

Monthly Report January 2020

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Tea plantation in Ntanzi where several Omni Med VHTs work.

Students & Visitors

Dorelle Dushime: This month we welcomed Dorelle who will be spending one month with Omni Med focusing on the role of VHTs in primary antenatal care and healthy pregnancy. This will be part of her practicum project for her Masters in Global Health at Northwestern.

Eliza: This month we welcomed another student from the Uganda Studies Program at Uganda Christian University (UCU). Eliza is a senior at John Brown University in Arkansas, where she studies Chemistry and Intercultural Studies. She will be helping in our activities at Omni Med twice weekly as part of the Global Health program.

Community Health Talks



This month we held a community health talk in Gobero village. The attendance included 45 villagers and 3 VHTs. The staff educated the community on HIV/AIDS including symptoms, testing, treatment and stigmatization. The community members had excellent questions on the topic including specific questions regarding treatment options.

Omni Med staff educate villagers on HIV/AIDS in Gobero. People take notes during the lesson to better retain specific information.

Cookstove Project



Staff welcomed **Mike Sommer**, a founder of The Cookstove Project, to Omni Med on January 8. We have been partnering with The Cookstove Project since 2013 to address the impact of traditional open cooking fires in Mukono. VHTs trained by Omni Med have been instrumental to building cookstoves. Contained cookstoves help to prevent exposure to harmful smoke to decrease the risk of pneumonia and other lung diseases. We look forward to a continued partnership in the years to come!

Omni Med CEO, Edward Mwebe, speaks with Mike Sommer

Protected Water Sources



Girls fetch water from a borehole. After carrying the water back to their homes it will need to be boiled before it is safe to drink.

Construction of protected water sources (PWS) allows for villagers to access water with minimal contamination from livestock, people and the environment. Omni Med has built 30 PWS's throughout Mukono and we plan to continue building one per quarter. In January, we visited Kakuba to assess the feasibility of building a PWS for their community. The village currently has 4 water sources including one borehole and 3 unprotected water sources. Based on our visit, we determined that one of the unprotected water sources would be an eligible site to build a PWS. Next, Henry will coordinate a meeting with the community leader and VHTs to determine the next steps for water source construction and participation.

Quarterly Trainings



(L) Edward addresses the question of a VHT during a Mental Health training session in Bunakijja

(R) Henry, Allan and MacKenzie teach on Hypertension as a VHT takes notes.

In total, we trained **109 VHT's** on ICCM and additional topics.

13 January	-Ntanzi (Mpumu) – Hypertension Review – 19 VHTs -Kisoga Ward - Review Hypertension & Hygiene/Sanitation – 10 VHTs
17 January	-Bunakijja– Mental Health – 18 VHTs -Bugolombe – Hypertension Review – 13 VHTs
22 January	-Nsanja – Hypertension Review – 26 VHTs -Bugoye – Hypertension Review – 10 VHTs
28 January	-Kilondo – Hypertension – 3 VHTs -Seeta Nazigo – Hypertension II – 10 VHTs

Home Visits



(Top Left) During a home visit in Bamusuuta B, Elizabeth shows VHTs how to properly use Oral Rehydration Solution tubes.

(Top Right) Henry and Cissy speak with a VHT during a home visit.

(Bottom) MacKenzie, Rebecca and Henry with VHTs prior to a home visit.

This month, we held **22 home visits**. During home visits, we visited **43 VHTs**.

Average number of houses that each VHT serves in their village: **64**

Average number of years each VHT has served in their village: **8 years**

Topics that VHTs request additional trainings on: **Cancer, Family Planning, Diabetes**

9 January	-Katente A – 1 VHT
	-Katente B - 3 VHTs
	-Katwe – 1 VHT
10 January	-Namaiba – 2 VHTs
	-Luwule – 2 VHTs
	-Kakuba – 1 VHT
14 January	-Gobero – 4 VHTs
	-Suga Lugala – 4 VHTs
16 January	-Luga-Kazinga – 1 VHT
	-Luberenga – 1 VHT
20 January	-Bamusuuta A – 1 VHT
	-Bamusuuta B – 2 VHTs
21 January	-Ndwadde Mutwe – 2 VHTs
	-Gilinya – 1 VHT
23 January	-Mayangayanga – 2 VHTs
	-Nakibanu – 2 VHTs
24 January	-Jumba Village- 2VHTs
27 January	-Kaama Kaganjo – 1 VHT
	-Nakifuma West – 4 VHTs
	-Nakifuma East – 3 VHTs
29 January	-Bugereka – 1 VHT
	-Makukuba – 2 VHTs

Stories from the Field



A VHT is fitted for eyeglasses after a quarterly training session. Eyeglasses were donated by GW Nursing to help VHTs with reading the small dial on blood pressure cuffs. However, we have found that there is a general need and VHTs are very appreciative of them.

AOB

Judith, one of our wonderful cooks at Omni Med, gave birth to a baby boy on January 19! We are happy to report that he is healthy and holds striking resemblance to his mother!