

IBULANKU COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE, UGANDA, WELCOMES ELECTIVE MEDICAL STUDENTS FROM UNSW

Uganda is a country of 40 million people in East Africa in close proximity to Kenya and Tanzania. The Ibulanku community has an estimated 50,000 people; 23,000 are below the age of 15 years, 2,000 children under one year; 40% of the population is below the poverty line, and 90% are engaged in subsistence farming ; illiteracy status is 56%. There are 10,000 women of child bearing age and 2,500 pregnancies annually .

Location: Ibulanku is in South-East Uganda, approximately 55Km from Jinja, where Lake Victoria feeds headwaters of the Nile. Tourist activities that can be undertaken include: visiting Itanda falls, Quad bikes, village walks, bird watching, bungie jumping, Tubing, Kayaking, Boat Cruise, Horse rides among others. Wild life safaris may be undertaken more remotely [or in Kenya or Tanzania]

The Community Health Centre was started in 2002 with some Australian assistance and has steadily expanded since then to a facility that services a local and surrounding population of over 50,000 people. Some relevant information about the Centre follows.

SERVICES

- a. Curative Care (*By this we mean treating patients with intent of curing them, rather than palliation. An example is Malaria where a person with signs and symptoms can be given antimalarials (quinine and ACT) to treat and cure.*)
- b. In-patient Care
- c. Surveillance of special diseases(*Measles, Malaria, TB, Leprosy, Guinea worms, Polio, Cholera, Yellow fever, Bacterial Meningitis, Neonatal Tetanus, Typhoid fever, Ebola and other hemorrhagic fevers*)
- d. Community Health Education Outreaches
- e. Maternal Health Care
- f. Young Child Clinics
- g. Laboratory
- h. Minor Surgical operations
- i. Antiretroviral HIV treatment among others

STAFFING

- Doctors (*Dr. David Muwanguzi is a gynecologist who visits 3 days a week and Dr. Halima Naiwumbwe a pediatrician visits twice a week. However, they are on call always.*)
- A Clinical officer [qualification above Nurse but lower than medical graduate]
- 5 Midwives
- 3 Nurses
- 3 Nurse Assistants
- A laboratory Technician
- 8 support staff - records, security, cleaners, cooks.

FACILITIES

- A 3 Bedroom Guest House (Self-Contained) i.e running water, gas stove with 2 burners, electricity, fridge, 2 shower rooms, electric kettle, dining room, sitting room, toaster, cutlery and a car garage
- OPD has triage, treatment room, consulting room, emergency room, emergency trolley with drugs & sundries laboratory and Pharmacy.
- General female ward with 12 beds, Male ward with 7 beds, pediatric ward with 7 beds.
- Obstetrics Department has 2 Delivery beds, 4 first stage beds, 6 post-natal beds, Resuscitation room, Sluice room, Sterilization room, counselling room, In-charge Midwifery unit, Family planning and Cold Chain for Vaccines, emergency trolley for drugs and sundries and procedure room.
- Minor Operating Theatre with one table.
- laboratory testing Malaria, Typhoid, TB, Syphilis, Brucella, Hemoglobin, diabetes, HIV, blood grouping, sickle cell screening, cervical cancer screening.

GOVERNANCE

- The Health Centre has a Board of Governors as a policy making body and a Managing Director who oversees the day to day running of the Centre.

VISION:

To be a leading and Self-Reliant Hospital/Health Centre able to handle most health problems within a Community Resulting in a Healthy Community.

MISSION:

To Provide Quality Health Services through Curative, Primary Health Care and Training.

OUR CORE VALUES:

- Transparency
- Reward and Recognition
- Innovation and Creativity
- Professionalism
- High Ethical Standards
- Respect

STUDENT'S EXPERIENCE:

1. Students will be able to develop an understanding of presentations, diagnoses and management of diseases not commonly seen in Australia such as malaria, TB, syphilis and malnutrition.
2. Gain an understanding of how culture and tradition in rural Uganda affects access to and decisions made about health care.
3. Students will be able to participate in the maternal and neonatal health and community health education.
4. Improve on history taking and clinical examination skills and to assist staff with this and other basic procedures within their competence
5. Gain a deeper insight into realities of providing health care in a resource poor setting.
6. Participate in perinatal care and the delivery of Babies
7. Participate in Surgical Procedures

ACCOMMODATION FOR VISITING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:

Ibulanku Community Health Centre has a 3-self-contained bedroom and this can accommodate 4 or 5 students at a time. *This is free but students are encouraged to make a donation.*

CONTACT PERSON FOR ADVICE: *A taxi from Entebbe international airport to Ibulanku would cost approximately USD \$1.50 per Km and Ibulanku is 150Kms. Normally 4 people can fit comfortably and may share the cost. The Health Centre organizes pickups*

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Guest House within the Compounds of the Health Centre



Front View of the Female ward



Outpatient Section



Maternity Ward



Medical Student from Monash with Breech Twins which she delivered



Community Outreach on Malaria



Entrance to the Health Centre