

mission of hope:

ROTIFUNK
sierra leone



**Rotifunk
Review**
2021 Summer Newsletter

Be Careful What You Wish For!



This is a phrase spoken by many parents. I have never totally understood its meaning, UNTIL NOW!!

Since 2013, Mission of Hope has wished, prayed and worked toward the goal of more expectant mothers coming to Rotifunk Hospital to safely deliver their babies. Initially only one or two mothers per month were delivering at the hospital, mostly due to their inability to pay and a long history of stigma associated with hospitals.

Then came the “Madonna Project” and your support. Outreach teams travelled to remote villages to share the news of a caring hospital staff ready to help mothers have a beautiful delivery experience at no patient cost. The word spread and

mothers began arriving and arriving. In May of this year, 35 healthy babies were delivered in Rotifunk without any mother or baby deaths. This is a huge success and we have gotten “what we wished for...”.

Consequently, we’ve had to add maternity beds, staff, and increased food allotments. We now wonder if our budget can keep up with this fulfilled wish to help more mothers and babies. We are working harder now on fundraising and hope that the wonderful results will continue to touch donors’ hearts.

We pray (and wish) for your continued support. Thanks be to God and you for saving mothers and babies.

- Pam Moffett

Hospital Staff Increased at Rotifunk



Finance Officer, Augustine K. Sesay

Augustine Sesay, age 33, is our newly-hired Finance Officer who assists the hospital administrator and Mission of Hope with all manner of financial data regarding the hospital’s fiscal operations. He has certificates in Digital Unity Computer Studies, Accounting and Finance, and Capacity Building, and a diploma in Business Management and Administration. He is proficient in accounting software such as Quick Books and Excel spreadsheets.

His duties include overseeing all financial transactions of the hospital, such as preparing an annual budget, maintaining records on all monetary and fixed asset donations, reporting financial status, preparing and paying monthly staff salaries, overseeing and recording cash receipts, reconciling monthly bank statements, supervising the cashier and registrar, reporting daily cash position and monitoring of cash flows, overseeing daily pharmacy sales, and obtaining approvals for issuance of payment vouchers and vendor cheques.

Augustine’s efforts have greatly assisted the hospital administrator and freed him from preparation of the many financial records required by a hospital. He is a great addition to our administrative staff.



Nurse Anesthetist, Emmanuel Margao

Emmanuel Margao, age 44, is our new Nurse Anesthetist and a welcome addition to our clinical staff. He has a diploma in general nursing (Registered Nurse), a diploma in anesthesiology, and a certificate of training from Johns Hopkins University-USA.

His professional duties include assessing and administering safe anesthesia to surgical patients, monitoring patients during intra-operative procedures, preparing anesthesia records for all patients under his supervision, identifying choice of general vs. spinal anesthesia, acting as hospital matron who oversees all nursing affairs, such as preparation of monthly duty rosters, reviews of patient records, and acceleration of patient care levels when needed.

He is a highly-valued addition to our hospital personnel and we value his level of expertise and experience.



SUV Driver, David John Lahai

David Lahai, age 30, is our new SUV driver whose 2018 10-seater Toyota Land Cruiser is used for Madonna Project Outreach trips, Letting Girls Be Girls health and hygiene field presentations, and transportation of new medical equipment and supplies, hospital personnel for medical seminars and training, and mission trip team members. David attended Freetown technical training institute and has a certificate in driving from Goodrich driving school Freetown.

Besides driving the vehicle to these activities, he is also responsible for daily maintenance checks, fuel consumption monitoring, regular cleaning of the utility vehicle, weight load monitoring, and keeping track of routine maintenance needs.

David is a welcome and necessary addition to the hospital's function, and we are happy he has joined our valuable team.

--Ivan White



Helping with a Village Clinic



Morning Fellowship

*Join us on
a trip of a
lifetime!*



Hospital Tours



OPERATION THEATRE

To find out more information email:

daleesmith76@gmail.com

Playing Games



Children help raise money

Big Blue Marble children collect change to benefit Mission of Hope's Madonna Project at Rotifunk Hospital, Sierra Leone. The children learn that mothers need healthy food, clean water and doctors so that they can have healthy babies.

To address these needs, children have been collecting change to send to the hospital. The children make posters informing people of the need, ask for change to help the mothers and babies, and brainstorm locations to display their posters.

As the change comes in, children are responsible for counting and rolling it into coin containers. Lastly the make cards for the new mothers visiting Rotifunk Hospital.

Nan Rickard



**Big Blue
Marble
Academy**

Rock-A-Bye Babies at Rotifunk Hospital



As a result of our Madonna Program at Rotifunk Hospital, which began in January, 2020, mothers-to-be are enjoying healthy pregnancies and beautiful babies are being safely delivered. Expectant mothers are identified through Outreach visits to villages in the Bumpeh Chiefdom. These women are then invited to come to Rotifunk Hospital to be enrolled in the Madonna Program. During this initial appointment, each pregnant woman is given an examination, lab tests are taken, any necessary vitamins are dispensed and an ultrasound is administered to determine her approximate delivery date.

Each Madonna enrollee is then asked to return to the hospital three more times for lab work and examination prior to her delivery date. Upon arrival at the hospital for delivery, our Madonna mother is assessed and may be provided special care if her delivery is determined to be high risk. Our Madonna patients are provided with 2 meals each day while in the hospital. (At many hospitals, patients do not receive meals, unless food is provided by visiting family members.)

With the addition of our nurse anesthetist, the hospital now has the ability to deliver via Caesarean section, if required; whereas, in the past, referrals to larger hospitals were required. Once mother and baby are ready to go back to their village, 27 pounds of rice are presented with the promise of another 27 pounds of rice at the six-week post-natal checkup. And all of this is provided with NO CHARGE to our patients because of your generous donations to Mission of Hope!

As of May 30, 2021, 122 healthy babies have been safely delivered and lovingly cared for at Rotifunk Hospital, including 10 C-section deliveries and 2 sets of twins! In the month of May alone, we enrolled 26 new pregnant moms in the Madonna Program and, as of May 30, there are an additional 93 Madonna moms in various stages of pregnancy. The delivery room will be busy for many months to come!!!

We thank you so much for helping to bring tiny new lives into the Bumpeh Chiefdom with highly qualified medical personnel and staff.

Donna Hudson

“Letting Girls Be Girls” Program Kicks Off

Rotifunk Hospital has initiated a family planning program called “Letting Girls Be Girls” As Sierra Leone’s First Lady Fatima Jabbe-Bio noted recently, child marriages are becoming increasingly prevalent in developing countries such as Sierra Leone. The Moyamba District, where Rotifunk Hospital is located, currently holds a ratio of one in three young girls becoming married between the ages of 14-17, with a third of these young girls married before the age of fifteen.

Child Marriage denies a girl her childhood, disrupts her education, limits her opportunities, increases her risk of being a victim of violence and abuse and jeopardizes her health.

One key factor that is responsible for young girls in Sierra Leone becoming married and pregnant between the ages of 14-17 is the limited educational opportunities to learn and practice family planning, healthy personal hygiene, and safe antenatal care.

“Letting Girls Be Girls” is a program designed to combat systemic poverty and restore the lives of young girls while simultaneously stabilizing the economic conditions of the community by decreasing the rate of maternal mortality. This program will provide the young girls of the Rotifunk area with opportunities to lead a healthy lifestyle and a chance to enjoy their girlhood, rather than becoming a mother at the mere age of fifteen.

A certified health educator has been contracted for nine months to travel to villages within the Bumpeh Chiefdom two times a month to facilitate the educational program for young girls.

The funds for this program were received through a Peace with Justice Grant from the Methodist Church. The program will support economical change in the Bumpeh Chiefdom through the development of an intuitive educational outreach program centered upon family planning, and healthy hygiene practices, including contraception practices.

We are fortunate to have Hassanatu Lahai who has a degree in Community Health, and has gone through several weeks of training with Marie Stopes and Planned Parenthood, and will now conduct regular classes at the hospital, in local villages, and conduct individual counseling sessions at the hospital.

Dale Smith



Hussanatu Teaching

Give to Mission of Hope Rotifunk!

Sign up for our email newsletter at
rotifunk.org

Write us or donate via the website or:

Mission of Hope: Rotifunk Hospital
PO Box 11103
Wilmington, NC 28404

Thank you for your prayers and past support!
We would love to hear from you!
You can also find us on **Instagram** and **Facebook**.

