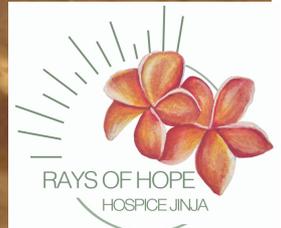


JANUARY 2021

ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO WITH A LITTLE HELP



Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja
+256 (0) 771 619 991
www.rasofhopehospicejinja.org

[raysofhopehospicejinja@gmail.com/](mailto:raysofhopehospicejinja@gmail.com)
hospicejinja@yahoo.co.uk
Plot 18b Kiira Road, Jinja, Uganda

BACKGROUND

Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja cares for patients with life-limiting/life-threatening illnesses through pain relief and symptom management. Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja's approach to care is patient focused where holistic care is offered to make the patient as comfortable as possible by relieving physical and social distresses of patients and their families. Family is at the forefront of patients care and RHHJ plays a role in training our patients' main caregivers and giving guidance to the family as much as possible. Locally based community volunteers are part of the care network helping to find patients and follow up with them, ensuring they are pain and distress free.

Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja has clinical care as the core service offered to patients and their families. Psychosocial support services have also been embraced to ensure that patients' social, economic and spiritual distresses are also relieved as much as possible. The staff are supported and facilitated to provide the palliative care services. Focus is given to administration and management support services that enable for patients to be able to receive all the help they need, when they need it, from the team at Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja.

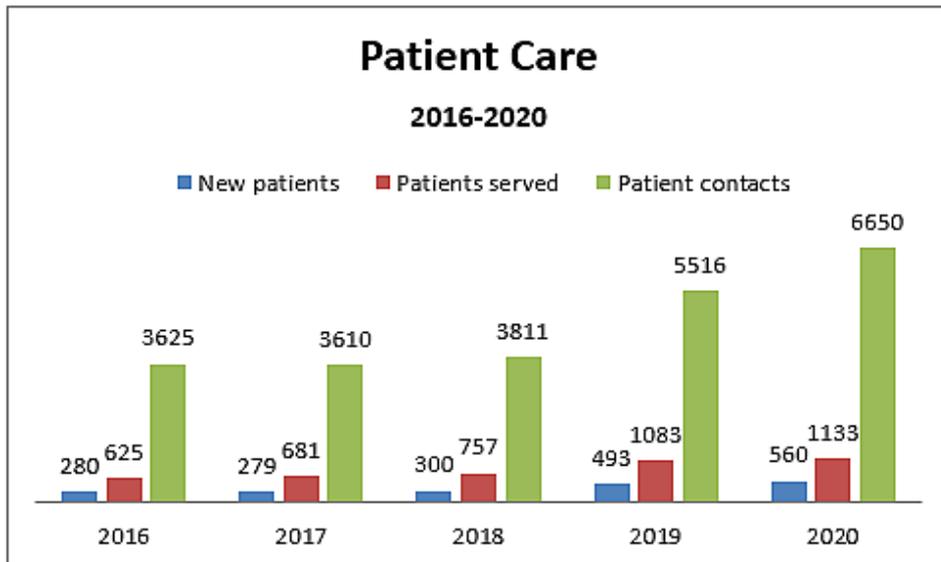
INTRODUCTION TO FUNDING SUPPORT

Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja (RHHJ) has since 2017 been blessed with the generous support of With a Little Help towards our patients care services. RHHJ appreciates and treasures this collaboration that continued in 2020 in support of some of the 2020 operational plan activities.

WALH committed to support salary of Nursing/Clinical Officer, Support treatment of poor patients with treatable conditions, promote cervical/breast cancer screening, help with patients' bedding and diapers, Support development of M/E systems and a Public Address system among many other activities. With support from WALH, Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja has been able to help many patients and their families. Below is a narration of progress so far registered:

PROGRESS REPORT

The funds we received from WALH in 2020 were utilized very efficiently and great successes have been registered. Even with interruptions by the COVID-19 Pandemic and especially by the restrictions; we managed care for 1,133 patients and their families.



CLINICAL CARE: SUPPORT TO CLINICAL STAFF



Clinical Palliative Care relieves pain and symptoms of patients with life threatening/life-limiting illnesses through holistic care. It also involves training patients' families and caretakers to be able to support the patients. Ultimately, our main goal is to keep the patients as comfortable as possible despite their illness.

Our team has adopted a home and outreach based care model and so teams drive out to the field to care for the needs of patients and their families. Well trained professional staffs are very central to patients care. Rays of Hope has very committed staff and an incredible team that is central to all the patient care work.

We are very grateful to WALH for providing a salary for two clinical staff in 2020. The clinical team is composed of 9 staff and each of them made a critical contribution to the care of 1133 patients making 6650 patients contacts - a 21% growth from the contacts made in 2019.

CLINICAL CARE: TREATMENT SUPPORT

Access to health care is a human right but most of our clients cannot access treatment they need due to financial constraints. RHHJ continue to help clients with treatable conditions to get treated and palliative therapy for quality of life of those with advanced conditions. We have over the past years developed a good referral system for diagnosis, testing, investigations and treatment. We have also developed relationships with several partners for diagnosis, Investigations, drugs and a navigator at Uganda Cancer Institute to guide a whole lot of referred patients through the bureaucracies to quickly access tests, investigations and therapy. The treatment whether curative or palliative, aims to improve the quality of life of patients and includes chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgeries accessed from Uganda Cancer Institute or any other health facilities offering the therapy.

Part of the year was interrupted by COVID-19 Pandemic and its related restrictions which increased on the treatment support costs. However, we managed to provide support for 122 patients access diagnosis and treatment from the Uganda Cancer Institute and other facilities. Treatment support was extended to 80% cancer cases and 20% Ca/HIV and other illnesses. Cases most prevalent were cancer cervix (17%), Cancer breast (12%) and Kaposi's sarcoma (8%). RHHJ only enrolls the very poor, who would otherwise not receive treatment. Such poor patients are facilitated as need may be with transport, upkeep and all bills in relation to investigations and treatment.

SUCCESS STORY

Richard is a 36 year old married man and father of 3 children between 3 and 10 years old. The Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja team met him with a tropical ulcer which was so painful and it was discharging foul smelling pus. This socially isolated him and he was always worried. Richard was involved in a road traffic accident in 1999 which made him lose his foot; he was managed in a health facility and it healed. Unfortunately, he was involved in a second motorcycle accident in 2016, after which he sustained a wound on his already affected leg. He tried self medication, went to different health facilities for treatment but all in vain, and the wound kept on increasing in size. After some time he was referred to Bugiri Hospital where amputation was suggested - however, he was required to pay 1.5 million shillings. This was a big blow to Richard which sent him back home where he drowned in a pool of thoughts, worries and agony. His wish was to amputate his limb so that he could get rid of the pain but he could not afford the costs. He spent sleepless nights in severe pain until late October 2020 when a RAY OF HOPE shone upon him as he received the news that RHHJ would support him for amputation. Richard is now a happy; pain free man and gets peaceful sleep, soon he will be able to resume his normal activities. He is so thankful and blesses RHHJ abundantly.



CLINICAL CARE: CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING



Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja started cervical cancer screening program in 2018 with aim of reducing death rates of women in Busoga region from these detectable and treatable cancers. In Uganda, cervical cancer accounts for 20% of all new cancers and 35% of female cancers. 80% of these women present advanced disease. These women come predominantly from rural parts of the country including Busoga Region. In 2020, RHHJ continued screening in collaboration with rural health facilities where screening is rarely offered. Screening for cancers helps women access diagnosis and treatment early enough to prevent or reduce cervical cancer related suffering, distress and death. Despite COVID-19, we screened a total of 1,354 women in 21 health centres. 90 tested VIA positive for precancerous or cancerous cells and 69 were treated on site. The rest were referred for further diagnosis and treatment. The onsite screen and treat is very appropriate for rural ladies who cannot afford travelling to distant referral centres.



Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja has built internal capacity through training 6 field screeners in Buyinja and Banda Health facilities and 5 staff screeners. Moreover, we have acquired a thermo coagulator for treatment of VIA positive ladies, which will ensure more are ladies screened in the coming years.

PSYCHOSOCIAL CARE

MATTRESSES & BEDDING



Mattress and bedding support has played a very big role in improving our patients' quality of life. Many of our patients are too poor to afford decent beddings hence increased suffering compounded by the inadequate basic needs. 74 blankets, 87 mattresses and 78 pairs of bed sheets were supplied to the patients adding quality to their lives and to their carers. Patients' excitement when they receive the bedding reduces their pain temporarily.

DIAPERS, MACKINTOSHES & COLOSTOMY BAGS



Thirty three patients were supported with mackintoshes, 61 patients with a watery and bloody discharge as well as complications of urine, faecal problems from the advanced disease were facilitated with a set of diapers (2 pants and 3 suckers). Various colostomy bags (170) were provided to patients with tumors in colon, rectal and anal areas. All this

support, contributes greatly to the improvement of the patients' quality of life and their families. In addition, this support boosts the patients' confidence, ensures decency, proper hygiene and as well reducing stigma from their peers and the family members.



Meet some of the patients who benefited from the colostomy bag support. Zaitune is a 65 year old woman diagnosed with cancer of the rectum; she was operated and now has a permanent stoma that requires her to use colostomy bags. Before she received colostomy bags, She used to use a white polythene bag in order not to soil herself. This sometimes would bring a foul smell as well as spilling over which left her in her in embarrassment.

She was so appreciative on receiving the colostomy bags from RHHJ. She confirmed that she could now move to her peers and relatives for the visits freely and more comfortably without fear of getting ashamed before the public.

"I would like to appreciate RHHJ for the colostomy bags. They will for sure improve the quality of my wellbeing! May the God Lord reward you abundantly" those were her words of appreciation to the team that delivered her colostomy bags.

PATIENTS' SHELTER IMPROVEMENT

RHHJ has, over the past three years, helped clients living in miserable shelters by constructing a small simple house to keep them dry, give them comfort and dignity. Nine (9) Houses were constructed and four (4) were renovated or repaired. Providing a roof over a patient's head and their family, brings so much joy to the patient who had never thought of owning a decent home. The joy brought by the help of the house creates peace and hence improve the quality of life.



Meet our little girl Mwajuma who is one of the beneficiaries of RHHJ housing project. Mwajuma is also on the RHHJ School Fee Support Programme. Mwajuma is 15 years old in Primary six – she lost her mother to HIV/AIDS which Mwajuma is suffering from, contracting it at birth. She is under HIV/AIDS care and adhering well to the ART treatment. Mwajuma is under the care of her weak and elderly father who is also under

ART treatment. We decided to support Mwajuma with a house after realising that she was sharing a single room with her three big brothers, and their father. Sharing a room with four males poses a risk to this little girl. Therefore, a single room constructed for her would enable her to have privacy as well as keeping her decency. RHHJ believes that the house and school fees support rendered to Mwajuma will help in improving her adherence to the ART treatment as well improving on her grades once schools re-open hence, improving her quality of life and securing a bright future for herself and her entire family.

INCOME GENERATION



Income Generation is provided to our patients who go on recovery and are strong enough to start an economic activity which can give them a better and sustained, independent income.

This year 2020, all started well with three (3) of our patients who recovered from their illnesses receiving an income generation fund (start up capital) to enable them start a business so that they can sustain themselves. However, with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was fear to start up business due unreliable economic environment. We are looking forward to doing better in this coming financial year 2021.

MONITORING & EVALUATION SYSTEM

With the help of WALH, Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja has been able to maintain a very committed Data Officer who has enabled the organisation accurately process numbers of patients reached, missed, remitted and the numbers of screened ladies, patients supported for treatment. This data has enabled us make very critical decisions. We are looking forward to developing a complete data base which we hope can process more data for efficiency and effectiveness of our patients care services.

CHALLENGES

The COVID-19 Pandemic has had a very big contribution toward slowing some of the activities we had committed to do in 2020. We had to observe the travel restrictions and many other Standard Operating Procedures to prevent COVID 19 infections and hence adjusted to ensure patients and their families receive the much needed care. Many other activities that involved many people were placed on hold; some of the budget lines have not been utilized within the committed time period.

FINANCES

Note: 1000 UGX = 1.90 DKK

Activities	First funding Received (UGX)	Additional funding (UGX)	Total funds Received (UGX)	Total funds Received (DKK)	Total Expenditure for 2020 (UGX)	Total Expenditure for 2020 (DKK)	Balance (UGX)	Balance (DKK)
Treatment support	28,500,000	21,000,000	49,500,000	94,050	49,236,355	93,549	263,645	501
Nursing / Clinical officer	19,550,000		19,550,000	37,145	15,881,684	30,175	3,668,316	6,970
Bedding, Mattresses, nets etc.	11,450,000		11,450,000	21,755	10,092,000	19,175	1,358,000	2,580
Diapers & colostomy bags	4,525,000	5,000,000	9,525,000	18,098	8,545,603	16,237	979,397	1,861
Income Generating activities	3,750,000		3,750,000	7,125	635,000	1,207	3,115,000	5,919
Monitoring and Evaluation, Data Officer	15,994,000		15,994,000	30,389	15,881,684	30,175	112,316	213
Public address system	3,500,000		3,500,000	6,650	3,630,000	6,897	(130,000)	(247)
Nursing officer (Screening coordination)		15,993,991	15,993,991	30,389	18,317,544	34,803	(2,323,553)	(4,415)
Screening for cervical and breast cancer		10,000,000	10,000,000	19,000	14,793,003	28,107	(4,793,003)	(9,107)
Clinical equipment		4,250,000	4,250,000	8,075	6,503,250	12,356	(2,253,250)	(4,281)
Sub-Total	87,269,000	56,243,991	143,512,991	272,675	143,516,123	272,681	(3,132)	(6)
Houses		31,578,000	31,578,000	59,998	18,615,500	35,369	12,962,500	24,629
Total	87,269,000	87,821,991	175,090,991	332,673	162,131,623	308,050	12,959,368	24,623

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As RHHJ, we are so appreciative to WALH for all the facilitation that you provided to reach our patients in need and their families especially during the darkest times when faced with the COVID-19 Pandemic and the related restrictions. We are very grateful and praying to the Almighty to bless you abundantly. We also commend the incredible staff who do their best to offer services to patients and their families.