

F.A.R.E

“Facilities’ Advancement and Referral Enhancement”

Improving the quality and accessibility of essentials reproductive health services and referral mechanisms for maternal health emergencies in the North-eastern slums of Nairobi (Kenya) and in the Guraghe Region (Ethiopia)



The point at the of the first project year

In this first newsletter of the second year are described the results achieved during the first year of the FARE project. Besides picturing the activities' results, we report three significant experiences.

The project staff made the data collection in March 2016 at the exchange seminar between the partners' representatives of the two country, Kenya and Ethiopia. During this occasion, they also visited the clinics of Zizencho and Shebreber to meet with local staff and interview some patients.

What came to light is extremely positive. On one hand, the local health personnel tirelessly works to improve the life of hundreds of mothers and children by offering the best possible care compatibly with their limited resources, on the other, the mothers are feeling more confident and safe thanks to the training courses and the checkups provided during and after pregnancy.

The goals achieved are constantly monitored and will be presented in the upcoming newsletters, in which we want to give more and more space to the fieldwork and the beneficiaries' testimonies.

Enjoy the reading!

Costanza and Silvia, Oxfam Italia

Partners:

Amici del Mondo- World Friends Onlus

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Engera APC Onlus

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Ruaraka Uhai Neema Hospital (Kenya)

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Eparchia of Emdibir (Ethiopia)

Pediatric Aid Treatment for Africa (Ethiopia)

With the support of:



Project Activities

- Activity N.1** **Improvement of the health facilities' Infrastructures**
- a) Kenya:** Purchase and supply of 54% of the medical equipment and drugs needed by the clinics
 - b) Ethiopia:** resources have been allocated for the running costs of two health clinics (Zizencho and Shebraber)
- Activity N.2** Provision of **training** for the personnel of the health facilities
- a) Professional Training (theo for the medical staff:**
 - a. IMCI** (Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses)
 - b. ETAT** (Emergency Triage Treatment)
 - c. NEC** (Newborn Essential Care)
 - d. BLS** (Basic Life Support)
- Activity N.3** Analysis and **review** of the **clinical protocols** and **Standard Operating Procedures** (SOPs)
- Kenya and Ethiopia:** Clinical Protocols and SOPs, developed by experts in collaboration with clinics staff, have been distributed
- Activity N.4** **Research and enhancement of the existing referral mechanisms** for obstetric-gynaecology emergencies
- a) Kenya:** there has been a 34% increase in the number of referrals from health centres to the main Ruaraka Uhai Neema Hospital compared to the baseline
 - b) Ethiopia:** the total number of patients referred from the Zezencho Clinic to the Attat Province Hospital has increased by 33% compared to 2014. A new ambulance for the health clinics in the area has been purchased thanks to a private donation.

What our beneficiaries say:

The experience of Leila (Ethiopia)

"Since the Shebraber Clinic opened in 2014 I have always come here with my children. Today I am waiting for a checkup because I feel back pain and I believe I am three month pregnant. I will come to this clinic for antenatal visits and to deliver my baby. I am happy about the service provided and the fact that the clinic is much closer to home compared to the main Attat Hospital. All of us that are coming here are willing to pay a little fee for the healthcare we receive, but please help us more by expanding the clinic with more rooms and beds so that we can stay for the treatment of severe health problems."



Leila, 25 years old, 3-months pregnant, already mother of three children (7, 5 and 1 and half years old. She lives 2km from the Shebraber Health Clinic. With her husband, she sells bread in the village.



The experience of Shirtu (Ethiopia)

"I wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for this clinic. I arrived at the Shebraber clinic at midnight to deliver my baby, but the baby was too big so the sister at the Clinic referred me to the Attat Hospital where I got a C-section. All my pregnancies have been difficult. I have delivered all my children at home with the help of other neighbouring women. I am here today to check my baby's weight and get an appointment for vaccinations. The medical staff has taught me how to feed my child. After 6-months of exclusive breastfeeding, I am now introducing some solid food in his diet. I wish there could be more rooms at the clinic for longer stay when my children are very sick."



Shirtu, 37 years old, is mother of seven children. Her last child, Nubarik, is 7 months old. She lives 3km from the Shebreber Clinic. She takes full care of the family land since her husband is at home sick. She hopes that her children will finish school and have a brighter future.

The experience of William Mswapa (Kenya)

"February 2016 was a fulfilling month for me and my wife. It was a great joy when my wife delivered a bouncing baby boy on February 13, naming him Damian Muteti. As our first born, he filled our house with great joy. Unfortunately, our happy moments were short lived since at 3 days, our son began having high fevers and he could not breastfeed. We took him to the nearest Government hospital, but they recommended an immediate referral since it was a rather delicate case. My son had what they told us was neo natal sepsis. The referral required an ambulance but we did not have money to afford one. Ruaraka Uhai Neema ambulance came to our rescue. The ambulance team was really helpful and our son was discharged after a week in the hospital and is doing much better now. All I can say is a big thank you for coming to our aid at a very critical moment and for been part of those who led to my son's recovery."



William, 28 years old, works at a local butchery in the slums of Dandora and his wife is a housewife.