

**CAMEROON BAPTIST CONVENTION HEALTH BOARD
CHOSEN CHILDREN PROGRAM**



HELPING FAMILIES, CHANGING LIVES

ANNUAL REPORT: JANUARY – DECEMBER, 2008

JAMES 1:27

What God the father considers to be pure and genuine religion is this: To take care of orphans and widows in their suffering and to keep oneself from being corrupted by the world.



CAMEROON BAPTIST CONVENTION HEALTH BOARD
AIDS CARE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM (ACP)
CHOSEN CHILDREN PROGRAM

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2008 REPORT OF CHOSEN CHILDREN PROGRAM (CCP)

ANNUAL REPORT: JANUARY – DECEMBER 2008

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I. CBCHB MISSION STATEMENT

The Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board seeks to assist in the provision of care to all who need it as an expression of Christian love and as a means of witness in order that they might be brought to God through Jesus Christ. Thus, the Health Board shall provide exemplary health care with genuine compassion, with overriding purpose of evangelical witness.

II. CAREGIVER'S PHILOSOPHY STATEMENTS

- "I am relieved that my calling is to be a caregiver, while God is the cure-giver.
- I feel a sense of partnership and security, knowing that God is fully present with me and the other person in the caring situation.
- I have a purpose and direction because I know who motivates me, where I come from, and where I am going.
- I feel more competent because I have tools like prayer, scripture, and God's blessings.
- I feel a sense of inner warmth (and sometimes fear and trembling) when I am privileged to relate to peoples' deep spiritual needs.
- I am free to go the extra mile with those who need me, enhanced by a healthy Christian perspective on servant hood.
- I rejoice that the "cups of cold water" I give to others are accepted by God as distinctively Christian caring.
- I draw courage from the long line of tradition in which my caring stands, realizing that I actively continue the work carried on by God's people throughout the ages.
- I want to help in any way I can, and even though their constant demands are so draining I know that with God's strength I will care without burning out my self"

III. INTRODUCTION

The program operates in fourteen fields of the CBC, in the North West and South West Regions. There are three full time staff and twelve field agents. This year the activities were in three phases: screening of Children for HIV, disbursement of school fees, and distribution of personal and school needs. There were other routine activities such as medical support to children who were sick, visit to homes by field agents and sometimes with visitors.

IV. 2008 STATISTICS

The program has registered **3600** children, out of which **2600** are eligible for assistance. The program is able to support **893** Children.

Statistics-

Number of boys =492

Number of girls = 401

Number in Primary school = 497

Number in secondary school = 326

Number in professional Inst. = 6

Number in other trades = 47

Total supported = 893

Total enrolment = 2600

V. MEDICAL CARE

Enrollment into the program has stopped, but extremely needy cases continue to come for help; we enroll mostly orphans who have tested positive for HIV.

A large amount of money is consumed by the medical bills of these children.

Chosen children who are sick continue to receive free medical treatment. Those infected with HIV and placed on ARV come for regular follow up. More HIV infected orphans have been enrolled during this period. (26 and 2 died in the Southwest).

V. HIV SCREENING FOR CHOSEN CHILDREN AND CAREGIVERS IN SWR

School fee disbursement exercise took place from July 17-October 4th this year; the children in SWR were tested for HIV during the exercise. Report for SWR shows that 127 persons (both children and caregivers) were tested and 16 +HIV.

VI. DISBURSEMENT OF SCHOOL FEES IN 2008

The request for assistance continues to rise as CCP came to the assistance of some 17 children in Catholic School Bojongo in SWR following a sorrowful plea from one Rev. Sister Njikeh Janet. Demand for food and other basic household needs from the caregivers to the program continue to increase more than in 2007 because of the high prices of food commodities at the outset of 2008. The academic performances of most of the children were very encouraging and many were promoted to upper classes. Funding of 25.000 USD was received from EGPAF during this period and all 25.000 exhausted for this purpose. Funding in small amounts continue to come from HB institutions, NAB, some churches and individuals.

1. A total of 14.5 million francs was used during the school fee disbursement period- This includes reimbursing medical bills, transport (hiring of vehicles), catering during the workshops, and stipend to field workers.
2. The entry point for children in the program ranges from 0-18Yrs and exit is when a child passes Advance Level GCE or has successfully completed a trade.
3. Bechem Vanesa who was in the School for the Blind in Kumbo passed her first school Living examination and is now in a secondary school in Buea, She is very intelligent.
4. A Suzuki Jeep was bought for the Program supervision early November 2008.
5. CCP annual meeting was held on the 13th of December 2008, bringing together all field agents and staff of the Program.

Statistics of all Chosen Children assisted in all the areas

FIELD	PRIMARY SCHOOL	SECONDARY SCHOOL	TOTAL	
MUNTEGENE	22	28	50	
LEBIALEM	21	13	34	
EKONDO TITI	17	18	35	
MBUNTZI	38	32	70	
BAMENDA	31	34	65	
MBEM	48	15	63	
OKU	28	43	71	
BUM	40	39	79	
WUM	14	17	31	
NDU	46	19	65	
GEBAUER	36	23	59	
BELO	70	34	104	
NSO	61	55	116	
Others	24	3	27	
Nkambe			34	
Bojongo			17	
TOTAL	509	384	893	

VII. CBCHB CCP STAFF/ FIELD AGENTS.

#	NAME	FUNCTION	FIELD	CONTACT
1	DENIS BAMBO	SUPERVISOR	CCP	77504068
2	AMAH OPHELIA	STAFF	CCP	77544112
3	FONYUY SILVIA	COORDINATOR	CCP SWP	77110154
4	SUILY EMMANUEL	ORGANISER	NSO	77978994
5	GEMMOH WILLIAM	SOCIAL WORKER	BBH	77263444
6	LAWRENCE NGI	FIELD AGENT	NSO	75207199
7	NGEH JOSEPH	FIELD AGENT	NDU	75458287
8	NGWANG GEORGE	FIELD AGENT	MBUNTZI	CBC SOP- NDU SUB DIV.
9	KAME ESTHER	FIELD AGENT	MBEM	77069252
10	LENGHA TREFENA	FIELD AGENT	BUM	CBC FONFUKA
11	GRACE BIH	FIELD AGENT	OKU	96907387
12	TONTU GLADYS	FIELD AGENT	GEBAUER	7434026
13	WEPNJE ESTHER	FIELD AGENT	BAMENDA	75007463
14	LAH SIMON	FIELD AGENT	BELO	75820313
15	NFORMI MARCEL	FIELD AGENT	WUM	75005117
16	KAYE ABRAHAM	FIELD AGENT	LEBIALEM	77471899
17	ITOE MOSES	FIELD AGENT	EKONDO-TITI	77499238

VIII. MICRO-LOAN SCHEME

In 2005 CBCHB started a micro-loan scheme for caregivers with the support of Hope for African Child Initiative channeled through a CBCHB Micro-loan program called WINHEEDCAM. The program ceased operating and has come to a halt for lack of funds. The caregivers have not stopped asking for re-commencement of the scheme.

IX. THREE CHILDREN SPONSORED BY LUTON CHURCH IN UK

Luton Church in UK came to the assistance of three Children through Jenny Smedley a Missionary from this church working with the CBCHB in the position of LAP Assistant Administrator.

Name of Caregiver: Margaret Tuyo about 60 years of age.

1. Blandine Nyah- 5 years of age. Her mother died while she was 4months old. Started school and is in Class one, primary school.
2. Naomi Nkfunji- 4 years old. Her Father died while her mother was 8 months pregnant with her. Started school in class one, primary.
3. Lidiene Mburli- She is 13 years old, completed primary school two years ago and was at home till assisted early 2008. Mother died when she was 8 years old. Presently in secondary school, form one, JMBC Ndu

X. VISIT OF MRS. GBEMI DOUGLAS TO THE PROGRAM

Gbemi Douglas living in Alanta- USA who came to Cameroon and worked with the program and assisted Chosen Children (orphans children). She had support for 50 children within the ages of 4-14 years so that she can support them with school needs including fees. She fully engaged in work from August 7th, played with children, measured dresses, shoe sizes, bought school bags, trained 21 HIV support group women in making jewelry ended with a presentation of certificates and celebration of her birth day party with the children. The climax was at the end when each

child had a present of a school bag containing two pairs of uniform, a pair of shoe, pencil, socks, story books, pens etc. She paid school fee of 685,000 (six hundred and eighty five thousand Francs) for the 52 children, 8000 for primary and 18000 for secondary school respectively. Total support to CCP during this period could be estimated at 1800.000FRS CFA, The CCP team deeply appreciates Mrs. Gbemi Douglas and the friends in the USA who supported and delegated her to assist the orphans in Cameroon.

XI. SECOND BABY SAVED THROUGH THE PMTCT PROGRAM

Report of the Second Baby who was received through the PMTCT Program

It is a great joy for me to share this information on one of our early babies that the CBCHB PMTCT administered nevirapine to in its early years. The first baby to receive nevirapine was Blaise but unfortunately he died from Malaria attack. The good news is that the second baby by name Perpetua Nkeh, Born in BBH in 2001 whose HIV positive mother died 5 days post partum is HIV Negative; She is presently in class two primary school, performing well in school and with stable health. She is presently staying with her aunt, Awah Mujar who has been her caregiver from birth.

On that fateful day, December 17, 2008, the pioneer CCP supervisor, Mr. Nshom and Pastor Bambo paid a special visit, covering a distance of 45 KM from BBH one way to their present home. Since the death of the mother in 2001, the Chosen Children Program has supported the caregiver in the upbringing of the child till date. The family was happy to receive us during our visit which was intended to express our gratitude to the family and also the love of Christmas season.

It is an opportunity for all of us to share this good news which acts as one of the fruits of PMTCT and a success story for the Chosen Children Program.



Perpetua Nkeh, 7yrs, mother died 5 days postpartum



Mr. Nshom Emmanuel (pioneer CCP Supervisor), Perpetua Nkeh and Pastor Bambo Denis (Current CCP Supervisor)

XII- SHUNDZEV SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

A group of elites from the Nso Land are sponsoring 50 chosen children identified by the CBCHB under the Nso Field. 50 children benefited from this scholarship this year with each receiving a total of 7500frs. This scholarship sponsors only children in primary school and from four council areas of Nso, namely Kumbo Urban, Nkum Rural, Jakiri and Mbiame. There are 7 of these children in Nursery school and 43 in primary school. 2 of the children are in class 6 and will be completing school in June 2009. The fee for these children is paid directly in to the school by the field worker and parents informed. The parents and teachers are thankful and extending their appreciations to Shundzev scholarship group. Rosate Leinyuy and Emmanuel Fondzenkai all from CS Kefem Mbime have been replaced in the program with Blessing Berinyuy and Ngwang Valentine from CBC School and G.S Kefem- Mbiame respectively. This decision was taken because the former were taken out of the region by family members.

SUCSESSES

- The children are all going to school and had not been sent away for fees.
- 76% of them are doing very well in academics.
- Two will be graduating from school this academic year.
- Some of the children benefited from free HIV test offered by chosen children program BBH.
- Some have also benefited from free treatment in the care and treatment center.
- Some benefited from Christmas celebration organized by CCP.

OBSERVATIONS

- School fees charges in one of the mission schools has increased and caregivers are unable to add the difference.
- Majority of these children are always dirty and look sad though intelligent.
- Majority of them can only afford exercise books.
- In one of the out reaches to the field, we met with one of the children sent out of class because of dirty clothes.

DIFFICULTIES

- Could not visit these children more than once or making routine visits because of limited funds.
- Five of them are HIV+ and on ART and face difficulties in reaching the hospital for their free treatment and nutrition.
- Majority of them do not have text books.

SUGGESTIONS

- We should help those who are HIV+ to go for treatment regularly and give them food and books.
- We should bring children together and give them moral education and lessons on self motivation.
- Help and register those who are HIV positive in Mutual Health Organization (MHO).
- Eventually register all the orphans identified in MHO

XIII. CBC Field Director, directs ten Cartons of dresses to CCP



Ten Cartons of Children's dresses were donated to Chosen Children Program by North American Baptist Churches. Thanks to Rev. Calvin J. Hohn, the CBC Field Director who took the initiative to inquire if such a gift would be helpful to the Program. He was able to sort out of the container, ten cartons of children's dresses and handed to the Chosen Children Program Supervisor.

XIV. CCP ANNUAL MEETING. 13 DECEMBER 2008 AT B.B.H.



Field Agents pose with excitement around the newly acquired CCP Suzuki Jeep



Field agents with some Christmas gifts (25Kg Rice and 4 tablets of Laundry soap) from the Program after a work well done in 2008

The meeting started at 9:05am with a word of prayer and devotion by Pastor Kengok John taken from I Peter 3:12-13. He spoke on the topic Jesus is your guidance. He cautioned the field agents to render the service they have taken for the orphans as really working for God.

Reporting for the coordination office, Pastor Bambo Denis made participants to note that for now we have 3 (three) permanent staff i.e. Madam Ophelia, Madam Sylvia in the South West region and himself. He further made clear to field agents that the chosen children program for this year got 10.000.000frs (Ten million) as a support from EGPAF through PMTCT program and all has been exhausted.

Eight hundred and ninety three orphans have been supported this academic year with school fees. Further more, the coordinator made field agents to understand that from now pregnancy is enough to roll off an orphan from the chosen children selected list. Likewise if an

orphan is accused for putting a girl into a family way, he will be cleared off from the CCP list and replaced with other needy ones.

It was blissful for field agents to hear from the coordinator that the program acquired a 4 WD Suzuki Jeep. The field agents were still anxious about the fate of micro Loan scheme which ended prematurely, the supervisor explained with dismay that the scheme has come to a halt because of lack of funds. The program coordinator cautioned the agents to see to it that they do their possible best to carry out some selection of orphans who love singing and who could sing well because the program is looking forward to bringing them together for the formation of a good and powerful music/drama group that can perform here and even internationally. Age limit for this vibrant music group should be between 9 and 17 years.

Presentation of reports by field agents

- Reports put forward by field agents were characterized by the following: -
- Some caregivers have rested in the Lord (died) this year.
- Some of our orphans have become pregnant and others have put to bed.
- More honesty and careful management of resources have been observed among the caregivers.
- Most of the caregivers have been so appreciative with the wonderful support the CBC health board has been rendering to them, wishing that the institution be recompense a million times by the Almighty God.
- Wum Field agent indicated that some churches raised above 15.000frs (Fifteen thousand France) to help orphans and books were bought and shared to orphans outside of the CCP.

CONCERNS

- The Lebialem Field agent Rev. Kayeh Abraham Kawob reported 2 (two) cases of epileptic orphans who dropped out of the program because there is no CBC health center in that area.
- He disclosed that the chosen children program in their area applied to the Ministry of Social Affairs for the recognition of their organization and that the CCP coordination office is aware.
- Taking into consideration the increasing rate of pregnancy among our orphans, field agents have been urged to do well in educating and warning the orphans about wayward living. This should be done some times at their homes and when ever we have a general meeting with them. We are aware that most of them are very vulnerable.
- Closing remarks were made by Mr. Suly Emmanuel who was delegated to continue with the meeting since Pastor Bambo had much to do with the retirement program in BBH that same day. Field Pastor for Nso Rev. B. Emmanuel greeted the field agents wishing them a happy Christmas and New year in advance. He added words of thanks and wished everybody a safe journey back home. Rev. Ngwang George from Mbuntzi field made the last prayer and the meeting ended at 12:50pm.

XV. FUNDING

The Program has received funding from EGPAF, NAB, Flag Staff Donations, Betty Vienot, Hazel Nasman, Sunrise Church via Sr. Yvonne Martinez, Children's Outreach Program International INC. via Dr. Martin Jam in USA, Jennifer Smedly sources in Britain, Gbemi Douglas and friends in Atlanta, Sakerettes (Kumbo Branch), Shundzev Scholarship for Orphans in Nso Land, CBCHB, CBC Health Units and stations who raised funds on worlds AIDS Orphans Day.

XVI. CHALLENGES

1. The demand for food and other basic house hold needs continue to increase due to the high cost of leaving.
2. Many orphans not yet benefiting from the program and continue to suffer.
3. The sole Lap top for the Program slept on the morning of September 2, 2008 and refused to wakeup till today. It has been declared beyond repairs by the computer department of the CBCHB.
4. The free interest micro-loan given to caregivers of the NWR in 2005 ended pre-maturely in 2007 and has remained a challenge.
5. More HIV+ children are being identified and the list is getting longer.
6. Staffing need is increasing
7. The Family Caregivers in the Southwest are also asking for funds for Income Generating activities.
8. The Program maintained the amounts used last year in order to reach all the children with School fees.
9. We Lost by death 2 chosen children and 4 caregivers

XVII. ACHIEVEMENTS

Despite the above challenges, we have recorded some achievements:

1. A chosen child in the University of Yaoundé has written appreciation letter thanking the CCP for taking him from primary school to the university level.
2. All the children selected had their educational and health needs taken care of.
3. Successful HIV screening for many children and caregivers was conducted in SWR
4. CD4 count has been done for all chosen children who tested positive for HIV.
5. Some orphans have successfully completed their courses and are now earning a living, one as a nurse; two are in hotel management, some in computer studies, tailors, carpenters, hairdressing, housewives, and farmers.
6. We Successfully installed a phone booth in BBH to raise income
7. Able to attract Cameroonians particularly CBCHB staff to commit to support the Program regularly.
8. Able to manage the available funds to acquire a Suzuki jeep for supervision.

XVIII. SUSTAINABILITY

Methods to sustain the Program remain as last year

1. Integrating the program into the Church activities.
2. Providing Micro-loan scheme to family caregivers.
3. Legalizing family caregivers' Association so that they can be autonomous.
4. Setting up income generating activities for the program.

XIX. GOALS FOR 2009

1. Continue to enroll and assist the very desperately needy children in the program
2. Produce CCP Manual
3. Produce T-Shirts with CCP Logo
4. Produce brochures for the program
5. Establish income generating activities for Family Caregivers in the various areas. This will make them viable to take care of these children
6. Request for one full time staff for the program and or two volunteers especially in the SWR
7. One Caregivers workshop/refresher training for all the areas
8. Allocate allowance for the Field Agents for the Southwest
9. Follow up of the children once a month

10. WAOD 2009 activities involving the authorities/dignitaries such as Delegate of Health, Social affairs, PTG. Visit orphanages.
11. Assemble and minister to children in their various areas
12. Organize sensitization visits to churches/communities
13. Assist in setting an income generating activity in all the associations.
14. Continue to source for funds.
15. Form visiting drama/arts club for sensitizing the community for the needs of Chosen Children.

XX BUDGET FOR 2009

2009 BUDGETS			
DEPARTMENT 650: CHOSEN CHILDREN PROGRAM			
ACC. #	DESCRIPTION	PROPOSAL FOR 2008	COMMENTS
	INCOME		
7240	FUNDING HACI		
7250	FUNDING HB INSTITUTION	2,600,000	
7350	FUNDING NAB	11,993,231	
7500	GOVERNMENT GRANTS		
7650	MISCELLANEOUS (PMTCT, Children's Outreach International)	13,067,773	
	Total	27,661,004	
	EXPENSES		
8460	EDUCATION & TRAINING EXPENSE	500,000	
9000	MAINTAINANCE	100,000	
9100	MISCELLANEOUS	300,000	
9159	NAB 15% CHARGE		
9220	NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT OF ORPHANS	1,500,000	
9250	OFFICE EXPENSE	300,000	
9300	MEDICAL CARE OF PERSONNEL	200,000	
9302	MEDICAL NEEDS OF ORPHANS	1,400,000	
9850	SALARIES GENERAL	4,700,000	
9900	EMPLOYER'S CNPS	660,544	
9911	SCHOOL NEEDS OF ORPHANS	13,380,460	
9950	SUPPLIES	200,000	
9960	TELEPHONE EXPENSE	360,000	
9965	CASUAL/TEMPORARY SALARIES	360,000	
9970	TRANSPORT AND CATERING	2,500,000	
9991	CAPITAL EXP. EQUIPMENT	200,000	
9992	CAPITAL EXP. FURNITURE		
9993	CAPITAL EXP. AUTOMOBILE		
	Total	27,661,004	

XXI. APPRECIATION

1. Firelight Foundation – Funded the pilot phase of the Chosen Children Program.
2. The Baptist General Conference – Provided funds at a critical moment, when our reapplication proposal to firelight was not renewed and there was a possibility that the program would come to a halt.
3. North American Baptist Conference – Funded for extension phase of the program.
4. Sunrise Baptist Church in US. Continue to send funds for the Program and also visiting and having Bible study with Chosen Children.
5. Ecumenical HIV AIDS Initiative in Africa - supported the Program for two years ago through Regional Reference Group for Central Africa.
6. Dr. Thomas and Edith Welthy, seasoned grant writers for the Program
7. Flag Staff Donations via Dotty Meyer
8. Miss Jennifer Smedley Sources in United Kingdom
9. Betty Vienot sponsoring five Chosen children
10. Hazel Nasman sponsoring twins
11. Many other benevolent individuals in the U.S.
12. Many Churches and Church Groups
13. The Sakarettes in Kumbo Branch
14. Sister Hedwig of Lavena Sisterhood at St. John's Foncha Street, Bamenda.
15. The Cameroon Government
16. Johnson and Johnson VIA EGPAF
17. The Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board Staff
18. Gbemi Douglas of Atlanta- USA

XXII. CONCLUSION

EXODUS 22:22-24 ***“Do not take advantage of a widow or an orphan, If you do and they cry out to me, I will certainly hear their cry. My anger will be aroused, and I will kill you with the sword; your wives will become widows and your children fatherless”***

The CBCHB chosen children program is especially thankful to the CBC Leaders who facilitated this tender activity through out the entire territory, the Director of CBCHB, the Field Director, CBC Comptroller, General Supervisor of ACP, and all Bursaries. Our Prayer is for long life and increasing love for the Chosen Children to enable them grow physically, spiritually and intellectually and find a place in their hearts to worship God.

JAMES 1:27 ***” Pure and lasting religion in the sight of God our Father means that we must care for orphans and widows in their troubles, and refuse to let the world corrupt us.”***