



MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2018

BY

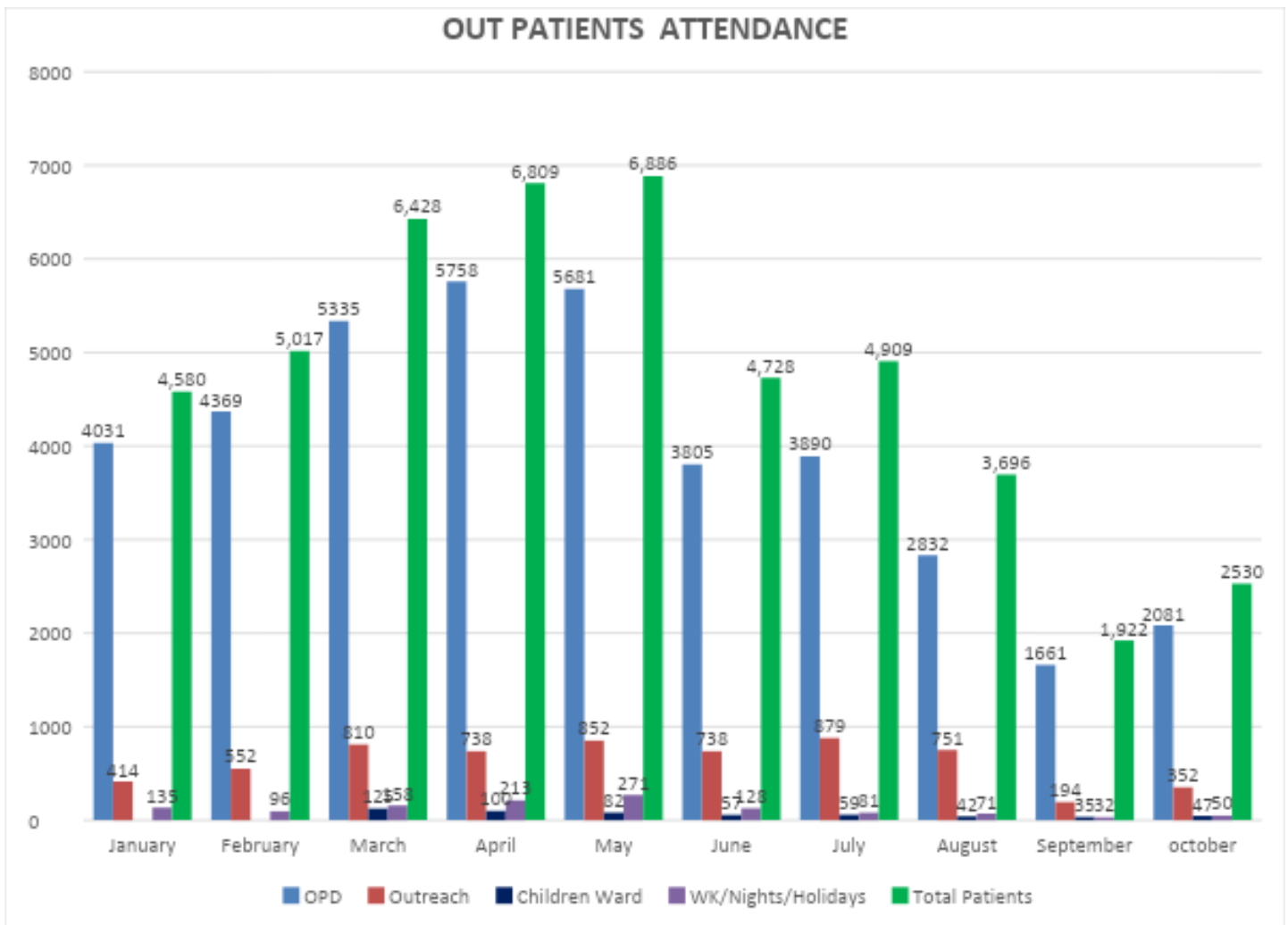
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(COUNTRY DIRECTOR)

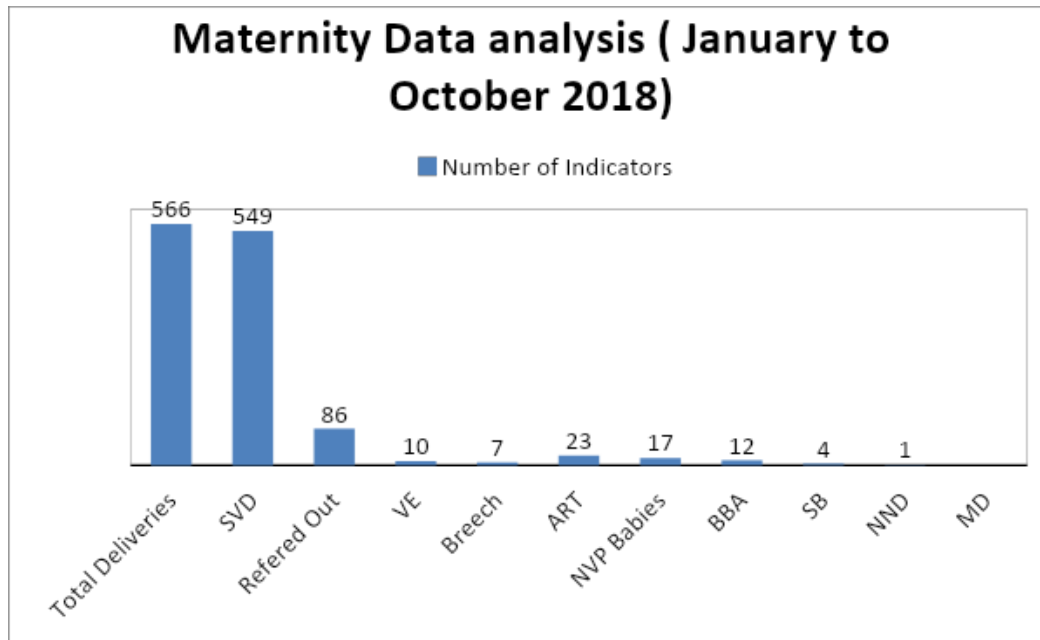
HEALTHCARE PROGRAM

Health centers patient's attendance

For the month of October 2018 the clinic saw a total of **2,530** patients; **74.2%** were from with Kasese catchment area while **25.8 %** were from outside the catchment area. **47** children were admitted in 24hrs observation ward. In addition, nurses conducted **90** safe obstetric deliveries in maternity ward, and **354** patients were seen in the community outreach clinic. While the eye clinic attended to 19 patients and 5 have been booked to undergo eye cataract surgery on 14th November 2018 at St. Andrews Hospital.

Figure 1 below shows the clinic attendance.





key: **SVD**- spontaneous vertex delivery. **NND**- Neonatal death . **MD**- Maternal deaths.

V/E- Vacuum extraction. **NVP** – Nevezapine drugs. **Breech**- type of delivery.

ART- Antiretrovirals Therapy. **BBA**- Born before arrival at hospital. **SB** – Still birth

During this time of the year there is low malaria incidence and the most common medical conditions are skin disease like scabies and chickenpox. The health center did not have a shortage of medicine and medical supplies and on 02/11/2018, the health center received 2 cartons containing tablets of ferrous sulphate and folic acid medicine from UNICEF.

Two children from the nearby village were seriously injured when an explosive device detonated on them. The device is believed to have been left behind by Malawi Defence Force soldiers during their training exercise conducted early this year around Ngala forest. When the device exploded, it amputated four digits of the left hand of one child; both children received first line treatment at OCA and thereafter were referred to Dowa district hospital for further treatment. Police were informed and they are handling the issue.

ART Clinic Supervision

The Ministry of Health conducted routine quarterly supportive supervision and mentorship at Kasese Health Center. This time the health center performed well by scoring 100 percent and was awarded certificate of excellence. Great improvement was seen in the viral load uptake. All the records were up to date and management of patients was excellent. There are a few changes in guidelines in the management of patients on ARVs . Therefore, we received communication that all the staff responsible for ART care will undergo training very soon.

Malaria Review Meetings

Two clinicians and a data clerk attended a quarterly data review meeting held in Mponela organized by Malaria control program through Dowa DHO. The aim of the meeting was to disseminate data analysis

reports and the 2019 strategic plans for the program. The Ministry of Health plans to distribute insect treated nets to all registered households starting 5th –to -10th November 2018, and will also conduct insect indoor residual spray using DDTs in some areas. Specifically, in areas supported by World Vision, and in T/A CHAKHAZA, Dowa.

WATER PROGRAM



The following major milestones were realized:

- Drilled and constructed 1 borehole.
- Carried out water quality testing and analysis for the new borehole.
- Commenced construction of 3 school latrines.
- Repaired 10 water wells (Boreholes).
- Built capacity for Water Point Committees in water point management and Repair (CBM trainings).

Borehole Drilling and Construction

During the reporting period, OCA managed to increase access to potable water to 560 new beneficiaries of Makosana village which is under GVH M'biya through the newly drilled 58-meter borehole.

Makosana village is located in of the hard to reach areas and has remained backward in as far as access to clean water is concerned. Before OCA's intervention, villagers used to draw water from unprotected sources as depicted in the images below. The construction of the new borehole will go a long way in enhancing public health in the area.



Figure 3: images showing the old (left) and the new(right) water sources in Makosana village

This borehole brings the total number of boreholes drilled in 2018 to 5. The map below shows the spatial distribution of the 5 boreholes that have been drilled this far.

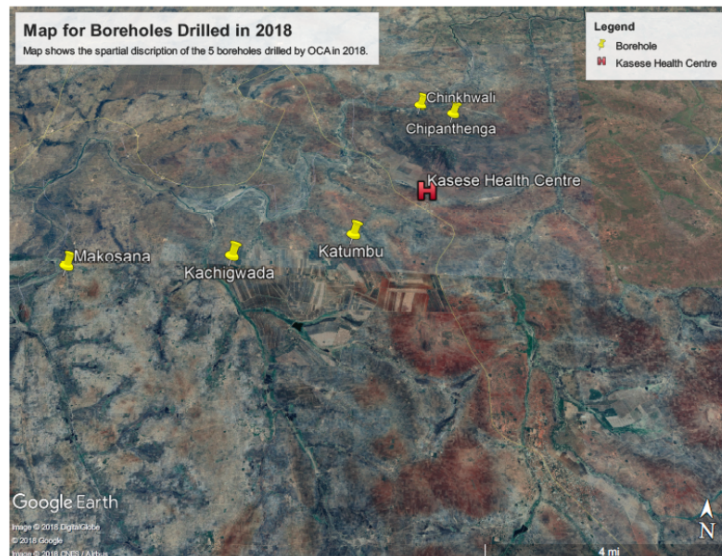


Figure 4: Map for OCA Boreholes drilled in 2018

Water Quality Testing and Analysis.

Following the drilling of a new borehole in Makosana village, there was need to ascertain the quality of water if it was fit for human consumption as per World Health Organization (WHO) and Malawi Bureau of Standards (MS) standards. OCA thus engaged the Central Water Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Water Development to carry out a full biological and chemical analysis. The water samples were analyzed for results indicated that the water was fit for human consumption.

Construction of Latrines in Schools.

Access to water and sanitation services in schools creates an enabling environment for learners to excel in their education as these services directly affect both physical and psychological wellbeing. Studies

further indicate that while players are making strides in improving general sanitation in schools, menstrual hygiene issues are left behind. Apparently most girls in rural African set up drop out of school at primary level due to menstrual hygiene issues. Having menstrual hygiene management facilities in primary schools contributes towards retaining adolescent girls in schools as it creates a conducive learning environment for them. OCA commenced the construction of a 3 door latrine at N'dinga primary school in GVH Chapuwala in Kasese catchment area.



Figure 5: Images depicting the dilapidated state of latrines at N'dinga primary school

The latrines being constructed are girl's latrines which also have a special wash room for menstrual hygiene management. Construction of the latrines will provide the required privacy and the first ever access to a menstrual hygiene facility to 164 adolescent girls. At the time of compiling this report, the works were 65 percent complete as depicted in the images below.



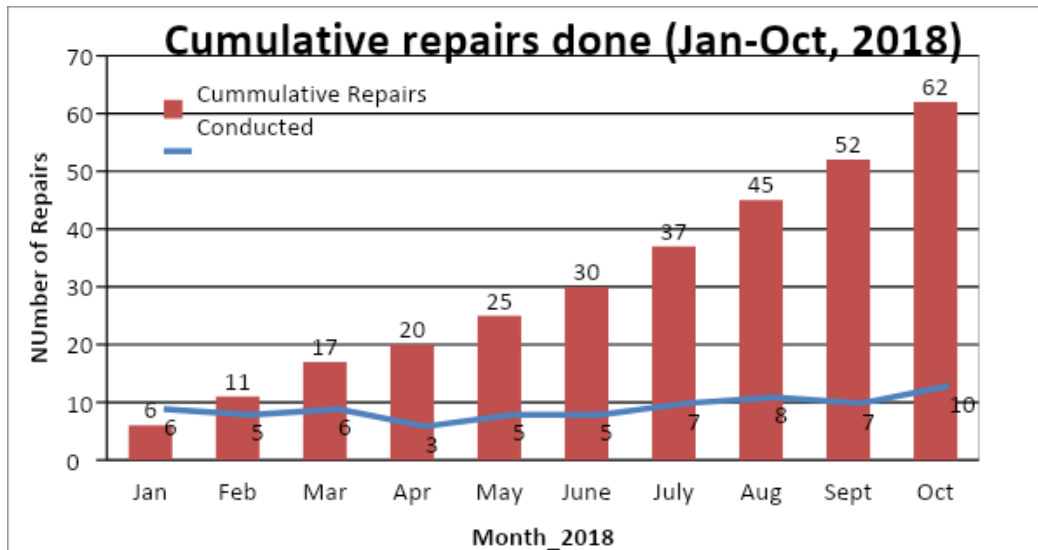
Figure 6: Latrine at a substructure phase



Figure 7: Construction at superstructure level

Borehole (Well) Repairs

OCA puts much effort in borehole repairs considering that access to water in the post MDG era is said to also be greatly impinged by the non-functionality of water points. OCA labors to minimize the downtime of water supply facilities in its catchment area and hence maintain access to safe water supply. During the reporting period, **10 wells were repaired**. These repairs ranged from fixing full set of pump inner parts to a complete overhaul of the pump. The graphical presentation below shows the reach of OCA's repairs in 2018 alone which had risen to 62 as of October, 2018.



Capacity Building for Water Point Committees

In a quest to build the communities’ capacity in sustainable management of water supply facilities, OCA trains community representatives grouped into committees called Water Point Committees, the trainings are tailor made but also largely conforms to the government of Malawi’s standard operating procedures which requires provision of Community Based Management (CBM) trainings to all WPCs manning water points in Malawi. Three kinds of these trainings were conducted which were: (1) pre drilling training, (2) Full post drilling CBM training and (3) Refresher CBM trainings.

Pre-drilling and full CBM trainings took place in Makosana village and this was for new committee. Before borehole drilling Malawi government guidelines requires that a Water Point Committee (WPC) be instituted and trained in borehole drilling supervision to aid them successfully supervise the drilling process on the ground throughout. OCA facilitated the formulation of such a committee and gave it a day long predrilling training session.

Soon after the drilling and construction works, The WPC underwent a 5 day CBM training whose objectives were to;

- 1) Equip the WPCs with knowledge and skills necessary to carry out preventive maintenance activities on their borehole.
- 2) Equip the WPCs with knowledge and skills necessary to maintain sustainable sanitary and hygienic conditions around the water point.
- 3) Enable WPC members to manage group dynamics and equip them with general managerial skills.

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Introduction

The following activities were carried in the extension program that encompasses; Irrigation clubs, primary school garden and lead farmer projects;

Irrigation Clubs

OCA provides farm inputs and extension services to the clubs in order for the clubs to achieve their goals. Activities in the irrigation clubs included bed making, sowing of tomatoes, maize planting as well as application of fertilizer and pesticides. OCA trained and monitored the clubs in all of these activities. OCA provided seed and pesticides as well as fertilizers. OCA is currently working with seven irrigation clubs.



Sowing of tomato seeds in lines at Timvane irrigation club

School Garden Program

OCA is promoting school gardens with an aim of equipping students with skills and support schools through the profits from produce sales. This is done through training of teachers and students in production of various vegetables. OCA also provides farm inputs to support this cause. At present OCA is working with a total of four schools in this project. In October, 2018, Katsuka, Kalikuli and Kamongo primary schools were trained in vegetable sowing. Students were equipped with knowledge on how to come up with good vegetable nursery to produce good quality seedlings. The training included topics boarding on ploughing, bed making as well as manure making and application.



School garden committee training and students sowing vegetable seeds after being trained

Lead farmer Program

Lead farmers were monitored as they prepare to demonstrate good agriculture practices in production of maize, soya and groundnuts to farmers around their communities. Lead farmers were being monitored as they were making ridges for crop production on ploughed land and ridges have to be spaced at 75cm apart ready for planting when the first rains come. Early planting is advantageous in such way that early planting utilizes the nitrogen flush. Delaying in planting just with two weeks can reduce yields up to 25 percent. Seed germination potential is at its highest when the balance between well aerated and warm soil is achieved at the start of the season. Later into the wet season, the soil becomes cooler and aeration is reduced because of the increased moisture content. Late planting will result into weeds, pests and diseases becoming more prevalent at the wet season progresses. The proper planting time is when soils receive rains of 100mm or more.

Distribution of Inputs

As part of OCA support to irrigation clubs and primary schools OCA distributed farm inputs to six irrigation clubs and three schools. The inputs included fertilizer, maize seed and pesticides.



Top dressing fertilizer application

Meetings

One interested farmer was discovered to lease OCA farm for a total of 31 acres of land and the main crops to be cultivated on the farm are cereals and legumes and a contract has been signed. The land lease agreement was made for the purpose of enabling a tenant to cultivate crops for the growing season of 2018/2019.

Meetings were conducted with Universal Seed Company, Mosanto, Seed-co and AFAP on demonstration plots arrangements for seed varieties such as orange maize and the time of planting. Local meetings with potential buyers for farmers growing tomatoes are still ongoing which involves vendors and schools especially secondary school's representative with the aim of easing the farmers in sourcing the markets. The meeting has been successful where irrigation club members have been linked with different buyers where their produce has been bought at very good prices.

EDUCATION PROGRAM

OCA education program is now having 3 types of sponsorship. OCA, Rotary International and Geo-shack sponsorship. Rotary and Geo-shack is sponsoring only secondary school girls whereas OCA despite sponsoring girls, it is also sponsoring some boys in primary school and university. Currently the Education program has **92** students in total. **30** students under Rotary, **20** students under OCA and **42** students under Geo-shack sponsorship.

OCA STUDENTS

In the Academic year 2017/2018, the OCA Education program had 22 students in total. Three primary students, 17 Secondary students and two university students. Three secondary students have graduated, leaving OCA with 19 students. In this academic year (2018/2019) one secondary student has been added to the OCA education program making a total of 20. This student is in 9th grade at Chayamba Secondary school in Kasungu. Her name is Maligelita Banda and she is being sponsored by Thomas Hawthorne.

ROTARY STUDENTS

In the year 2017/2018 Academic year, 30 students were sponsored by Rotary International donors. These students were in different secondary schools and in different classes from 9th to 12th grade. Amongst these, three students have also graduated. In the year 2018/2019, three additional students have been identified under Rotary and added to the program. The three new students are from Nkhamenya girls secondary school and all are in 9th grade, as depicted by the picture below. *From Left: Sinikiwe Tomoka, Margret Simfukwe and Linly Bivot.*



GEO SHACK STUDENTS

OCA is pleased to have another sponsorship in the education program. This is a new program sponsored by Geo-shack and is set for four years beginning this Academic year (2018/2019). 42 Students have been identified. Geo-shack is only sponsoring girls and these students are from 3 Districts in Malawi namely Kasungu, Dowa and Lilongwe. In addition to that, the Geo-shack students have been identified from 8 different schools. Dowa Secondary school, Lilongwe Girl Secondary school, Likuni Girls secondary school, Byanzi Secondary school, Dzenza Secondary school, Chayamba secondary school, Ngala community Day secondary school and Nkhamenya Girls Secondary school.

However, at Chayamba Secondary school, we have four students who are blind (the picture to the right, 4 of the girls are blind from the right). Below are pictures of some Geo-Shack Students;



5 Girls from Dzenza Sec. school



7 Girls from Dowa Sec. school



5 girls from Chayamba

2017/2018 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EXAMINATION (MSCE) RESULTS

In the 2017/2018 academic year Orant Charities Africa had students who took their senior exams. There were six students in total; three sponsored by Rotary International and three sponsored by OCA. Amongst these students, five have passed and only 1 student has failed, representing an 84 percent pass rate. However, at the national level pass rates for the exam were at 63 percent. This year's results have not been satisfactory as compared to the past two years. Nevertheless, OCA students have performed well and we are hoping that at least two students will go to University of Malawi. It is just unfortunate that one of the students did not pass.