



## **CHAIRPERSON EDITH'S DREAM UK REPORT JAN – DEC 2014**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING April 2015**

**(Charity Number 1152722)**

### **Our Vision:**

Is to give hope to the less privileged, making a difference in the health of individuals and families, living in poverty in Mbengwi and the surrounding villages in Cameroon.

### **Our Mission:**

Is the relief of poverty, the relief of sickness and the preservation of health among people living in the village of Mbengwi and the 28 surrounding villages in Cameroon, West Africa, in particular but not exclusively by the provision of goods and services.

### **Reflecting on 2014**

Edith's Dream UK continue to make a difference in people's lives in Africa. Our work is to raise funds and create awareness in the UK of the work we our doing in Africa changing and saving lives and the relief of poverty.

In 2014 we continued to raise funds through various ways. We set up a fundraising calendar which has worked successfully as follows:

- July 2014 Youths Fundraising July 2014, St Paul's Church Hall
- Sept 2014 African day at St Paul's Church followed by Fun Day, Hill House Brent Knoll
- Dec 2014 Christmas carols at the Red Cow, Brent Knoll

We continued to receive generous monthly donations and one off donations of supporters of Edith's Dream in the UK which we then pass onto the Grace Foundation Trust Mbengwi {GFT}. This went to fulfil our mission to the poor communities in Africa.

Another activity carried last year was a talk to the women group of Brent Knoll village. We were invited to talk about our charity and the difference and impact we are making in other countries. At the end of this talk we had some donations as you will find in our financial report.

In 2014 the chairperson visited Grace Foundation Trust. Along with her she took some instruments bought for the health centre. (Ear irrigation instrument)

Edith's Dream UK Management Committee and Trustees have held quarterly meetings following agreement at the AGM in April 2014. At these meetings we monitor the finances of the charity as well as ensuring that the funds sent to GFT are spent wisely and most effectively. We also have a fundraising subgroup which met 3 times in 2014 where the planning of the fundraising events takes place.

Throughout 2014 we have tried to improve our communication to make more people aware of the charity and its work. This includes a facebook page, website and newsletters.

We have continued to look at working with partners and met with Phoenix biomed but unfortunately this did not work out successfully as this charity has ceased to exist.

### **Looking forward to 2015**

1. We hope we will attract more supporters this year and will visit Schools, GP surgeries, Hospitals and other organisations to make this a success.
2. We plan to run two major fundraising events – Summer Ball on June 27th and Africa Day and Fun Day in Sept 2015
3. We are looking to attract more volunteers/friends of Edith's dream to join the team of our committee members and bring new ideas and energies.
4. We hope to update our web site and make it more user friendly and effective
5. We plan this year to send the container to include a 4wheel drive vehicle for out-reach to enable easy access to the other villages in the area. In addition the vehicle will provide urgently needed patient transport when patients of the health centre need to be referred to hospital due to the severity of their illness.
6. Increase our monthly donation to GFT to enable out-reach to be rolled out fully.
7. We will also start planning and looking into volunteering at Grace Foundation Trust Mbengwi.

### **Financial Report:**

We have done wonderfully well in the last year as we will see the detail financial report from our excellent treasurer, Mr Tim Cromwell.

Well done Tim, you are very good in the management of our financial accounts. Our funds this year have come from,

- Individual and group donations
- Fundraising and
- Institutions

Our dedicated team of trustees names can be found below have been hard working to make our charity a success this year. Thanks to you all.

Lisa Pringle, Constance Fobang, Jonas Focho, Penny Hynds (Secretary), Tim Cromwell (Treasurer) and Edith Focho (Chairperson)

### **Activities of Grace Foundation Trust**

Edith's Dream get reports every quarter from the Administrator of the health centre and Edith, as chair of Grace Foundation Trust as well gives a verbal report at meetings of the UK charity.

Total number of clients seen in 2014 where **957** as compared to **362** in 2013

Number of patients seen in out-patients ----- 814

Number of in-patients----- 125

Number of babies born----- 3

Number of antenatal----- 3

Referral----- 15

On Out-Reach 15 homes where visited. This activity just started in December 2014 and we plan to extend our community out-reach to all the 28 villages in time.

Number of staff----- 13 (Including 1 Administrator and 1 Nurse Consultant.)

Despite the great achievements in running the health centre throughout last year without any problems and our successes in the health centre our highlight was when we started the out- reach in December 2014. Out-reach is the charitable arm of GFT set up to go to the community, creating awareness, educating individuals, families and communities on their health problems and how to manage their health correctly. We have started in the village of Ku and Mbengwi. There was education on immunisation and what to do and were to go when unwell as many people in these villages don't asses health care services when they are ill. Emphasis was laid on:

*Early consultation, early diagnosis/referral, early treatment saves lives.*

Our greatest challenge is how to access these villages to be able to change the way people think in other to embrace medical treatment as their first choice when they are unwell. People only seek medical help at the end stage of their illness which account for the so many deaths from diseases that can be treated.

The other challenge is meeting up with the health centre expenses as despite the fact that we are delivering affordable health care services the people of this community are very poor and most of the time cannot afford for basic health care.

**Conclusion:**

The year 2014 went very smoothly. It has been a very successful one.

Thanks to your constant efforts and hard work which has paid a lot of success stories.

God Bless you all.

*Edith*

Chairperson: *Edith Focho.*



**A little kindness makes a difference**

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