

October 2021 Spreading Health Bulletin

After a quiet September, October was busy and challenging. It began with three days of lockdown.

SHUMAS representatives completed the final selection of candidates for the 2021/2022 training intake following the publication of entrance results.

A total of 25 applications were received for candidates from the communities. Preference was given to candidates who succeeded in the Government Entrance Examination, and for those from new communities with inadequate health personnel or from poor and rural communities without health personnel.

The six selected candidates are:

Yansi Otans Ngachu is from Fonfuka community, and she will attend the Florence Nightingale Training School. Fonfuka has no trained health personnel in the Health Centre, and it is a new community.

Angoh Gillian Nayah is from Mendum 1 community, and she will attend the Florence Nightingale Training School. A new community, and the community leader and Chief of Centre are ready to support her studies.

Nkeh Collins Nkwiyir is from Binshua Nkambe community, and he will attend the Polytechnic in Bambui. Recommended by the community. The Health Centre and the community need a trained nurse.

Ndifon Nadege Kebundeh is from Birpondo community in the Bertua East Region, and she will attend the Shisong Training School. A new community with insufficient health staff (Only one nurse and one lab technician)

Abembom Sonia Tung is from Njinikom (Fanatui community) and she will attend the Santa Training School. New community and recommended by the Community Management Committee Chairperson. The community needs trained nurses.

Bertrand Esembeing M is from Mbetta community (SW Region) and he will attend the Shisong Training School. New community and recommended by the village Chief and Chief of Centre. The Health Centre has just one member of staff.

REPORTS FROM FIRST AND SECOND YEAR STUDENTS ON INTERNSHIP

The Second Year students are *Harriet, Patricia, Ivah, Yvette, Synthia and Larissa*, and they are on clinical internship in the Health Centres in their communities. They are all doing well.

Their activities include basic health procedures, wound dressing, minor surgeries, assisting with deliveries, immunisations, plus sensitisation and giving educative health talks. Most of their communities have no network so it has been difficult for SHUMAS to get their reports.

Wiyla Johkem Gwendoline

At the Florence Nightingale Training School carried out her internship at the Regional Hospital carrying out clinical procedures such as wound dressing, intravenous injections infusions, subcutaneous intra-muscular injections, blood samples collection, and bed making. The internship was for two months September to October The lock down in September made things difficult, plus a lack of transportation to the hospital.

Embe Patricia

At the Florence Nightingale Training School



On clinical internship at the Regional Hospital Bamenda. The activities carried out were: patient admissions and collection of vital signs; insertion of nasogastric tube and urinary catheter; minor and major surgeries; administration of I/V and I/M injections; collection of blood sample for lab

examinations; collection of cerebrospinal fluid; management of patients with hypoglycemia and hypertension

Patricia found the long distance and high cost of taxis difficult.

All the First Year students are on internship at the Regional Hospital and in other health facilities around Bamenda.

Amanwi Sarah

From the Mbinka community, Sarah is on internship at the Bamenda Regional Hospital where she has worked in the female Medical Unit, female Surgical Unit, and in Ante Natal Care. In these units Sarah was able to observe and practice drug administration, wound dressing, monitoring of vital signs, and vaccines administration. The September lockdown brought a halt to the internship but in the month of October Sarah was very busy.

REPORTS OF NURSES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

Wepke Januarius Nyamngong

From Luh Community, working at the Luh Integrated Health Centre.

Januarius started training in 2015/16 and graduated (and started work) in August 2019.



The most prevalent diseases in the area are Respiratory tract Disease, Gastritis, Rheumatism, and Intestinal parasites.

Activities carried out include: consultation; vaccination; admissions; deliveries; minor surgery; outreach activities and home visits; surveillance of vaccine preventable diseases; malnutrition screening.

One the greatest challenges is the fight against Covid 19 because the Non-state Armed Group are not accepting the existence of Covid 19, saying that it is political. This means they object to the community's use/respect for Covid 19 preventive measures, especially the wearing of facemasks.

There is also a problem of poor staffing. Only 2 nurses. Salaries/compensation are low as all the staff are community employed and are all paid from cost recovered from patients. This is made more difficult because the Non-state Armed Group want to be treated free of charge.

Even so, the *Spreading Health* nurses and students have completed a high number of consultations this month thanks to more outreach consultations planned and executed.

Gladys

From Lus Community. Gladys is the Chief of Centre for Lus integrated Health Centre.

The community received a Tippy hand-washing machine from SHUMAS/ Spreading Health which has gone a long way to prevent COVID-19 and other contagious diseases spreading.

Statistics

Indicator for October:	Number reached:
General Consultation	280
Hospitisations	101
Antenatal Visit	62
Delivery	13
Home visits	539
Health sensitisations	760
Minor surgery	69
Immunisation	171
HIV screening and counseling	197



The Centre purchased a solar refrigerator and a solar panel for the cold chain preservation of vaccines. The challenges include the lack of potable water, no essential drugs, shortage of bed sheets, and the lack of forceps for surgical operations.
