



AMURT NIGERIA

Ebonyi State: Primary healthcare * Maternal Health * Water
2017 First Quarter – News, photos, stories, numbers & updates

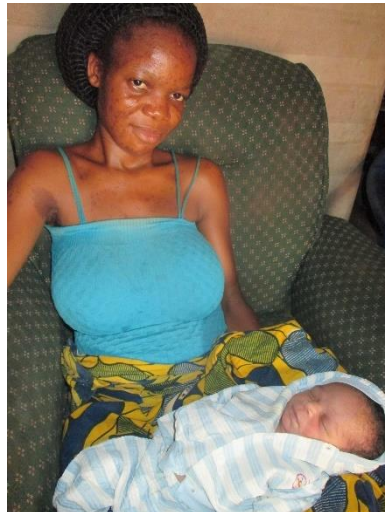
Lives saved: Stories



A trapped twin: The mother tried to give birth at a chemist shop in the village. She didn't know she was carrying twins. The second twin was trapped and she was brought to Elugwu Ettam Health Center. Seeing the difficult position, she was referred by ambulance to Federal Teaching Hospital, Abakaliki. The second twin (seen on the photo) was born by caesarean section after over eight hours. Mother and twins are fine and back home. AMURT assisted.



A happy ending. Malaria in newborn: Kelechi gave birth by C.S. at St. Vincent hospital, referred from Odeligbo Health Center. She had wound breakdown and at the same time the baby fell seriously ill and was referred to FETHA and was diagnosed with malaria, which is very rare in newborns, and most likely has come through the placenta. The photo when mother and baby was reunited. AMURT assisted.



A dangerous sickness in pregnancy: Onyebuchi was brought to Gmelina Health Center seven months pregnant, convulsing and unconscious. She was referred to FETHA where she spent seven days in intensive care. She recovered, was discharged and finally gave birth to healthy baby boy at Gmelina Health.Center. AMURT assisted.



Emergency surgery: Junior was eight months and brought to Offia Oji Health Center. He was diagnosed with incarcerated hernia and needed emergency surgery. AMURT assisted.

Maternal Health



JANUARY – MARCH 2017

Health Center deliveries	471	Family Planning	
Deliveries after referral	24	Inplants	133
Ambulance referrals	59	New method	299
Obstetric referrals	30	Total counseled	886
Maternal deaths	None	Blood transfusions	18
Ante-natal first visit	1239	HIV positive	9

NEW FACILITIES



Second wing completed at Ephuenyim Health Center: The community worked really hard and finished the construction of new maternity and pediatric wing in record time. All the labor paid for by the community. AMURT assisted with other construction materials.



Staff quarters completed at Inikiri Health Center: The Inikiri Community deserves credit for putting up the new staff quarters very fast. Since the clinic opened in November the staff has been managing in the wards. They now enjoy a new spacious accommodation with rooms for ten staff. Cement from Dangote Foundation.



New staff quarters at Odeligbo Health Center: The old staff quarter is being converted to an additional wing for the clinic to accommodate the increase in number of patients.



TRAINEES and SCHOLARSHIPS



Exams conducted for trainees In February we conducted the exam for all the local trainees in the health centers. They are great assets as auxiliaries in the health centers. Ten of trainees are completing three years this year. The most talented and dedicated can compete for AMURT scholarships to enter the School of Health Technology. Blessing has already had her matriculation in January. Four more will have their matriculation in April. Two are in their second year. And one just graduated.

Health Rallies



Health Rallies in Akparata Project Area: Starting in March we have had five village health rallies. The program combines cultural displays with educational dramas and health talks with opportunities for questions and answers. The focus has been on family planning. The communities deeply appreciate the programs as shown by increased attendance at the health center. They also value the occasions, which are enjoyed as an additional festival to strengthen their cultural identity and heritage.

Special Assistance



Young teenage mothers: We have seen an increase in young teenage pregnancies and mothers. These two, from Inikiri and Gmelina Health Centers, are 14 and 16 respectively. It's our intention to start a program to train youth peer educators on reproductive health. A pilot will get under way soon.



Uterine Prolapse repair assistance: Uterine Prolapse, that is when the whole uterus hangs out of the vagina, is a terrible condition a woman to endure. It makes it hard to function and invites diseases. The condition affects mostly, not exclusively. AMURT has received an additional grant from our main sponsor to pay for the repair. A group of three has already had completed the procedure at the VVF center in Abakaliki.



Assistance to malnourished children: In all the health centers we regularly encounter children with severe malnutrition. We take the baby and the mother on admission and provides care and supplemental feeding until the baby recovers. While on admission, the health workers will educate the mother on balanced diet.

Water & Sanitation



Water and Sanitation Programs: The AMURT Water and Sanitation Team concluded the installations and training for five village boreholes drilled in 2016 in Ohaukwu LGA. AMURT has received dozens of applications from communities who still lack boreholes. The team assessed many boreholes, and four additional boreholes have been drilled. The team carried out many repairs on boreholes in assessment in Iwo local government for the next phase of water projects.

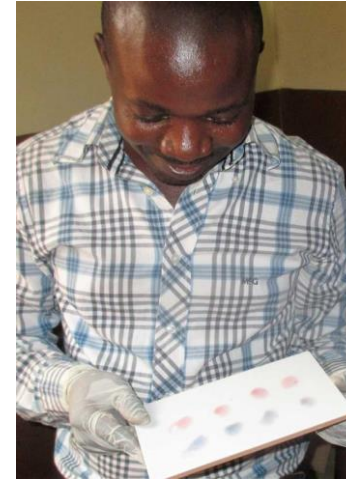
Economic Empowerment



New Economic Empowerment Coop started at Gmelina:

With support from a private donor, a fifth economic empowerment group with members from the villages in Gmelina project area in Abakaliki LGA was started in February. The members, mostly widows, had a good started. Assessment, orientation and training has been done to expand the groups at Odeligbo and Ephuenyim. All the original members have fully paid back to the group, and they are using the capital to empower more needy women. Two cases of women with disabilities have also been empowered.

NEW STAFF



We welcome new AMURT staff to strengthen the quality of care and healthcare delivery in all the seven health centers AMURT assists. Dr. Serge will be with us for a year as a National Youth Service Corps doctor. Dr. Victory is volunteering her services and assists in all the health centers. Midwife Francesca is now resident at Ephuenyim Health Center. Midwife Mary Anne is stationed at Elugwu Ettam Health Center and Laboratory Scientist Anayo is takes care of the labs at Akparata and Inikiri Health Centers.

Looking Ahead

TARGETS FOR APRIL – JUNE 2017

Construction:	Complete conversion of Odeligbo staff quarters to pediatric and maternity wing
Health education:	Reproductive health pilot Peer Educator program for teenagers in Ephuenyim project area. To reduce teen pregnancies
Clinical services:	Prepare facilities for pilot program for obstetric surgical interventions at Odeligbo Health Center
New project area:	Identify one new project area for AMURT primary healthcare intervention and start community mobilization
Sports:	Build sports facilities and playground at Akparata Primary & Secondary School (Sponsored by AMURT Italy)
Water & Sanitation:	Complete five new boreholes in Ohaukwu LGA. Initiate new phase of boreholes in Iwo LGA.

Abakaliki 17 April

Dear Friends, with more resources we can reach more people. Thanks for supporting the program to meet the primary healthcare needs in neglected rural areas of Ebonyi State. ... and save more lives.....

Brotherly yours,

Dada Daneshananda, AMURT coordinator in Abakaliki, Ebonyi State, Nigeria

Online Donations: www.amurt.net/donations/

It's also possible to donate directly by bank transfer to AMURT Nigeria. Or through AMURT UK, AMURT Italy or AMURT Norway. Contact by e-mail for banking details.

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