



MCAI | Maternal & Childhealth
Advocacy International

Improving maternal & child
healthcare worldwide

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29th July 2016 Strengthening hospital based neonatal care at Brikama Major Health Centre in The Gambia

Maternal & Childhealth Advocacy International (MCAI) is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) with registration number SC043467.

The charitable purposes of MCAI are to advance health by saving and improving the lives of seriously ill pregnant women, children, and babies in hospitals in areas of extreme poverty by empowering and enabling our in-country partners to strengthen emergency healthcare so that every infant, child, and pregnant woman and adolescent can receive high quality emergency healthcare without delay.

Charitable income for the year 2015 totalled £213,759. Of expenditure, £208,280 was spent directly on charitable activities. In addition, MCAI medical and other specialists donated a total of 700 days towards the charity's programme work overseas. The Honorary Executive Director works on a voluntary part-time basis on managerial and strategic activities. The Honorary Medical Director works full time on a voluntary basis on the operational activities of the charity. The project leads, who have overall management and operational responsibility for each international project, also work as volunteers, as do MCAI trustees.

BACKGROUND: Two years ago when MCAI began work in Brikama, an extremely impoverished area of The Gambia, there were over 6000 births per year in the hospital and a maternal mortality rate of around 1% (that is around 60 maternal deaths per year). The mortality rates for the new-born infant were undocumented and extremely high. During the last two years, 3 international volunteer obstetricians from MCAI have established a model maternity unit programme where, not only has service delivery been optimised, but 4 Gambian doctors and two senior midwives have been trained in advanced obstetrics. From January 1st 2016 to 30th June 2016 there have been 2989 births in the hospital with only one maternal death which occurred 2 weeks after birth and within 5 minutes of arriving at the hospital in such a critically ill state there was no time for resuscitation. Around 30 maternal deaths have already therefore been prevented this year by this major upgrade to the maternity unit. **However, the basic hospital care for new-born infants remains poorly developed.**

AIMS: There is an urgent need for a new building adjacent to the maternity unit to provide basic hospital care for up to 10 babies who need life-saving hospital care along with their mothers.

There is also a need for a training programme for a Gambian doctor and senior nurses who will specialise as advanced neonatal nurse practitioners able to concentrate on providing sustainable new-born hospital care. The budget for this 2-year project has been designed so that a Gambian paediatrician supported by trainee neonatal nurse practitioners manage the project with support from international paediatricians and advanced neonatal nurse practitioners from MCAI who will develop the training and ensure quality control in both service delivery and training.

For the service delivery to be effective for the new-born infant, the provision of 24 hours a day high quality obstetric care, including midwifery, anaesthetic, nursing and auxiliary staff working in the maternity unit and operating theatre is also essential and this is the subject of a parallel application for funds. The Minister of Health has written a letter of support for this next phase of the programme which will be undertaken according to Memorandum of Understanding between MCAI, MOH, UNFPA and WHO.

The total budget is summarised below.

Project Title: Strengthening emergency care for newborn infants in Brikama major health centre			
Budget Compiled in UK £ from November 1st 2016 for 2 years			
	UK £ (GBP)	UK £ (GBP)	UK £ (GBP)
Budget Categories and Line Items	Nov 1st 2016 to Nov 1st 2017	Nov 1st 2017 to Nov 1st 2018	Total Budget 2 years
A. In-country Staff costs			
In Brikama			
Gambian lead paediatrician at £1000/month	12,000	12,000	24,000
Salary for part time Gambian or international logistician to support the project at £250 per month	3,000	3,000	6,000
Expenses, printing, telephone calls for paediatrician and logistician	720	720	1,440
<i>UK see MCAI's total administration cost at end of this budget</i>			
Sub-Total	15,720	15,720	31,440
B. Equipment			
3 oxygen concentrators	3,788		3,788
2 phototherapy machines for neonatal jaundice	1,450		1,450
2 nasal CPAP machines	3,490		3,490
Basic biochemistry machine (ResponFC) for Na ⁺ , K ⁺ , glucose, bilirubin, urea, creatinine, bicarbonate	1,234		1,234
2 platform incubators (renovated second hand) with high quality power surge protectors	5,000		5,000
Supply of 10 wraps for kangaroo Mother care	190		190
6 bag valve mask for neonatal resuscitation	50		50
2 suction systems	116		116
4 baby laryngoscopes	65		65
1 drug dispenser	480		480
1 resuscitation trolley	700		700
2 baby weighing scales	80		80
7 newborn cots and 6 beds for mothers with mattresses	3,862		3,862
Mosquito nets for 6 beds	120		120
6 screens between beds	660		660
6 stethoscopes	30		30
6 calculators	36		36
6 nursing fob watches	50		50
Laboratory equipment to measure bilirubin	1,285		1,285
Ward based glucometers x 4	42		42
3 sulae oximeters	700		700
Sub-total	23,428	0	23,428
Renewables for biochemistry machine ResponFC (£150 per month)	1,800	1,800	3,600
Renewables for glucometers (£40 per month = 100 tests per month)	480	480	960
Emergency medical supplies for neonatal care (small IV cannulae, nasal oxygen cannulae, nasal CPAP masks, nasogastric tubes, nasal suction cannulae, hand sanitiser, blood glucose test strips, disposable gloves, burette IV infusion sets) estimated that over and above supplies provided by MOH £2000	2,000	2,000	4,000
Emergency drugs for neonatal care (IV/oral antibiotics, IV glucose, IV diazepam, vitamin K and other vitamin supplements, phenobarbital, sodium chloride, frusemide, eye ointment, oral nystatin) over and above supplies provided by MOH £1000	1,000	1,000	2,000
B. Equipment Sub-total	28,708	5,280	33,988
C New build of neonatal ward (see Appendix 2) £25,776			
Sub-total	25,776	0	25,776
D. Travel and accommodation			
International volunteer senior paediatrician and volunteer advanced neonatal care practitioner each 3 visits per year each of 2 months and to be available for final testing of each of 6 trainees to ensure that at the end of their training they are safe to provide safe basic neonatal care. Costs £900 each per first visit, £750 per 2nd and 3rd visits (includes flights, insurance, accommodation, anti malarial prophylaxis and internal UK travel) ; £2400 per year each Total £4800 per year	4,800	4,800	9,600
Honorary Medical Director of MCAI (Professor Southall) to visit at onset and at end of each year of project to ensure overall project direction and quality control £900 first visit plus £750 second visit each year Total £1650 per year as above	1,650	1,650	3,300
Staff accommodation 1) Monthly rent £267	3,204	3,204	6,408
Staff accommodation 2) internet £400 per year	400	400	800
Staff accommodation 3) electricity and water £600 per year	600	600	1,200
Staff accommodation 4) Wage for cook and cleaner £500 per year	500	500	1,000
Sub-Total	11,154	11,154	22,308
E. Training 1 Gambian doctor/neonatal expert and 5 Gambian neonatal nurse practitioners			
Incentives for the 5 Gambian trainee neonatal nurse practitioners on top of their government salaries at £100 per month	6,000	6,000	12,000
Teaching materials (MCAI textbooks already donated to RCH) Neonatal pocket books £10 each x 20	200		200
Android tablets including 32GB SD cards and E libraries, curriculum and database for each of the 7 Gambian trainees including the Gambian doctor plus 2 for the international trainers. Total 9 at £230 each (£2070)	2,070		2,070
Printing of paper logbooks for all 6 trainees £20 each	120		120
Sub-Total	8,390	6,000	14,390
F. Monitoring and Evaluation			
Data collection and analysis for M & E by Wendy Martin (senior MCAI midwife) 1 visit £900 as above each year	900	900	1,800
Sub-total	900	900	1,800
G. Communication costs			
International and national telephone costs for trainers and trainees (estimated at £60 per month)	720	720	1,440
Internet systems for trainees at £52 per month	624	624	1,248
Sub-total	1,344	1,344	2,688
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	91,992	40,398	132,390
H. Administrative costs for MCAI (10% of total costs of project)	9,199	4,040	13,239
TOTAL BUDGET	101,192	44,438	145,630