

# **MOTHER FRANCISCA MISSION MATERNITY**

**AND**

## **HEALTH CARE**



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### **BED NETS DISTRIBUTION CHEPSIRE AND KIPSIGUR**

On 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011, we gathered at Mother Francisca Mission Maternity & Health Care being (Mr. Jesus, and his Team ,Mr. Peter Glowscore [Gostelow], Mr. Ken, Mr. Joshua, Sr. Jesi , Sr. Antony mary ,two Drivers, Mr. Kosgei of Mother Fransisca & a driver of Walter reed Project). We had an introduction to each other as we were going to work together in the first two days in the Chepsire Location in Nandi South District. We after that loaded 500 nets to one of the vehicles and we started our journey to Nandi hills District Hospital where we were to meet the District Medical Officer of Health (MOH), District commissioner (DC), District Officer (DO), District Public Health Officer (DPHO), Medical stuffs and a theater group.

At Nandi District Hospital we 1<sup>st</sup> met the MOH and the DPHO in their office, did some introduction, signed the visitors book, we then went to the DC & DO's office signed the Visitors book and we were given the go ahead to continue with the program. We left Nandi Hills Town for the Location which was an hour drive accompanied by the DC, MOH, DPHO, hospital stuffs and the theater group.

On arrival at a primary school where we were to meet, we were really waited by the villagers who were also the beneficiaries of the Nets; Pupils, parents,

teachers, area Public health Officer, area chief and sub chief. We had a prayer to start the day then the chief introduced the visitors to the residence. What followed was some entertainment by the pupils of the school, villagers and the theater group all with teachings on how to use the nets and ways to control mosquitoes and malaria itself. It was followed by talks by the DC, MOH, DPHO, and Mr. Jesus. This was then followed by a teaching on how to use the nets by the DPHO. The MOH of the area took this opportunity to thank the donors for their generosity and the concern for the poor and the needy on behalf of the community. The villagers had carried some gift for the visitors which they gave them out in a special African way with songs and dances.

After all the ceremony all the village Elders arranged the villagers in lines of each village and the distribution started. We were using the list that we had for the distribution. One was called to come and pick the nets. As the distribution was going on we had the malaria testing and treatment going on. We had planned for malaria but as more people presented with other ailments we treated them and referred some to the district Hospital. Among twenty people tested for malaria nine of them were positive and were treated. These activities took some time and after finishing we returned to Kapsabet, sisters went to the convent, visitors to the guest house and others dispersed and it marked the end of Day 1.

05 /07 / 2011

On day two we gathered at the hospital in as it was the previous Day. We took 500 nets again and departed to the same location but a different center. It was a Health Center Under construction some few kilometers from the Primary school of the 1<sup>st</sup> Day. **Pictured below; area chief giving a talk**



The Days activities were no so much as it was the previous day. It started by a prayer form a local Pastor them an Introduction of the visitors to the Villagers and welcoming them. This was followed by a teaching on how to use the nets by the DPHO. Then was the distribution of the nets as it was the previous day with the use of the list according to the villages.

### **Introduction of visitors at Chepsire Nandi Hills**



**Net distribution at Chepsire.**



There was also the testing and treatment of malaria and other minor ailments with referring of others to the District Hospital. Twenty two people were tested and 11 were found positive among them two pregnant women. The activities came to an end after some photos with the area elders we left for Kapsabet. This Day some visitors went to a waterfall some 50 Km from the town and peter remained at the guest house to meet some journalists, when he was with the journalists someone broke into their rooms and stole their belongings. A day that was good ended up being the worst day.

06/07/2011

The third day at 9 am we the team went to police station to write a statements at Kapsabet Police Station. Then after we took other 500 nets and left for kipsigur in Kapkangani location Kapsabet division .

## Confirmation of names by area chief at Kapkangani



We were accompanied by the area public health officer and his team some health staffs from Kapkangani Heath center and VCT staffs from Kapsabet district Hospital. On arrival to the center (health center under construction) we found the villagers waiting for us with the area chief and village elders. We were welcomed with songs and some entertainments then after the program started with a word of prayer from a local pastor. After the word of prayer the area chief introduced all the visitors to the villagers which was then followed by some talks from the visitors and the area public health officer. The villagers were then taught on how to use the nets, prevention of malaria and the control of mosquitoes.

After the teaching and the health talks we started distributing the nets using the list of the villagers that we had. This day was mainly for villagers of Chepchur sub-location. The other villagers form the surrounding villages were present so were forced to distribute to those who were present. We did the distribution but there were more villagers than those that we had in the list who were also in need of the nets. We distributed the nets to those in the list and asked the rest to come the following day at the same center for the distribution. As the distribution went on we had a clinical officer for free medical checkup for the villagers and medical treatment for minor ailments and referrals to the area health center for other complicated cases. We also had VCT ( voluntary counseling and testing for HIV

)testing and malaria testing done at the same time . The turn out for the VCT was very good with a very good number of people who were sick. For the malaria in 19 tests done only one was found positive who was also a pregnant mother she was referred to Kapkangani health center for further management .The turn up for this day was very good , the people was very much appreciative about the distribution of bed nets , medical check up , and the testing .

### **Lining up for the nets at Kapkangani**



07/ 007/ 2011

The fourth day we went with 500 bed nets ,minus peter who went to the police station to follow up the case but we were accompanied with all the previous days staffs. The day was started as usual with a prayer and health talks teaching and finally the distribution. The testing was done for HIV, Malaria and there were medical checkup for the villagers. Among 15 tests done 5 were positive they were treated and the follow up will be done by the health center .The day came to an end as we left the area early so that we would get to the police station. This was the last day of the activity.

### **CHALLENGES AND WAYFORWARD.**

We had a large number of residences with other medical problems than Malaria in the area. Though we provided the medical checkup, medication and referred

others to the nearest health centers we noticed that most of the people were unable to seek medical care from the hospitals due to long distance to the nearest dispensary and few means of transport .we asked the area public officers to handle those matters in their areas to improve their access to the health centers.

People requested MR. Jesus and his team if it was possible to put up a dispensary in chepsire location which will assist the people around the area .

The robbery incidence that occurred on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011 evening was a big challenge as the visitors mood was down and the loss of all peters information that he had collected all the months in his journey. We lost the photos and videos of the 1<sup>st</sup> day and some time in following up with the police but in vain. We are still trying to find though the chances are reducing each day.

The number of the residence who needed the nets were soo many especially in Kapkangani than what we had in paper. On the day of distribution we gave some of them the nets that remained as we wrote their names down. More others will be given to the HIV house holds and the Orphans and vulnerable children in a program that is being run by the Francisca n sisters of immaculate. This will be done according to the needs assessment done monthly by the community health workers.

Future usage of the nets is another challenge we opt to have but we will use the area public officers, chiefs, sub-chiefs and village elders to make sure that the nets are used for the correct purpose. This is because their some incidences of nets used in other activities rather than prevention of mosquitoes in the past. The leaders will follow up the usage and give a report after some time. The chiefs warned the villagers of a legal action if one was using it for a different purpose.

We as team from Mother francisca mission health care ( Mr. Bob public health officer ,Mr. Joshua student clinical medicine , Mr.francis Koskei driver Sr. Rosario , Sr. Antony mary , Sr, Jesi ) take this opportunity to thank all those who have done lot of sacrifice and dedicated themselves to this noble cause . God Bless all of you , **Asante sana** ( Thank you ).