Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery, Republic of South Sudan

Date: January 31st, 2014
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1. City & State
Juba, Central Equatoria State, Republic of South Sudan

2. Organization:
Real Medicine Foundation (www.realmedicinefoundation.org)
World Children's Fund (www.worldchildrensfund.net)

3. Project Title:
Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery (JCONAM)

4. Reporting Period:
October 1st – December 31st, 2013

5. Project Location (region & city/town/village):
Juba Teaching Hospital, Juba County, Central Equatoria State, Republic of South Sudan

6. Target Population:
The Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery (JCONAM) has a direct target population of between 40 and 60 students for every annual intake for the Registered Nursing and Midwifery Diploma course. The 2010 intake admitted 36 students: 18 nursing students and 18 midwifery students. 30 of those students had progressed into their final year and graduated on August 29, 2013. A second class of 61 students started training in January of 2012 and 52 had progressed into their final year. 54 students were admitted at the beginning of 2013 and 51 had progressed to second year. The graduated students are to be deployed to their respective state hospitals, county hospitals and primary health care centers to bridge the gap between demand for skilled services and available service providers.

The growing population of Juba City is now estimated to be 372,141 based on the Population and Housing Census conducted in 2008 (140,396 inhabitants in Juba and the immediate surrounding areas at that time). The College educates candidates from all the ten states and serves as the first College of its kind exclusively operated by South Sudanese and in South Sudan educating professionals to serve the country population of 9.6 million.

II. Project Information

7. Project Goals:
To improve the quality of and access to professional health care services by imparting the necessary skills through a three-year diploma program in either nursing or midwifery at the first College of Nursing and Midwifery in South Sudan accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education and Juba University, offering a diploma of Registered Nursing and Midwifery Status. The College contributes to reducing the maternal and child mortality in South Sudan in accordance with Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 4 and 5.

8. Project Objectives:
1. Provide model courses in Registered Nursing and Registered Midwifery in the first National Health Training Diploma Institute in South Sudan
2. Provide a curriculum recognized by all ministries associated with education in the Republic of South Sudan (RSS)
3. Provide leading edge skills laboratory and library for the students
4. Provide improved clinical setting for student training
5. Provide highly qualified instructors and tutors for the duration of the three year program
6. Provide an unprecedented model of health care sector capacity building for South Sudan
7. Provide a sustainable solution to South Sudan’s Maternal and Infant Mortality Rate, the former, which is the highest in the world at 2,054/100,000 as per the 2006 South Sudan Household Survey. Approximately 200,000 women die each year giving birth.
9. Summary of RMF/WCF-sponsored activities carried out during the reporting period under each project objective (note any changes from original plans):

The fighting in Juba which erupted on December 15th, 2013 and later spilled over to other states in South Sudan made it difficult for the JCONAM college staff and the students to return to their various homes for the break, as it happened right at the time the college had just closed for Christmas holiday. Many of the students were stranded on campus or within Juba, but are all now back on campus after the break completed and a ceasefire has held. The school is still waiting for all of the teaching staff to return but has been able to start the semester again with less staff.

Implemented activities in line with RMF sponsored activities and project objectives include:

1. Support to the National Ministry of Health, Republic of South Sudan and project partners in the coordination and implementation of project activities over the reporting period.
2. Coordinated with partners for the College’s annual work plan for 2014.
3. Recruited and pays the salary for one highly experienced and qualified National Tutor on RMF contract to increase tutorship workforce and prepare for complete South Sudanese ownership.
4. Identified and trained two national midwifery tutors as Master Trainers of Respectful Maternity Care (RMC).
5. Facilitated and conducted the training for all second year midwifery students on Respectful Maternity Care.
6. Continued facilitation of inter-linkages with UNFPA, MOH, IMC and other stakeholders in ensuring quality assurance in the implementation of both nursing and midwifery curricula in the diploma program.
7. Coordination of RMF activities with other organizations and UN agencies supporting the Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery by participating in meetings and conferences.
8. Sponsorship of first, second and third year nursing and midwifery students at the Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery through provision of uniforms, skills laboratory equipment, clinical training equipment, books, stationery and Information Technology (IT) equipment.
9. Continued support of high speed WIFI internet services for JCONAM.

10. Results and/or accomplishments achieved during this reporting period:

1. Two college midwifery tutors were trained as Master Trainers for Respectful Maternity Care (RMC); they are to integrate the basic concepts of RMC in the college curricula and to train more midwifery students and maternity staff from various health facilities. Our vision is to make South Sudan a hub for Respectful Maternity Care.
2. The second year midwifery students trained on RMC are now able to apply the basic concepts of RMC while practicing in the maternity ward and also disseminate the information to other maternity staff and students. Reviews on the impact of this training as well as follow up trainings are planned.
3. Devised a clear strategy with college administration on how to handle and improve the skills of the students in clinical areas.
4. The national midwifery tutor recruited during the reporting quarter has bridged the skills gap among the current tutors and is actively leading the implementation of the developed strategy on supporting the students while in the clinical areas.
5. All the tutors and the nursing/ midwifery students are able to access internet services at the College without interruption, providing them improved access to online learning materials and communications.
6. Coordination of RMF activities and participation in meetings/workshops together with NGOs and UN agencies supporting JCONAM and other National Health Training Institutes (NHTIs).
7. Continued to share the profiles of the new graduates with partners engaged in healthcare projects, the majority of which have been employed by NGOs/government agencies implementing healthcare services in different parts of South Sudan.
8. Combined the database of the new graduates for easy follow up.
9. Continued to trace the whereabouts of the new graduates, those employed versus unemployed and place of work so as to keep track of them and also support them.
11. Impact this project has on the community (who is benefiting and how):

1. The Diploma in Nursing/Midwifery Curriculum approved by the Ministry of Health will be used as a model document alongside the College structures for replication in other states.
2. The Ministry of Health through the support of RMF and other stakeholders is working on replicating the College in other states. This will translate into the continued growth in the number of nursing and midwifery diploma institutes in South Sudan and potentially new Nursing/Midwifery College partnerships for RMF.
3. Stakeholders in nursing and midwifery education and services are undertaking the development of a bridge course for Community/Enrolled Midwives for acceptance into diploma training to complete the course in less than 3 years.
4. It is currently estimated that it will take close to 66 years for South Sudan to establish a professional and sustained capacity to address maternal mortality issues in a region with the highest ratio of 2,054 for every 100,000 live births, as per the MOH. In addition to establishing other diploma institutes in South Sudan, the MOH is working on bilateral agreements with neighboring countries to send out qualified South Sudanese to train as nurses and midwives in order to establish a critical mass in the next 10 years.
5. Several years of experience derived from working with JCONAM and other partners has enabled RMF to develop a vision of increasing its level of support in South Sudan. By virtue of its registration and autonomy, RMF will seek to partner with organizations/agencies, and most importantly, government elements in the areas of health systems strengthening and sustainable economic empowerment as witnessed in its projects in other countries.

12. Number served/number of direct project beneficiaries:

1. Through the support of the consortium of partners, currently 103 students are fully sponsored for the three-year education program. This includes the provision of school uniforms, books, stationery, tutors and monthly allowances. The third year class graduated in August 2013, and year one students were recruited in December 2014 who are to start at the beginning of academic year 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. Nursing Students</th>
<th>No. Midwifery Students</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. The project provides employment opportunities for both the teaching and non-teaching staff. This provides economic sustainability for the staff and their families.
3. JCONAM was established in 2010 by the consortium of partners on behalf of the Ministry of Health, Republic of South Sudan. To date, project activities have been implemented with a planned exit strategy, working toward turning over complete implementation of these projects by the Ministry of Health. This is to ensure each project’s sustainable development and continuity by the relevant office in the Ministry of Health.
4. Upon graduation after the three-year course, the registered nurses and midwives provide a much-needed service within the states and counties at facilities level. The services offered by this cadre of graduates are also expected to extend into the community through health education, community mobilization and home care, among others.
5. With the inclusion of the second year midwifery students into the maternity ward delivery roster, the students are able to conduct/participate in 10-20 supervised deliveries per day. These numbers are however meant to increase as the College looks into expanding the number of practice sites in the near future.
13. Number of indirect project beneficiaries (geographic coverage):

9.6 million South Sudanese. It is the intention of the consortium to provide a scalable working model for a Government Nursing and Midwifery College that may be extended to strategic locations with the highest demand for these services throughout the country. The school accepts applicants from all 10 states to optimize the distribution of newly qualified health care personnel. Subsequent years will witness satellite campuses in other states.

14. If applicable, please list the medical services provided:

Procured and stocked the College dispensary with essential medicines; the students and the College staff now receive medication from the College for simple medical conditions.

15. Please list the most common health problems treated through this project.

Under the supervision of their clinical mentors, the nursing students were able to provide support in the treatment and care of patients in the:

- Medical Ward
- Surgical Ward
- Pediatric Ward
- Maternal-Child Health/Family Planning

Midwifery students were supervised in the Maternity Ward that comprised:

- Antenatal Clinic
- Antenatal Ward
- Postnatal Ward
- Gynecology Ward

**Health Problems Addressed:**

1. Maternal Mortality
2. Infant Mortality
3. Obstetric Fistulae

Indirectly these are addressed:

4. Malaria
5. Respiratory Tract Infections
6. Intestinal Worms
7. Sexually Transmitted Diseases (including HIV/AIDS)
8. Trauma/Domestic Violence
9. Psychological Trauma (PTSD)
10. Malnutrition
11. Polio

16. Notable project challenges and obstacles:

1. **The fighting in Juba which erupted on December 15th, 2013 and later spilling to other states made it difficult for the college staff and the students to return to their various home states since this happened at the time the college had just closed for Christmas holiday.**
2. Frequent electricity interruptions, making work difficult for RMF coordination office.
3. Lack of new commitments from the partners in health for JCONAM creating many unmet needs for the College.
4. Lack of qualified personnel within the hospital to supervise the students when they are conducting clinical rounds, i.e. the students are occasionally supervised by traditional birth attendants leading to a discrepancy between skills taught and what is witnessed.
5. Lack of a medical plans/insurance for the students with consideration of their exposure to infections and other general illnesses in the workplace.
6. Lack of extra-curricular activities for the students to engage in during their free time and weekends, i.e. outdoor sports and games.
7. The College lacks critical support and administrative staff, such as a finance officer, administrator and IT instructor.
8. Limited technical and financial commitment and support to the Ministry of Health by the stakeholders for the review of the diploma nursing curriculum.
9. Lack of financial commitment by stakeholders for the construction of an urgently needed classroom block, students' hostel, tutors' residence and recreational hall.

17. If applicable, plans for next reporting period:
1. RMF will continue to support the College based on our annual implementation plan, which is based on our MOU with the Ministry of Health.
2. Continued sponsorship of JCONAM nursing and midwifery students in the first, second and third year.
3. Support the human resource capacity of the College through hiring of another National Tutor.
4. RMF is continuing to track the progress of the 30 new graduates and partnering with the MOH to assist in the placement and continued support of these new graduates.
5. RMF is preparing to implement a follow up training program on Respectful Maternity Care (RMC) at JTH. Plans are also underway for Trainings on Respectful Care.

18. If applicable, summary of RMF/WCF-sponsored medical supply distribution and use:

Kept the College dispensary stocked with essential medicines; the students and the College staff now receive medication from the College for simple medical conditions.

19. Success story(s) highlighting project impact:
Annex A

III. Financial Information
20. Detailed summary of expenditures within each budget category as presented in your funded proposal (file attachment is fine). Please note any changes from plans. Detail of financial report sent separately on monthly basis
Fig 1: RMF’s Cindy Stein Urbanc and Reagan Turner Bell briefing the Master Trainers and RMF South Sudan team on the *Respectful Maternity Care Training* pilot program
Fig 2: Cindy centre right conducting the RMC training for the second year midwifery students

Fig 3: Group work during the RMC training workshop.
Fig 4: Reagan facilitating the session for the second year midwifery students during RMC training workshop

Fig 5: Siama, RMF’s National Tutor and a Senior Midwifery Tutor telling the students how to clean the instruments well and how to pack the sets to be ready for sterilization.
Fig 6: Second year midwifery student following her mother who delivered an hour ago, the baby and the mother are all in good health.

Fig 7: Nursing and midwifery students in the family planning clinic, centre right a midwife from Marie Stopes telling them about the various methods of family planning and importance of proper counselling.
Fig 8: A second year midwifery student counselling a mother in family planning clinic.

Fig 9: A second year midwifery student administering a Depo-Provera injection to a mother after counselling her; this is one of the available family planning methods, chosen by the mother.
Fig 10: College students conducting health education for mothers at Antenatal visits.

Fig 11: JCONAM nursing students attending to a mother who brought her baby for routine immunization.
Fig 12: Second year nursing students waiting to enter the major theatre to follow up on a case.

Fig 13: Second year nursing students at entrance to the main operating theatre.
Fig 14: Nursing student organizing the table in medical ward.