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MARYCARE
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MARYCARE®

EJEMEKWURU FMCS

2017 Fall/Winter Report

Dear Marycare Supporters,

THE GOOD NEWS

This report is filled with God's grace and love as I am happy and humbled to share with you report from Paschal O. J. Ihemedu (Marycare Organization Director, Nigeria). You will learn from the report how your support and donations are helping us fulfill our mission of *touching hearts and changing lives* as we break the vicious cycle of poverty in the isolated district of Ejemekwuru in Imo State Nigeria.

Since official opening, the Marycare health center has over 2000 registered patients. Between January and June of this year, our health center serviced 1214 patients, and 335 of this number were first time visitors. 700 of our registered patients are children. Some of the common illnesses include: 400 cases of chronic diseases (diabetes and hypertension), 150 cases of peptic ulcer diseases, over 1500 cases of malaria and typhoid, 7 cases of stroke, 5 cases of diabetic foot ulcers, 1 case of cellulitis, 100 cases of urinary tract infections and pelvic inflammatory diseases, 400 cases of respiratory tract infection, 10 antenatal care and 1 delivery.

THE ROAD AHEAD

Without your support, the foregoing life-changing stories would not have been possible. As a Marycare supporter you have been part of our work and I just want to say thank you. But our work is not finished. The health center needs some additional staff: one nurse, one lab technician and a permanent physician to help solve the problem of long lines of patients waiting endlessly to see a doctor.

So, I am appealing to the best part of you as a child of humanity to continue to help us sustain our projects as we provide additional staff and medical supplies to the Health Center. Your donations and support will be doing good for the poor and trodden down women, men and children of Ejemekwuru without hope of reward.

As Ms. Anne Peper Perkins, Marycare's Honored Guest and Speaker at the fundraiser reminded us that Jesus came to "make all things new," Marycare is a channel of rebirth. We make all things new by providing life-saving medical care and infusing *hope* and new life to those who are otherwise isolated.

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

Please donate today. If you have not yet given to Marycare's projects in Nigeria, please consider this your opportunity to touch the hearts and change the lives of those living in desperate need in Ejemekwuru. If you have already given, please know that you have given the indescribable, life-saving gift of healthcare to the people of Ejemekwuru.

Thank you! Your sacrificial donations have left the people of Ejemekwuru with loss of words and tears of joy.

Sincerely,

Father Emmanuel Ihemedu,
President of Marycare, Inc.

For the latest information on Marycare and how you can continue to support the ongoing needs of the Health Center, please visit www.Marycare.org or call 860-710-4085.

MARYCARE HEALTH CENTRE:

The health centre has been functioning smoothly since my last report. It has been taking care of patients of Ejemekwuru and neighboring communities. Women, Children and the elderly are the main patients.



The children in the picture; Ebere and Ada are of the same parents. They were brought by their neighbor to see the doctor. According to the neighbor that brought them, the children had been lying sick for two days before she decided to bring them to Marycare Health

Centre. Their mother who is a single parent could not take them for treatment because she said she had no money for drugs. In this picture the girls are waiting to see the doctor.



Mr. Michael Nwozuzu is a blind man from Agwa, a neighboring town. He was brought to the health centre by his daughter on a motorcycle. He was diagnosed of malaria. He testifies that his current visit is his third time and each time he came there he left satisfied. He commended the civil way he was always treated by the staff of the health center in his condition.

Of particular interest is the wife of a traditional ruler who visited the health centre on 15th June with scabies. She said she had visited five hospitals without finding cure. She said that one of her subjects suggested she goes to the health centre at Ejemekwuru because she got her cure from there. She has been full of praises for the Marycare Health Centre for giving her the cure she needed. She has since brought three of her children for treatment of the same skin condition.

The Marycare Health Centre attended to 1214 registered patients. Of this number 335 were first time visitors.

The following table shows the attendance of patients to the clinic. It will be seen the highest number came in January - 254 and June 250. In January Fr. Emmanuel was around and waved the N300 on the Thursday when Mass was said for the repose of the soul of the founder - Anne Bates.

	New	Old	Total
Jan -	77	177	254
Feb. -	57	137	194
March -	40	136	176
April -	36	118	154
May -	47	129	176
June -	<u>78</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>260</u>
	<u>335</u>	<u>879</u>	<u>1214</u>

In June, in the cold of the rainy season, the weather affected people and the number of patients increased.

Malaria has been the dominant ailment affecting the patients that visit the health centre. It cuts across age brackets and it has no particular season in the year.

The most occurring diseases include the following in descending order of frequency.

Malaria, Typhoid fever, Hypertension, Diabetes, Arthritis, Cyeasis, PUD and recently, Scabies.

CONSTRAINTS

1. Limited number of seats - often there are more patients than seats available, suggestion is that additional seats be bought.

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2. Space - The current out-patient services are going fine except that the office and storage space is lacking.
3. We attend to pregnant women, antenatal cases, but no delivery is undertaken. Unless additional structure is built and more staff employed, delivery cannot be undertaken.
4. Our services are good and government agencies have wondered why delivery is not included in our services. Delivery will require 24 hours service.

SKILLS ACQUISITION PROGRAMME



The candidates in this programme have been moving on with their training. So far one of them, Nduka Onyejiuwa has completed his training as a driver and has obtained his driving license.

The other three:

Chigaemezu Ezeji has completed one year in wood work. His training fee has been paid completely and some petit tools have been

bought for him as demanded by his trainer.

Daniel Onyejiuwa who is learning auto mechanic has also competed one year in training. He expresses happiness in his work

Chiemela Uwandu is another candidate who is doing well. He will compete one year in training by August this year.

On the whole the apprentices are doing well and are happy and grateful to Marycare for giving them the opportunity to be trained.

We are looking forward to having more persons enrolled in the programme.

Thank you to all our donors and friends of Marycare!

Paschal O.J. Ihemedu
Marycare Organization Director