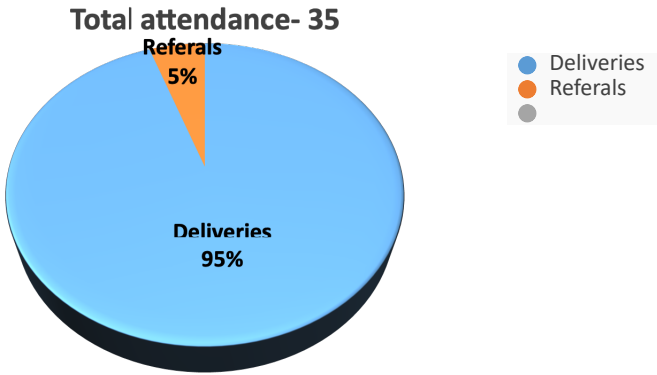


Figure above shows Maternity attendants for the month of October 2020

Cervical Cancer Control Clinic Report.

Cancer of the cervix remains a public health problem in Malawi and amongst the top leading causes of cancer death (MOH, National cervical cancer strategy 2016-2020) In addressing this problem, Kasese health Centre conducts routine visual screening of cervix using acetic acid to women of childbearing age between 25 to 49 years. As for the Month of October 2020, **32** Women were screened and two had VIA Positive, four suspected of having cancer lesion were referred to Kamuzu central hospital for biopsy and further management. Furthermore, they were all supported by OCA in terms of hospital bill payments and bus fares. Below is a table showing Monthly total cases screened and positive results.

Table 1: Monthly number of clients screened for cervical and their outcomes

Month	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	sep	oct	Nov	Dec
TOTAL	36	48	80	31	28	31	30	18	13	32		
positive	0	1	5	4	2	2	1	2	2	4		

Family Planning Service.

The health Centre conducts family planning clinics once a week on Wednesdays, in accordance to the ministry of health (MOH) policies and in coordination with BLM. Orant Charities Africa (OCA) understand that Family planning increase maternal and child survival through timing spacing of pregnancies and by helping couples plan pregnancies during the healthiest time within a woman reproductive cycle. Furthermore, Orant understand that preventing unintended pregnancies especially among the high risk group and vulnerable in society is key to improving Maternal and new-born child outcomes.

As such, there is good linkage with government health system, non-governmental organisations like (BLM) in family planning provision, whereby government provide supplies and trainings to healthcare workers and the health centre provide the technical service. The methods offered includes oral pills, injectable and Implanons to women of reproductive age as per their choices and medical indications. As seen from the graph below many clients opt for injectable Depo-Provera family planning method because it is easy to administer.

The month of October 2020 a total of **288** patients received Depo Provera injection. While **12** clients opted for Norplant’s method, as it’s the second most liked method. Three clients received Permanent family planning methods e.g. bilateral tubal ligations (BTL).

Figure below shows Family Planning Clinic Attendance and methods provided.

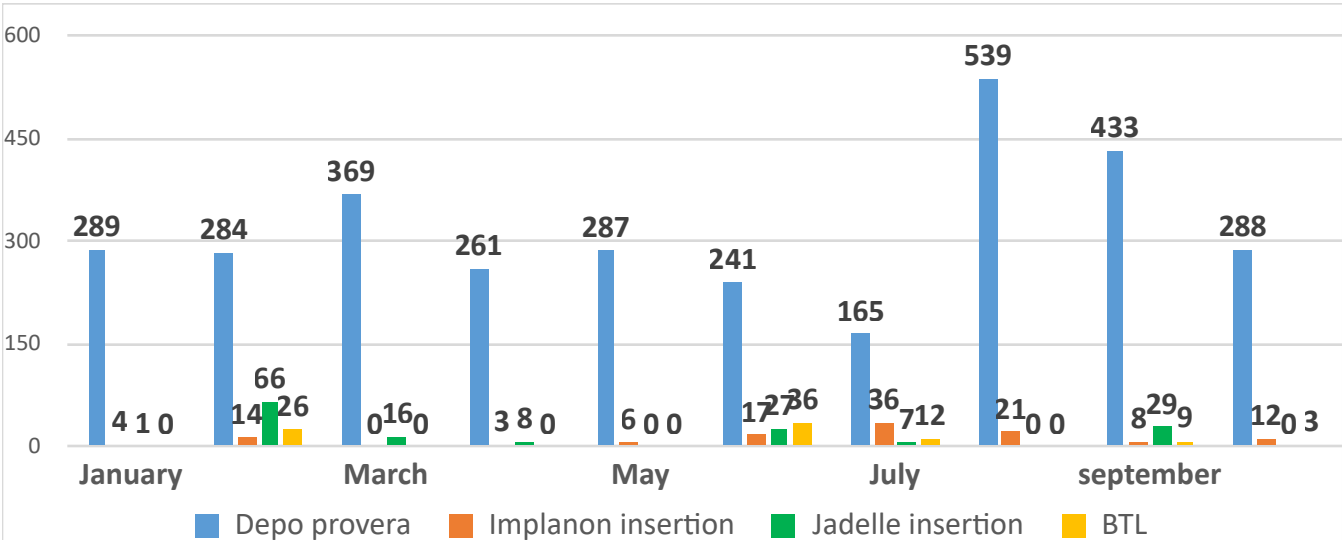
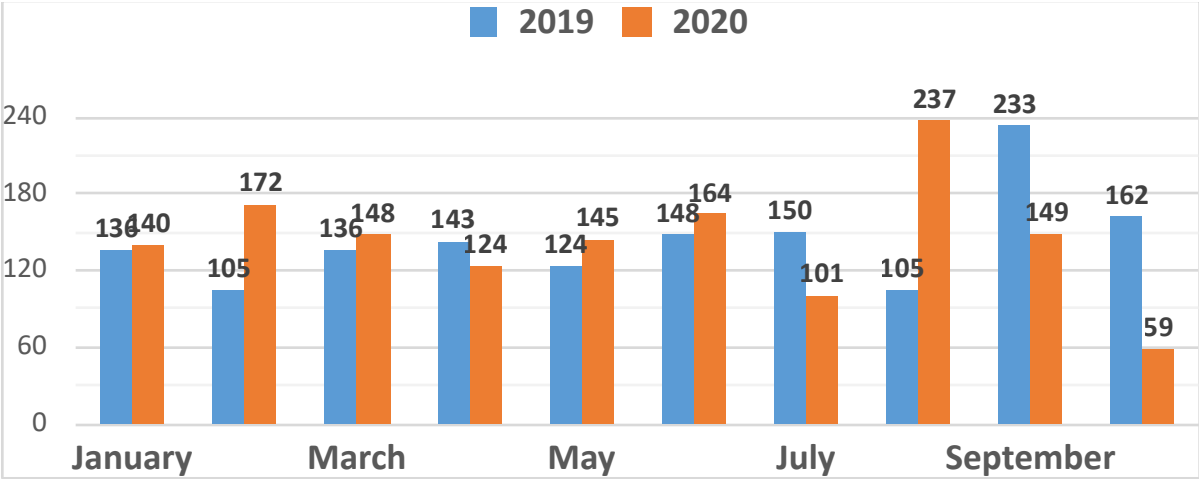


Figure below shows Number of Adolescents (12-24year) accessing Family Planning Methods for the year 2019 and 2020.

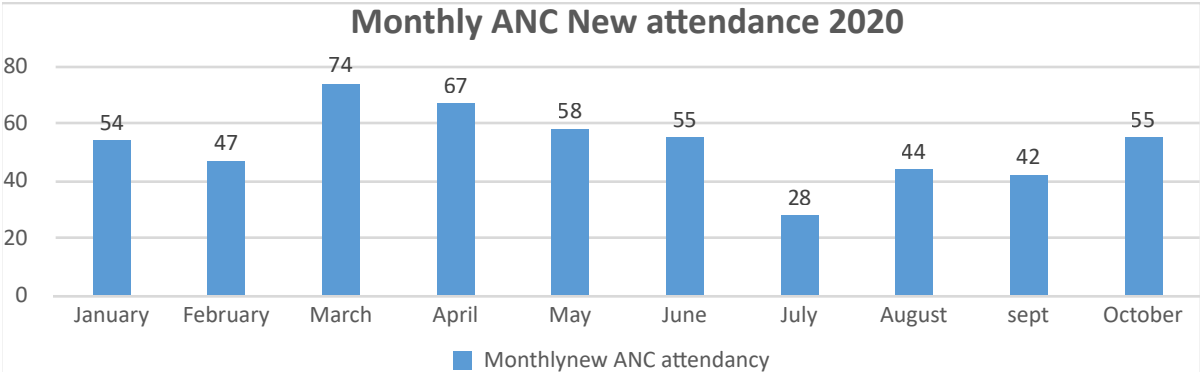


Antenatal Care (prenatal care)

The health Centre conducts prenatal (antenatal) clinics twice a week, on Tuesdays for those enrolling for the first time and Thursdays for subsequence visit.

The recommended ANC visit by world health organization (WHO) is more than 8 which should start as early as possible. However, according to the data many women do not comply due to several reason, like cultural, knowledge of pregnancies and others it could be lack of access to healthcare due to factors like distance. However, for those who start on time, during the Antenatal clinics, they receive; two doses of Tetanus toxoid vaccines(TTV),3 doses of SP tablets, FEFOL tablets, albendazole, Insecticides Treated Nets(ITNS) and all get tested for syphilis with their partners.

Figure below shows Monthly antenatal attendance(ANC)



HIV/AIDS CLINIC.

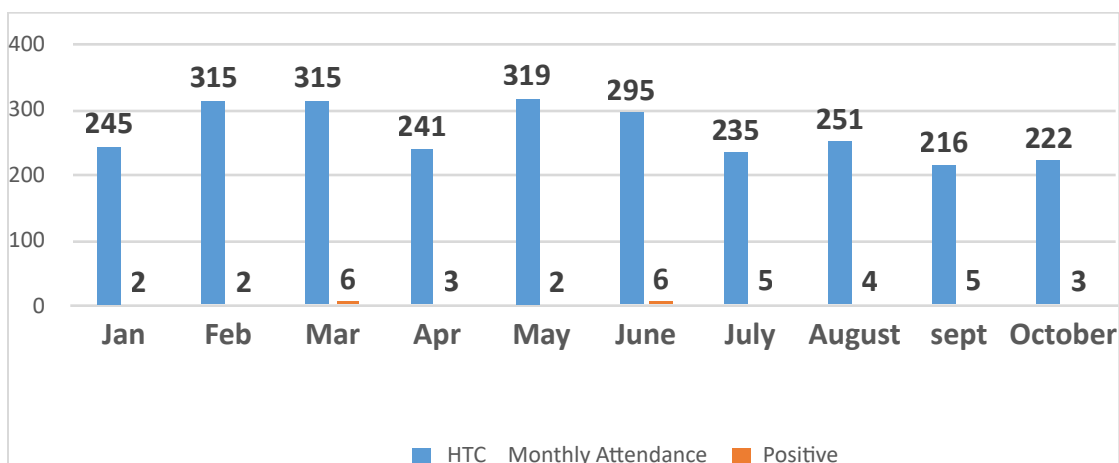
The Health Centre HIV/AIDS Clinic continues to provide excellent ART/ TB care as depicted by quarterly awards of certificate of excellence by the Malawi ministry of health through HIV/AIDS unit.

The Clinic so far has a cohort of **275** patients alive on anti-retroviral(ART) medicine. As for the month of October 2020, **222** clients were tested for HIV and only 3 were positive. Those on the program, Good percentage of them continues to get their viral results which are routinely done at every visit according to their milestone. Furthermore, the clinic nurses continue to switch patient's treatment from 5A to 13A which is DTG based regimens. (DTG/3TC/TDF) as per ministry of health guidelines.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic and in order to reduce clinic congestion, the health Centre continues to provide 6 month bottles supply of ARV to all clients who are stable on treatment (ART).

Care and support group

The health centre has got a support group of 42 members of people living with HIV/AIDS(PLWHIV/AIDS), the group is composed of men and women who are open to the public on their HIV status. The main objective of the group is to support each other in terms of psychologically, socially and enhancement of their live hood. They meet monthly to discuss many achievements and challenges face by people living with HIV/AIDS.





The above picture shows a nurse dispensing ARVS at the Clinic.

HIV testing and counselling

The health centre conducts optional HIV counselling and testing to general public and antenatal mothers as prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT). The HIV prevalence rate is at 1.2% against national prevalence rate of 8.2%.

Graph below shows monthly HIV testing and counselling (HTC) attendances and number of HIV Positives cases.

EYE CLINIC

The outsourced eye Clinician from St Andrews hospital resumed the eye Clinic service on 20/09/2020, after the Eye Clinic was temporarily suspended from march 2020 due to COVID 19 pandemic. A total of 28 patients were treated majority being elderly. four patients were booked for cataract eye surgery which will take place at St Andrews hospital situated in Kasungu.

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

Month	August	October	Nov	Dec				
Total	41	28						
Booked for surgery.	6	4						

Laboratory Services.



The health Centre Laboratory department continues to conduct and provide a reliable tests befitting primary health care level, the most common test being rapid test trips, basic microscopic tests for example Tb, malaria tests (MRDTS) and HIV tests. As for the month of October 2020 the health Centre conducted the following tests.

Complete blood count tests.

The health centre conduct a full blood count test to the only special cases and for this month of October 2020, **21** tests were conducted.

Malaria Report.

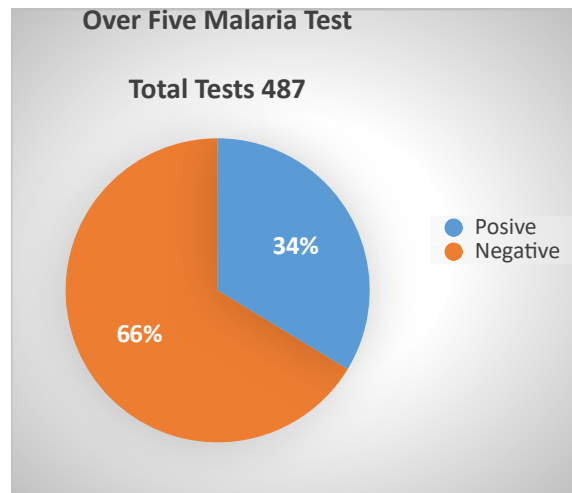
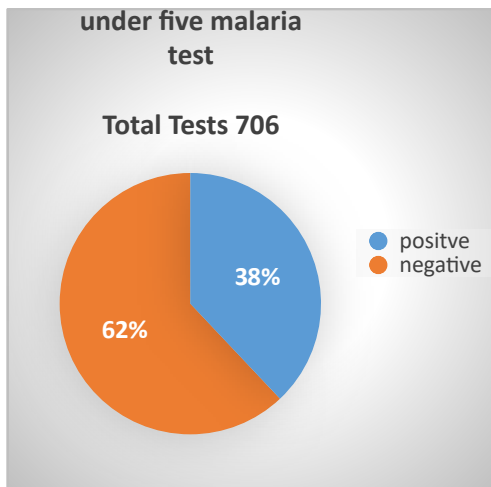
The Malaria test is conducted both rapid test (MRDTS) and microscopy blood smear slides. The Malaria burden is less at this time around as seen from the laboratory positivity rates which is below 50%. For the month of October 2020, a total of **1,193** Malaria tests were done and those positive were **432**, represent 37% positivity rate.

For Children under five years, total test done were **706** and those Positive were **268**. For over five years' total test were **487** and those positive were **164**.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct
Malaria Suspected Cases	2734	2482	3861	3761	2253	1538	875	694	1039	1193
Suspected Cases Tested MRDT	2734	2482	3825	3761	2253	1538	871	694	1039	1193
Confirmed Malaria Cases	1854	1697	2694	3044	1758	952	408	205	282	432
New cases Registered	1854	1697	2730	3044	1758	952	412	205	282	432
Total LA Dispensed	1816	1758	2730	3027	1713	840	412	205	230	427
Total LA Issued	1860	2910	2280	3300	2790	2040	1140	1050	1110	990

The table below shows the total malaria suspected cases, and the actual confirmed (MRDTS positive) verse LA tablets dispense to treat it (year 2020).

Figures below Shows under five years, and over five years' percentage of Malaria tests for the month of October 2020.



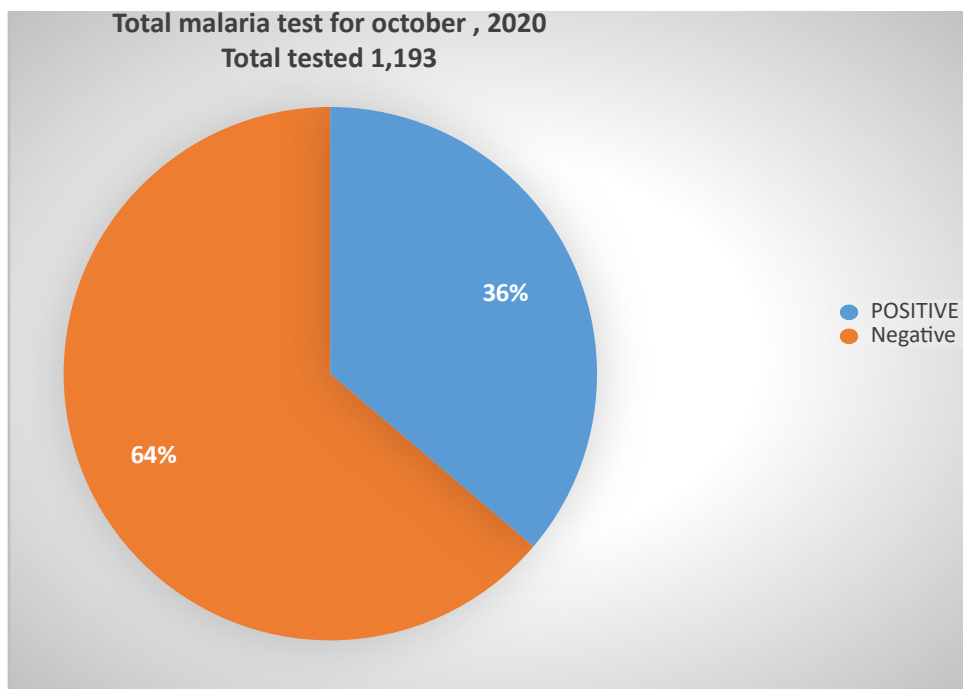


Table Below show other Laboratory tests conducted

Tests	Total tests	Result(positive)
H. PYLORIS	41	7
Salmonella	13	3
Hep B	7	0
VDRL	2	0
HCG	41	13
TB MICROSCOPY	4	0
GLUCOSE	56	

Clinic administrations and capacity building.

- A Clinician (George) a nurse, (Oliveta) and 3 patients care attendance(PCA) from maternity department, attended a two days training on baby friendly hospital initiatives(BFHI) held in Madisi hospital. The main objective of the training is to equip health practitioners on effective breast feeding practices for better nutritional health of the infants and babies.
- Through the ministry of health(MOH), under the sponsorship of Canadian physician for aid and Relief(CPAR) the health centre held a two days training at the facilitate on capacity building for health advisory committee(HAC). Among the things they learn is

their roles as HAC members, health entitlements and rights of the patients, effective advocacy, how to monitor facility functionality and local resource mobilisation just to mention a few.

Below picture shows the facilitator and HAC members having a training lessons.



- Partnership-The health centre is in contemplating of partnership with White Ribon alliance organisation, the partnership focuses on safe mother hood. The organisation seeks coalition of several civil society organisations in advocating for safe mother hood and women rights. In Malawi among the issue they advocate for is women dignity, privacy, equality, cleanliness, timeliness and attentive care by healthcare workers etc.

Below picture shows a staff from white Ribon alliance organisation and Orant Charities Africa lead clinician posing for a picture after brief meeting held in Mponela.



Medical Equipment and Supplies.

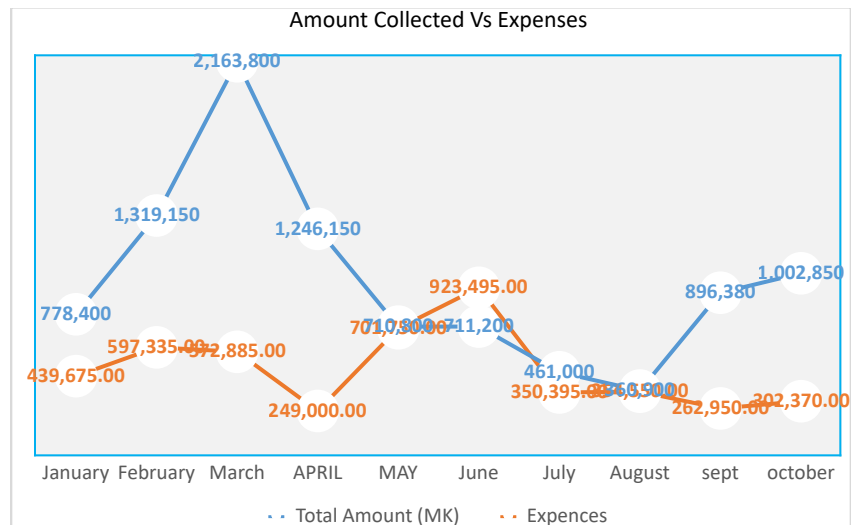
The health centre managed to procure one of the most essential equipment - Oxygen Concentrator. It's very important in a sense that Kasese health centre is situated along M1 road and there are frequent incident of road traffic accident and oxygen concentrator is useful during resuscitations of the victims prior to referrals. The equipment is also useful for oxygen supplement during the COVID 19 pandemic in case there is a case in need of it. We are thankful for our management and board for the support.



Healthcare Finance

The Health Centre's major funding is from donors (Orant Charities USA), which the health Centre. In addition, the health Centre charge a small user fee from patients, User fee collection is the little money the patients pay at the Clinic entry point (cashier desk). The fee is within the means and resources of our average community member. However, those who cannot afford are not barred from accessing the services, while others are exempted in accordance to the user fee policy. For the month of October 2020, the money collected amounted to MK 1,002,850 (**1,337 USD**) at the same time the health Centre assisted good number of destitute patients with bus fare and payment of hospital bills at Madisi hospital amounting to **MK302,370** (USD 403.2).

Figure below shows monthly user fee collected verses expenses.



WATER PROGRAM



Introduction

OCA Water program aims at reducing morbidity and mortality of people of Kasese through improved access to water supply, sanitation facilities and good hygiene practices. In line with this program goal as well as in an effort towards further contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) especially through ensuring access to clean water and sanitation for all. During the month October OCA water program achieved the following milestones;

- Drilled 2 boreholes
- Supported repairs for 8 Afridev pumps
- Trained 1 WPC in Community Based Management of Afridev pumps
- Presented 2020 progress report at the District Coordinating Team (DCT) meeting
- Conducted Area Mechanics meeting
- Stakeholders Meeting
- Conducted sensitization meetings with chiefs in 5 water program clusters

DETAILED NARRATION OF MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

1. Borehole/ Well drilling

OCA continues to support rural communities through drilling of new water wells in areas with limited access to portable drinking water. In October, 2020 OCA drilled 2 more well at Ngala Primary school and Mzimuwakana Village. The two wells were drilled between 26th to 29th October, 2020. Furthermore, in all these two new wells communities have constructed wells to protect their well from contamination. Below is demographic data for the two wells;

VILLAGE	GVH	TA	ESTIMATED POPULATION	MONTH DRILLED	YEAR DRILLED
Ngala School	Nkhandwe	Chakhadza	600	October	2020
Mzimuwakana	Nankumba	Chakhadza	340	October	2020

Before



A pregnant woman drawing water from unprotected shallow well before Orant drilled a borehole in Mzimuwakana village (Right)

After



Newly drilled borehole in Mzimuwakana village during fence construction

2. Water Pump repairs



Team work between OCA staff, Area Mechanic and community members in Chimamba village (left) and the children enjoying water after the pump repaired in Chimamba village

In order to ensure sustainable functionality of water points within OCA catchment. OCA water program continues to repair of broken Afridev pumps. In the month of October,

2020, OCA managed to repair a total of 8 Afridev pump from villages across the catchment. The table presents details of the pumps repaired in the month;

No.	VILLAGE	GVH	PROBLEM	MATERIALS	REMARKS
1	Bwanyundo	Chanduzi	Worn out hunger pin & fulcrum pin	10 Rod Centralizers, 4 Bush bearing, cup seal	Successfully done
2	Buza	Josen	Worn out rod centralizers	12 Rod centralizers, 2 bush bearing, 1 cup	Successfully done
3	Bweya School	Bweya	Broken bush bearings	4 bush bearings, 10 rod centralizers, 1 fulcrum pin, 1 hunger pin	Successfully done
4	Chikaphula	Chikaphula	Pump rods stuck the well	6 PVC pipes, 1 Rod, 10 rod centralizers, 4 bush bearings, 1 O-ring, 2 bobbins	Successfully done
5	Chimamba	Chimamba	Plunger stuck in the cylinder	4 pipes, 1 bobbin, 1 cup seal, 7 double-end sockets, 5 pipe centralizers, 4 bush bearings, 1 u-seal	Successfully done
6	Inje 2	Inje	Worn out centralizers and hunger pin	1 Hunger pin, 1 rod, 6 rod centralizers, 4 bush bearing, 1 cup seal, 1 bobbin.	Successfully done
7	Inje 1	Inje	Worn rod centralizers	10 rod centralizers, 1 Bobbin, 1 u-seal	Successfully done
8	Mkwinya	Ndalama	Worn out	9 rod centralizers, 1 rod	Successfully done

3. District Coordination Team (DCT) Meeting

During the month, on the 28th of October, 2020 OCA was invited to attend a DCT meeting in Dowa. DCT meetings are organized to promote coordination among WASH related district stakeholders as well share WASH projects progress in the district. During the meeting OCA water program was privileged to present its 2020 progress report. The meeting was organized and sponsored by the Dowa District Council. Following the meeting stakeholders appreciated the progress OCA has made in the year so far and further pledged support for OCA activities as needed. During the meeting it was revealed that the reports presented by stakeholders will be incorporated into a Dowa District Joint

Sector Report (JSR) which will further be incorporated into the regional and national JSR.

4. Meeting with Area Mechanics



Water Field Assistant leading discussions during the meeting with Area Mechanics

On the 2nd of October, 2020 OCA Water program organized a meeting with 4 Afridev pump Area Mechanics (AM) working in OCA catchment. Area Mechanics are government trained artisans who are responsible for repairing pumps in the villages at an agreed price between WPCs, government and themselves. OCA organized the meeting with the aim to familiarize new water program staff with AMs as well strategize how best the water program can work with these AMs. Following the meeting the following major resolutions;

- AM agreed to share reports on pump breakdown, preventive maintenance and repairs with OCA.
- OCA water program promised to continue working with AMs in pump repairs/ preventive maintenance.
- OCA further promised to help in advocating for service contract which AMs sign with WPCs to service their pump at 4 times (quarterly) at an annual charge of K 15, 000.00 (agreed with WPCs, local leaders and government).

The following is a list of AMs working within OCA catchment and how they are distributed in the catchment;

NAME	SEX	CATCHMENT	N o . O F AFRIDEV PUMPS	CONTACT	Y E A R TRAINED
Kachipande Chilasa	M	G V H Chapuwala, Inje, Ndalama	52	0995671089	2017
Isaac Mfakose	M	G V H Chikaonda, Chikamphula	100	0995280739	2007
Solophina Wilfred	F	GVH Bweya, Josen	43	0999535460	2015

E n e l e s F Maxwell	GVH Chidya, Makombwa	79	0992319804	2015
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5. Stakeholders Meeting



Water program Manager (Left) leading discussions during stakeholders meeting. And a group photo (Right) with OCA water program stakeholders after meeting

On the 8th of October OCA water program organized a stakeholder's meeting. The meeting was organized with aim of sharing progress of the water program and review responsibilities of different stakeholders in the water program. Furthermore, the stakeholders meeting also acted as a familiarization meeting for new water program staff with different stakeholders thereby ensuring coordination with these stakeholders. The meeting was held at Kasese OCA campus. Attendance during the meeting included; 5 Chiefs from the water program, 4 Health Surveillance Assistants (HSAs) representatives, 4 Afridev Pump Area Mechanics from within OCA catchment, Primary Education Advisor (PEA) for Katalima zone and a representative from Inter-Aide; a partner NGO implementing an Afridev pump Operation and Maintenance project within OCA catchment. Key discussion during the meeting included;

- Progress of the water program in 2020 so far
- Roles and responsibility of these stakeholder in OCA water program
- Strengthening partnerships among these stakeholders
- Area Mechanics preventive maintenance contract.

6. Sensitization Meetings with Chiefs

Water program stakeholders meeting was followed by sensitization meeting with chiefs in the villages with OCA catchment. This meeting built on the same agenda discussed during the stakeholders meeting within the month. During the month five meetings were conducted for five clusters represented by five chiefs from OCA water program committee. Chiefs from these clusters attended the meetings which were held at selected locations within their clusters. The meetings were aimed at sensitizing the chiefs on their roles within OCA water program as well as promote preventive maintenance of Afridev pumps. Preventive maintenance stipulates that WPC should enter into an agreement with Area Mechanic to service their pump once every 3 months (4 times a year) at an annual service charge of K15, 000.

This preventive maintenance has potential of reducing frequent breakdowns which increases cost of pump repairs and management of water points thereby ensuring sustainable access to safe water for the communities with OCA catchment. Preventive maintenance is also being promoted by both Dowa District Council and a partner NGO Inter-Aide.



Sensitization Meeting with Chiefs from GVH Ndalama cluster

7. Water Quality Testing



Government Water Chemist collecting water samples for water quality testing at a newly drilled borehole in Zindo village

In order to ensure adherence to drinking water standards as well as provision of safe drinking water to the communities around Kasese Health Centre. OCA invited a Chemist from Governments' Central Laboratory to collect water samples for testing on two newly drilled water wells namely; Zindo and Mphamba which were drilled in September, 2020. The water quality results for the two boreholes are expected within the month of November, 2020 with recommendations for action as well as record keeping.

8. CBM Training for Water Point Committees (WPCs)



Practical Session (Left) during CBM training for Nyanda WPC and Classroom (Right) session during CBM training at Nyanda Village

To ensure sustainable management of Afridev pumps by communities OCA continues to train WPC in Community Based Management (CBM). During the month OCA organized CBM trainings for Nyanda WPC from 16th to 19th of October, 2020. The training was held in Nyanda Village, GVH Nkhandwe, TA Chakhadza in Dowa. Among the facilitators of the training were OCA Water program staff, Water Monitoring Assistant from Water department –Dowa, Afridev Pump Area Mechanic – Bweya catchment and Health Surveillance Assistant from Kasese Health Centre/ Dowa District Health Office. The training was attended by 10 WPC members (5 males and 5 females). Also in attendance during the meeting was Village headman Nyanda and his deputy. The following were some of the key lessons during the training;

- Afridev Pump functionality, repair and Area Mechanic service contract.
- Water Handling, Hygiene, sanitation and Covid 19.
- Borehole hygiene and water related diseases prevention
- Water Point fundraising, management and record keeping
- Roles of Water Point committees and other relevant stakeholders
- Development of action plans for water management

CHALLENGES

- Presence of salty aquifers in some villages prevents those needy villages from being allocated a borehole despite need for water.

RECOMMENDATION/CONCLUSION

Despite some challenges the water program still managed to implement all its planned activities. Furthermore, the water program is enjoying the blossoming partnership with both Government water department and Inter-Aide; a partner NGO in Afridev pump operation and maintenance. These partnerships have a potential of promoting coordination, visibility as well as sustainability of OCA initiatives within Dowa district.

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM



Gracious, Our Agriculture Extension Officer posing with farmers from Mvunguti irrigation club.

Introduction

For the reporting month of October 2020, Agriculture program conducted projects in areas of Irrigation farming and demonstration plots. These activities have been explained below.

1. Planting

Planting has to be done with extra care to meet planting population per planned area. This can be achieved through following proper planting spacing and proper ridge/line/bed spacing. Timvane irrigation club was taken through these processes on 3 acres land whereby DKC 80-33 maize variety was planted by 37 club members. Members were also advised to plant one seed per planting station at a distance of 25cm. The club members were also advised to conduct seed replanting (where seeds did not germinate) within first week after seedling emergence and if delayed beyond this period, it will result in low performance and uneven growth in the stand and shading each other.

2. Manure/Fertilizer application

Soils have been over-cultivated in most areas of the country and it has lost much of the nutrients hence it needs combination application of manure and fertilizer for better harvest. Madzimayela club is producing SC 403 maize variety whereby manure and basal dressing fertilizer was applied for good harvest. Madzimeyela has cultivated 2 acres land with 18 members doing all tasks. The crop has been targeted to be harvested during the months of January or February where it is expected to fetch better prices.

Other clubs producing tomato and maize crops such as Mvunguti, Ndalusa and Chigona were involved in top dressing fertilizer application. These clubs were taught on the type of fertilizer for top dressing application and best time for top dressing fertilizer application for bumper harvest. For Maize production the farmers were advised to use UREA and for tomato production were advised to use D-compound fertilizer for top dressing application.



Crop well applied with manure and fertilizer

3. Marketing of the produce

Tomato is perishable crop and has to be sold immediately after harvesting to overcome problems of damages. Kasangadzi irrigation club is in process of harvesting tomato fruits and marketing exercise took place to ensure that high percentage of harvested tomatoes are sold to get enough profits from the production. There is high expectation that the club members will get adequate profits from this production cycle since the crop was not greatly affected by pests and disease. Matchedza irrigation club is also in process of harvesting maize. Matchedza was producing maize at 2 acres land and is being sold as fresh maize (green maize). The club members placed much of their effort during production process hence the crop has done very well and is expected to come out with more profits.



Maize crop ready for consumption as green

maize

4. Training on pests and disease control, and Crop variety selection

As different crops are getting attacked with different pests and disease, different chemicals are needed to deal with these problems. Bayer representatives paid a visit to one of our irrigation clubs where tomato and maize crops are produced. The visit focused much on identifying new pests and diseases which attacked the crops and its immediate chemicals for the control of these problems. Club members were also trained on how to use these chemicals for effective

results. Some of the chemicals discussed on this training include Decis forty, Belt, Folica and Dainamech. Bayer also explained to farmers some maize varieties which are best in irrigation farming and rainfall production. Total number of famers who benefited from this training were 24 and these farmers were from villages of Zozo, Suzumile and Nyanda.



5. Microloan payment

Harvesting is in progress in several irrigation clubs such as Kasangadzi and Matchedza. These clubs have started paying back the microloans. However, the club members are lobbying that they should also get microloans for rain-fed farming to alleviate problems of hunger.

Demonstration plots layout

Demonstrations are considered as best way of teaching smallholder farmers in rural areas and OCA will hold several demonstration plots on OCA farm through partnership with other companies such as Bayer and Farmers world. Bayer is willing to demonstrate four different maize varieties and seven different chemicals on OCA demonstration farm. Farmers world is also willing to demonstrate cash crop such as Soya and food crop such as Maize crop. The total land of 3 acres will be covered with these demonstration plots.

EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM



Nkhamenya girls students after receiving masks from OCA

Executive Summary

Students have returned to school on 12th October 2020 after a long break due to the COVID-19 outbreak. COVID-19 has put education in Malawi and the world over in disarray. However, there is need to continue educating and preparing the human capital needs of the country hence the reopening.

The following were the activities conducted by OCA education program in the month of October;

School visits

OCA has a total number of **22** schools where the sponsored students are learning. 18 being secondary schools, 2 primary schools and 2 Universities. OCA managed to visit 13 secondary schools and 1 primary school within the reporting period.

Distribution of masks

With funds raised from Masks for Malawi campaign, OCA embarked on masks production and produced a total of **22,947** masks. A total of **7150** masks has been distributed to 14 secondary schools where OCA is supporting students. OCA did not provide masks to sponsored students only but to all students in a school including teachers and support staff.

Name of school	Number of Masks distributed
Tchale CDSS	115

Ngala CDSS	170
Natola CDSS	476
Dowa Sec. school	600
Byanzi Sec. school	429
Chayamba Sec. school	920
Madisi Sec. school	1000
Chamkango CDSS	400
Likuni Girls Sec. school	645
Nkhamenya Girls Sec. school	460
Lilongwe Girls Sec. school	700
Mziza Mission Sec. school	220
Chigodi CDSS	515
Dzenza Secondary school	500
Total	7150

Masks distribution in schools

☑ Below are the pictures of students in some schools where OCA distributed masks



Chigodi CDSS Students



Madisi Sec school student



Dowa Secondary school students

At Chayamba secondary school, OCA did not only provide masks to the school but also Granular Chlorine(25kgs) for disinfection, 100 tablets of Soap, 10 handwashing buckets. This was upon their request and OCA's interventions against Corona Virus. Therefore, OCA managed to help them with the above mentioned things.



Chayamba Secondary school students after receiving the donations from OCA

Replacement of Students

During the Covid-19 lock down of school. OCA education program had five students (girls) who dropped out of school due to pregnancy. Amongst the five; two are from Ngala CDSS, one from Byanzi secondary school, one from Nkhamenya secondary school and one from Tchale CDSS. However, to still maintain the number (97) of sponsored students OCA had, it was necessary to replace the dropout students with other new vulnerable students. Therefore, when schools opened in the month of October, the students have been replaced from the same schools and in the same class where the others have dropped out. Two of the students are in form 2 while three are in form 3.

Payment of school fees

OCA has paid school fees for all students in all schools in the month of October, 2020.

Malawi School Certificate of Education (MSCE) exams

OCA had three students writing Malawi School certificate of education (MSCE). The students are from Nkhamenya Girls secondary school and they started writing the exams on 28th October 2020. Unfortunately, after one week, the exams were cancelled due to widespread leakage. This has badly affected students because the delay in education is risking the future of students, especially girls. Hundreds of girls across the country are falling pregnant and others getting married since the schools closed in March 2020.