

GPHL QUARTERLY

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HIV Clinic Data Jan. - Mar. 2018

Patient Re-attendances: **701**
New Patients Enrolled on Anti
Retroviral Therapy (ART): **21**
Mother/Baby Pair Re-
attendance: **59**
New Mother/Baby Pairs
Enrolled: **4**

Viral Loads Done: **147**
Baseline CD4 Done: **71**
Patients who received Social
Support: **2**
Major Challenges:
Stock out and stock shortages



GPHL is a Maryland based US 501(3)(c) non profit supporting the Gahima Family to provide medical and nutrition services in Manafwa District.

Pictured Above: Dr. Emma Gahima, his wife Maegan, and their children Ian (9), Owen (3) and Aliyah (due April, 2018).



Reviving Bugobero HCIV

Bugobero Health Center IV, a government owned health facility situated deep in the heart of Manafwa District lay dormant and almost abandoned for many years. Fallen prey to corruption, lack of capable leadership, spiritual oppression, and staff who were rarely present, patients stopped coming to the health center to seek medical assistance because they knew that they would face either poor quality or no health care at all.

After pleas from the community to improve the facility, the government assigned Dr. Emma Gahima as Doctor In Charge. As the only government doctor available at Bugobero Health Center IV, with a catchment population of over 100,000 people, Dr. Emma had to quickly come up with a plan that would require a public private partnership to improve quality of services offered at the health center to save lives. In January 2018, Dr. Gahima facilitated a partnership between U.S. based private non-profit Global Public Health Linkages (GPHL) and the Ministry of Health Manafwa District Health Office to renovate buildings, open a designated HIV Clinic two days a week that coordinates counseling and home visit follow up with Bay Area Community Church Precious Souls Ministry, and provide support to improve the overall patient experience at Bugobero Health Center IV.



An Operational Surgical Theatre

It had been over two years since a doctor had performed an operation at Bugobero Health Center IV. The surgical theater became a home to a swarm of wasps while the surgical beds and equipment collected dust. Due to lack of a functional surgical theatre, mothers in obstructed labor were referred to Mbale Regional Referral Hospital, over an hour's motorcycle ride from Bugobero! GPHL renovated the entire theatre, provided a fresh coat of paint, new lighting, and a new flushing toilet and shower room, giving a much needed facelift. The generator used for sterilization of instruments, was repaired, making it possible to operate without electricity, a common occurrence in rural Uganda. GPHL also repaired the autoclave and purchased surgical gowns, drapes, boots, and crocs. An Anesthetic Officer, patient monitoring machines, oxygen tanks as well as regular stocks of anesthetic and surgical supplies are desperately needed in order to maintain a safe operating environment for emergency C sections and other surgical cases.

The GPHL Uganda team at Bugobero Health Center IV that included Dr. Gahima, Maegan Gahima, and Derek Bwayo supervised local workers in the renovation of the entire facility, including painting of the interior of the HIV/Nutrition Clinic building, pediatric ward, all in-patient wards, out patient department, maternity ward, surgical theatre, laboratory, and drug store. The exterior of the main building and HIV/Nutrition Clinic was also painted, creating a bright and fresh welcome for patients arriving at the health center.

To increase the functionality of the facility, extensive masonry work was completed, including repair of the rainwater collection tanks, and the addition of multiple ramps to connect the main building and maternity ward with the newly renovated surgical theatre. Additionally, a new veranda and steps were added around the HIV clinic, increasing access and improving patient flow. Gutters were placed on many of the buildings, reducing puddles of stagnant water and redirecting rain water to the newly functional collection tanks. Plumbing issues were resolved in many areas of the facility, public toilets repaired, and a new flush toilet was installed for staff and visitors, a first for Bugobero!

These visible signs of revival became a turning point for the facility. As the renovations began and continued in earnest, staff, patients and the community could see new life emerging from the formerly lifeless Bugobero Health Center IV.



Left: masonry work in progress outside the HIV Clinic.