



AMURT NIGERIA

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

Stories



Favour on admission and after one week treatment.



Favour, 12 years old, presented at Akaparata Health Center her whole body swollen. After lab tests confirmed nephrotic syndrome she was admitted and treatment started. See the dramatic difference a week can make. Favour comes for regular check up and is doing well.



Peter, 2 years old, was brought to Ephuenyim Health Center with a swollen head. After CT scan it was revealed that he has a tumour. AMURT has referred him to UNTH Enugu. Peter will have surgery very any day now.

Peter at Ephuenyim Health Center after CT scan



Oluebube ten days after surgery.

Oluebube, eight months old, was born without an anus. The very rare condition presented at Ephuenyim Health Center in March. AMURT sponsored the surgery for Oluebube, which means God's Miracle. He is doing well. Soon the doctors will disconnect the colostomy bag. We hope he will be discharged soon and that he will now be able to live a normal life.



Nurse Lilian with Blessing

Blessing: A week after giving birth to Blessing at Offia Oji the mother was referred to Federal Teaching Hospital in Abakaliki where she died two weeks later of cardiac failure. Blessing stayed at Offia Oji health center for a month. When the conflict broke out at Offia Oji she was transferred to Ephuenyim for three weeks before returning to Offia Oji. She is now back with relatives and doing well.

Maternal Health



One set of triplets and two sets of twins at Odeligbo !



Dr. Serge doing ultrasound scan during ANC day



Midwife Rita with Njideka Offia Oji



Ante-natal day at Offia Oji health center

APRIL-MAY-JUNE 2017

Health Center deliveries	557	Family Planning	
Deliveries after referral	38	Inplants	202
Ambulance referrals	82	New method	457
Obstetric referrals	41	Total counseled	556
Maternal deaths	4	Blood transfusions	48
Ante-natal first visit	1157	HIV positive	11

COMMUNAL CONFLICT INTERVENTION



Emergency care at Offia Oji 8th May



Emergency care at Ephuenyim 9th May



Dr. Christian donating blood Ephuenyim 9th May



Temporary Clinic at Egguagu School 20 May

On 8th of May violence erupted in the Offia Oji project area. The tensions had been growing since January when neighboring Edda community clashed with villages in Cross River State. Men bleeding from gunshot wounds were brought to Offia Oji Health Center for emergency treatment. Soon the fighting came close and the health center had to be abandoned. In the next four days, AMURT put into service two ambulances who transferred 36 men with gunshot wounds to Federal Teaching Hospital Abakaliki. Ephuenyim Health Center, also AMURT assisted facility, now received the injured. After three days a temporary clinic opened at Egwuagu Secondary School where the dedicated health workers continued to provide care for the next three weeks until it was deemed safe to reopen Offia Oji Health Center. With hundreds of families displaced by the conflict squatting in safer areas, malaria, diarrhea and malnutrition cases increased. AMURT provided free treatment for all the children for three weeks in June. Support was also given to the injured who had surgery at FETHA. The dedicated doctors, lab scientists, midwives, and health workers and drivers made great sacrifices and took great risks to save lives during the crisis. The tensions remain high.

WORLD MALARIA WEEK PROGRAMS



World Malaria Day procession Elugwu Ettam



Malaria Day Procession Odeligbo



Distribution of nets Malaia Day Ephuenyim



Net distribution Malaria Day Akparata

Every year the world observes [World Malaria Day](#) on 20th April. For the fifth year in a row AMURT organized programs in all the health centers during ante-natal care days. We did processions in Elugwu Ettam and Odeligbo (see photos), and special health education programs along with distribution of free Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Nets to pregnant women. AMURT printed 400 malaria day t-shirts for all the staff and health workers and members of the public that participated in the official malaria day programs in Abakaliki.

Health Education



Women dancing at Agwugwu Health Rally



Health talk at Agwugwu Health Rally. See link below



Ogbidwa dance at Inyemagu Health Rally



Teaching with new flipchart tool at Ephuenyim

Health Rallies: More health rallies were conducted in April in Agwugwu and Inyemagu. Click here for YouTube video of family planning song:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8yZhGKK1Uc>

The program combines cultural displays with educational dramas and health talks with opportunities for questions and answers. The focus has been on family planning and malaria prevention.

AMURT has produced a new 30 page **Flipchart visual aid for teaching pregnant women**. It is used in the ante-natal days at the health centers and in pregnant women support group meetings in every village in the project areas.

Special Assistance



Maternal Deaths: We had no maternal deaths in the first quarter. Within one week in early April we recorded and verified four maternal deaths. One died at FETHA due to heart failure two weeks after birth. One at Akparata following retained placenta after giving birth at a chemist shop/prayer house. One from Enyadulog Offia Oji project area is related to puerperal psychosis. The baby with the grandma in the photo is from Egwuagu village near Ephuenyim. He lost his mother following secondary hemorrhage 3 weeks after birth. AMURT has provided support for all families. One of the babies sadly did not make it.



Onyebuchi recover from kidney disease: Onyebuchi from Agwugwu is from a poor family. For more than a year he suffered from kidney condition. After three weeks at Akparata health center under care of Dr. Omogo, he has recovered well. Here with midwife Agatha, his mother and brother.



Uterine Prolapse repair assistance: Uterine Prolapse is when the whole uterus hangs out of the vagina. It is a terrible condition for a woman to endure. It makes it hard to function and invites diseases. The condition affects mostly women after menopause, but some younger are also affected. AMURT sponsored the repair for six rural women with this condition at the Federal VVF Center in Abakaliki.



Assistance to malnourished children: In all the health centers we often encounter children with severe malnutrition. The baby and the mother are admitted and given care and supplemental feeding until the baby recovers. While on admission, the health workers will educate the mother on balanced diet. AMURT supported seven malnourished children from April to June

Water & Sanitation



Water and Sanitation Programs: The AMURT Water and Sanitation Team concluded the drilling, installation and training of Water Sanitation and Hygiene Committees in Amogbu, Akaekwe and Ihienta villages. All three villages are part of Akaeze community in Iwo Local Government Area and it's AMURT's first project in the southern zone in Ebonyi State.

Economic Empowerment



Odeligbo group has 32 women empowered



Nneka from Gmelina group cooks



Four of the young widows from the Offia Oji Conflict.

Ndidi, and Silver

Patience and Okaechi



The new group at Offia Oji, Aflenu doing training

Economic empowerment of widows who lost husband in Offia Oji conflict:

In June we started a new coop made up of 11 women who lost their husband in the violent conflict at Offia Oji in May. Many of the young widows are in their early 20s and living with relatives in safer areas as their own village is now not safe. The Odeligbo group has now empowered 31 women, it's the first and biggest group and has set a good example on how to cooperatively manage the revolving credit fund. The group started in Gmelina in February is going well.

EXPANSION and UPGRADE at ODELIGBO HEALTH CENTER



Comprehensive Obstetric Care Center and Newborn Unit

With the completion of new staff quarters at Odeligbo Health Center, the old staff quarters have been converted into an additional wing of the health center. The bed capacity has been increased from 10 to 16. Odeligbo is now the first Comprehensive Obstetric Care Center among the AMURT assisted health centers, with all the facilities to do caesarean sections. With support from MCSP (Mother and Child Survival Program) a newborn unit is now in place to manage many newborn complications.



New theatre, laboratory, additional wards, new wing, birth room and instruments for surgery.



I NEED 2 KNOW – Youth peer educators



“I NEED 2 KNOW” is a new network of youth clubs being piloted by AMURT in the Ephuenyim project area. 24 youth have been trained as peer educators. They have gathered youth in their villages to teach and discuss about **reproductive health and issues affecting youth in the villages.** Each new club is called a ‘ripple’ and the goal is to reach all the youth in the area to bring more awareness. The activities are fun and creative and engages the youth in a positive way. The program was started as the number of teenage pregnancies was increasing in the rural areas.

Looking Ahead

TARGETS FOR JULY to SEPTEMBER - 2017

Construction:	Renovation of old unused clinic building at Mgwaluku to open new clinic in Ogbeagu ward, Onicha local government.
Health education:	Further development of 'I NEED 2 KNOW', the recently started program for youth focusing on reproductive health in Ephuenyim project area.
Clinical services:	With the facilities now in place we will start elective caesarean section at Odeligb Health Center. With support from partners MCSP (Mother and Child Survival Program) we are getting ready to open newborn care centers at Odeligbo and Offia Oji Health Centers.
New project area:	Community mobilization, enumeration of women of child bearing age, baseline survey and creation of Maternal Health Promoters in new project area in Ogbeagu ward.

Abakaliki 10 July 2017

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 Tor Bjoernsen, 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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