



Final Report to: Jewish World Watch

Date Submitted: July 11, 2008

Program Title: **The Dillon Henry Health Clinic**

Program Location: Ouadda Djalle, Vakaga Province, Central African Republic (CAR)

Program Goal: To increase access to health care services for internally displaced and refugee populations in northeastern CAR

Program Timeline: November 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008

Grant Amount: \$100,000

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Over the past two years, the northern region of the Central African Republic (CAR) has experienced instability as a result of fighting among rebel groups and the ongoing conflict in neighboring Chad and Darfur. This turmoil severely impacted Vakaga Province in northeastern CAR, leading to the destruction of health facilities and rendering health care services virtually non-existent in the area. Further compounding the situation, thousands of refugees from Darfur have fled the brutal attacks on their villages to take refuge in CAR's Haute Kotto Province.

With generous support from Jewish World Watch, International Medical Corps rehabilitated one such damaged health facility in Ouadda Djalle, Vakaga Province, CAR. Through this important project, International Medical Corps increased access to primary health care services for 30,991 people.

The facility, now named the Dillon Henry Health Clinic, is fully equipped and staffed, and provides the following services:

- Outpatient consultations and inpatient care;
- Maternal and child health care;
- Emergency treatment and surgery;
- Minor surgical procedures;
- Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI);
- Malaria testing and surveillance;
- Communicable disease control and monitoring via the Early Warning and Reporting System (EWARS);
- Growth monitoring, nutritional screening and oral re-hydration therapy; and
- Health education and hygiene promotion.

II. BACKGROUND

In 2006, attacks and counter attacks launched by rebels, the Government of CAR and the French army caused widespread destruction in Ouadda Djalle and many others villages and towns in Vakaga province. This conflict was ethnically charged: Goula rebels were targeted by the presidential guard and launched counter attacks on non-Goula villages. During the fighting, almost all of the health centers in the area were either looted or destroyed. The health clinic in Ouadda Djalle was among the structures damaged during these attacks.

The violence and chaos forced ninety percent of the local population to flee to seek refuge. Of those displaced, 50,000 fled to Chad and 20,000 fled to Cameroon. The remaining 150,000 displaced individuals scattered around CAR, with more than 18,000 relocating along the Birao-Ouadda Djalle corridor in Vakaga Province. Those residing along this corridor have been existing with very limited access to safe water, food or health care services ever since.

Birao Hospital, the only referral hospital in Vakaga Province, has been closed since March 2007, and the next nearest referral hospital is more than 215 miles away (a five-day trip).

Ouadda Djalle

International Medical Corps is the first and only international non-governmental organization to have a full-time operational presence in Ouadda Djalle. Last year, International Medical Corps began providing mobile clinic health and nutrition services for conflict-affected host populations and refugees residing along the Birao-Ouadda Djalle corridor. Although this activity provided an immediate improvement for the target population, International Medical Corps identified a need to rehabilitate the health facility at Ouadda Djalle in order to make the benefits of this intervention sustainable over the longer term.

The Ouadda Djalle Health Facility

The Ouadda Djalle health facility, renamed the Dillon Henry Health Clinic, is the only health facility located along the Birao-Ouadda Djalle corridor where patients from outlying areas in need of clinical care can be referred. Its functionality is therefore critical to the well being of the people who live in the surrounding area. Prior to the start of this program, the Ouadda Djalle health facility had been looted during the aforementioned rebel attacks and had no remaining medicines or medical supplies. The facility's physical structures had been damaged during the episodes of looting and violence, in addition to being in a state of disrepair due to inadequate maintenance. The facility also lacked sufficient numbers of well-trained health staff. For all of these reasons, the facility did not have the capacity to meet the community's needs.

International Medical Corps' Current Activities in CAR

Because many of CAR's residents have been forced to flee their homes and live without shelter, clean water, medical assistance or sufficient food, International Medical Corps is reaching out to those in need of emergency assistance via mobile medical units that address the needs of the region's most underserved villages and internally displaced population camps. During the rainy season, International Medical Corps' staff travels two to three days on motorcycle or bike to access isolated populations in need of basic care and services. As the ongoing instability in CAR continues to prolong the displacement of many of its inhabitants, International Medical Corps is working to reduce the strain on the resource-poor region through providing the following services: primary health care; maternal and child care; expanded program on immunization; nutritional screenings; and therapeutic and supplemental feeding.

III. PROFILE OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

The target participants of this program were the internally displaced and refugee¹ populations residing along the Birao-Ouadda Djalle corridor, many of whom have been dis-

¹ Primarily refugees displaced from Darfur.

placed from their villages of origin for nearly three years. The Dillon Henry Health Clinic is located in Voukouma and directly serves this commune’s 6,416 residents; it is also the referral health facility for Ouandja and Ouandja-Kotto communes, thus serving the 24,575 residents of these communities as well. Voukouma and Ouandja communes are located in Vakaga Province, and Ouandja-Kotto commune is located in Haute Kotto Province.

Ouadda Djalle Population Profile:

Group	Ouandja Commune	Voukouma Commune	Ouandja-Kotto Commune
Total population	12,000	6,416	12,575
Age 0 – 11 months	420	240	675
Age 0 – 59 months	2,100	1,110	4,375
Women of reproductive age	2,892	1,546	6,025
Pregnant women	720	385	1,500

The total number of people served by the Dillon Henry Health Clinic is 30,991.

Health Status of the Participant Population

The most prevalent causes of morbidity among the target population are: malaria (25 percent); diarrhea (15 percent); skin diseases (12 percent); and acute respiratory infection (ten percent). The rate of severe malnutrition among children six to 59 months of age is 37 percent. Approximately 11 percent of the population ages 15 to 49 is HIV positive.

IV. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Program Goal: To reduce morbidity and mortality rates among the internally displaced and conflict-affected populations in northeastern CAR through increasing their access to health care services.

Program Objective: To rehabilitate the Dillon Henry Health Clinic at Ouadda Djalle.

Activities

- Finalize the construction design and prepare a bill of quantities;
- Advertise for bids from eligible contractors;
- Select and hire a contractor;
- Perform construction to rehabilitate and augment the health clinic;
- Equip and furnish the entire health facility;
- Train the health facility’s staff; and
- Launch the health facility’s provision of a basic package of health care services.

Outputs

- The health facility is rehabilitated and augmented;
- The health facility is staffed and furnished with necessary equipment; and
- A basic package of primary health care services is provided at the health facility.

V. PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

International Medical Corps has completed its rehabilitation of the Dillon Henry Health Clinic. The health facility is fully staffed and equipped, and is now providing a comprehensive range of primary health care services.



The main building before (left) and after (right) rehabilitation. This building contains a surgery room, an emergency room, and an infant delivery room.

The target population's rate of utilization for health care services during the last quarter was 2.8 consultations per person, per year. During the first quarter of 2008, International Medical Corps registered 6,177 new patients in Ouadda Djalle.²

In addition to providing routine vaccinations, International Medical Corps coordinated with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health to conduct two Expanded Program on Immunization campaigns.



Applying dressings in the ER

² The crude mortality rate was 0.18/10,000/day and the under-five mortality rate was 0.4/10,000/day.



The consultation building before (left) and after (right) rehabilitation. This building contains a doctor's office, a nurse's office, and a pharmacy.

International Medical Corps provided the Dillon Henry Health Clinic with medicines, renewable supplies, and medical equipment to ensure that the facility is able to respond to emergency cases and meet the significant and growing demand for primary health care services in a sustainable manner.



The pharmacy



The maternity ward before (left) and after (right) rehabilitation. This building contains two maternal and child health care rooms, a pediatric room and an office.



Pre-natal consultation



Post-natal consultation

The Dillon Henry Health Clinic is ensuring good maternal health and the safe delivery of infants by providing pre- and post-natal health care. The pre-natal care services include vaccinations for tetanus, administration of iron supplements, prevention of malaria, and screening for pre-eclampsia. The post-natal services include care for newborns, screening for post-partum infections, and administration of vitamin A supplements. The Dillon Henry Health Clinic is also ensuring good health for children by providing curative and preventive services including routine immunizations, and monitoring of children's growth and development.



Conducting a pediatric consultation

Training for Health Facility Staff

To strengthen the human resource capacity of the Dillon Henry Health Clinic, International Medical Corps trained its health staff, including traditional birth attendants, vaccinators and health promoters. International Medical Corps also conducted health education sessions for the community on a broad range of topics including: reproductive health; HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections; hygiene; sexual- and gender-based violence; malaria; and diarrhea.



Training for traditional birth attendants

VI. PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS—IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Djamina

Djamina is a 26 year old woman living in Ouadda Djalle. She is married and recently gave birth to her third child at the Dillon Henry Health Clinic on June 20, 2008. Djamina had delivered her first two babies at home, but described both births “as very difficult, with bleeding that lasted for days.”



DJamina, one day after giving birth to her third child

When asked about delivering her third child at the Dillon Henry Health Clinic, Djamina replied “I already felt the difference months ago, even before I delivered, because International Medical Corps’ nurses had cared for me during my pregnancy. I am full of joy now...I have no words to express my thanks to International Medical Corps and Jewish World Watch for their help and support.”

Mr. Grebaye, Mayor of Ouadda Djalle

“International Medical Corps’ rehabilitation of the Henry Dillon Health Clinic is a big achievement and will not only provide health but also peace,” said Mayor Grebaye. “We first started building the maternity ward 15 years ago, but thanks to International Medical Corps and Jewish World Watch, it was finally achieved in a matter of months. Everyday, people are coming from across the region to seek health care in Ouadda Djalle, and we are so happy and proud,” he said.



Mr. Grebay, Mayor of Ouadda Djalle

“On behalf of all the people now benefiting from the Dillon Henry Health Clinic, I express my gratitude to International Medical Corps and Jewish World Watch,” Mayor Grebay concluded.

VII. CHALLENGES

International Medical Corps experienced challenges during its facility rehabilitation activities, primarily as a result of delays in obtaining some of the necessary construction materials due to the following:

- A shortage of available construction materials and supplies (particularly cement) in the country;
- A reluctance on the part of construction contractors to work in the area due to its current operating environment, which is characterized by insecurity;
- Logistical constraints caused by limited road access; and
- Frequent attacks of banditry on humanitarian convoys.

Due to its extensive experience working in difficult operating environments such as that of CAR, International Medical Corps worked around these challenges and completed the project on schedule.

VIII. CONCLUSION

With support from Jewish World Watch, International Medical Corps has increased access to health care services for the internally displaced and conflict-affected populations in northeastern CAR. International Medical Corps' rehabilitation and training activities have enabled the Dillon Henry Health Clinic to provide critically needed health care services for more than 30,991 people. On behalf of our program participants, volunteers and staff, International Medical Corps thanks Jewish World Watch for your support. We look forward to continuing our valued partnership in the future.

IX. FINAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Line Item	Budgeted	Expended
Personnel Costs	12,435	19,906
Supplies and Materials	60,314	52,205
Transportation Costs	8,080	7,787
Other Costs	6,127	7,060
Indirect Costs	13,044	13,044
Total	100,000	100,000

"I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete and that all amounts detailed have been actually and necessarily expended for the purposes set forth in the award documents"

Printed or Typed Name and Title: Stanka Babic, Regional Finance Coordinator

Signature: _____  _____

Date_06/26/08_____