

REPORT ON

THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF
ST. CYRIL & METOD HEALTH CENTRE

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1. Management Team

1.1 The St. Cyril and Metod Hospital is run by a board of trustees consisting of the following representatives:

- Lions Club of Thika Kilimambogo representatives – 2No
- Local catholic church representatives – the Priest-in-charge and the Church Chairman
- Local leaders representatives – the local Area chief
- Local community representatives - one member

1.2 The health centre has been in operation since the year 2009 and serves a big population as it has a large catchment area. As a community health facility it runs through cost sharing by charging minimal user fees.

1.3 The Management Committee is responsible for the day-to-day running of the Health Centre including payment for cleaning, salaries and maintenance of the buildings. Funds for this purpose are raised through user charges, fundraising activities, donations and other means as detailed in the project proposal. Committee meetings are held once every month unless there is an urgent matter requiring a meeting in between the month.

1.4 Since it started operations, the Health Centre is opened for six days a week, that is, Monday to Saturday and is only closed on Sundays. It opens for eight hours per day, that is, 8am -1pm in the morning and 2pm - 5pm in the afternoon.

2. Staff Composition

Currently the following technical and support staff are employed at the health centre:

◆ Registered clinical officer	-	1
◆ Nursing officer	-	1
◆ Nursing assistant	-	1
◆ Pharmacy assistant	-	1
◆ Cleaner	-	1
◆ Watchman	-	1

The current Consulting Doctor at the Health Centre is Dr. George Karanja, who is also a member of the Lions Club of Thika Kilimambogo.

3. Types Of Diseases Treated

There are about twelve common diseases treated at the health centre. These include clinical malaria, hypertension, respiratory tract infections, digestive system disorders, rheumatism and joint pains, skin diseases, pregnancy related issues, diabetes mellitus, accidents, fractures, STI, urinary tract infections, eye infections and gynecological cases.

Other common infections include diarrhea diseases, worms intestinal, ear infections, mental disorders and dental problems

4. Type and Quantities of Drugs Dispensed

The types of drugs dispersed in treatment of various diseases include analgesics, anti-asthmatics, anti-diabetic agents, cough anthist, anti-acid preparations, oral antibiotics, anti-malarial, haematinics, vitamins and minerals among others.

5. Diseases Not Treatable

The following types of diseases are not treatable at the health centre due to lack of the necessary facilities:

- ◆ Surgical cases requiring theatre
- ◆ Medical cases requiring admission
- ◆ Dental cases requiring fillings and root canal treatment
- ◆ Eye complications

6. Challenges in Running the Facility

Some of the challenges encountered in running the health facility include the following:

- ◆ Perception by some members of the local community that the facility is a donation so its services should be entirely free or be fully subsidized
- ◆ Occasional cash flow problems due to low revenues
- ◆ Lack of sufficient Laboratory Facilities
- ◆ lack of referral vehicle for maternity complicated cases
- ◆ lack of enough qualified technical staff
- ◆ recurrent shortage of basic essential drugs
- ◆ lack of duty house for the staff, making response to emergencies slow
- ◆ lack of a dental chair

7. Third Phase Official Opening

The above challenges were highlighted in October 2013 when the third phase of the health centre was being opened. Among those present during the occasion were the Principal Secretary, Ministry of Health; the CEC Member of Health Kiambu County, the MOH Kiambu county, area MCA representing the area MP, Lion Club Members and his Excellency the Ambassador of Slovak to Kenya.

On that day, the following pledges were made:

1. The principal secretary in liaison with the county ministry of health pledged to second technical staff consisting of a clinical officer, nurses and laboratory technologists to the health centre. Further, he pledged to supply the health centre with drugs and other medical requirements
2. The area MP promised to build through the CDF two staff houses.

3. The Slovak Ambassador and Slovak Lions promised to donate laboratory and other hospital equipments.
4. The Lions Club Thika Kilimambogo pledged to continue soliciting for funds for physical expansion and also help in running the health centre.

8. Doctors' House and Other Commitments

Since then a lot of progress has been made. The area MP allocated Kshs Six Million for construction of two staff houses. The construction works are currently ongoing and will be completed in the next one month time.

It is expected that the Slovak lions and the Slovak Ambassador are in the process of acquiring and importing the hospital equipments as promised. The Lions Club of Thika Kilimambogo continues to help in running the health centre.

9. Staff Secondment Request

In pursuant to the promise by the Principal Secretary, the request to second the following key staff to the Hospital has been made to the Ministry of Health:

- ◆ one registered clinical officer
- ◆ two registered community nurses
- ◆ one laboratory technologist
- ◆ one health records clerk

In addition, the Ministry has also been requested to authorize the health centre to get regular drugs supply as is the case with other public health facilities