



2017
MAY

ASAFO STAR ST. JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL

Post Office Box 9, Sefwi- Asafo via Wiawso
WIAWSO DIOCESE-Western Region (Ghana)

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ASAFO RECEIVES BR. JOSE M^A VIADERO AND HIS ENTOURAGE FROM SPAIN

Wednesday 15th of March, 2017 the people of Asafo and St. John of God Hospital were privileged to receive Br. Jose M^a Viadero (Juan Ciudad ONGD PARA LA SALUD - Director) and his entourage. They were met on arrival by Management and staff half way to the hospital and taken to the hospital on foot amidst fanfare and merry-making.



A flower girl presented a flower to provincial on arrival The entourage being welcomed with a brass band



As tradition demands, the guests being asked of their mission. Staff welcoming the entourage with handshakes



A dance to the 'kete' music performance Provincial Superior Inspecting a guard mounted in their honour

The team in the company of the Provincial Superior Br. Bartholomew Kamara paid Asafo and Oseikojokrom a two-day-working visit. They were on a field mission to assess sponsored projects by Juan Ciudad ONGD-Spain and the way forward for the two health facilities. In the evening of their arrival they met with management. On the morning of the second day they went to oseikojokrom and on their return they had a tour of the town and hospital. They finally left Asafo on the early morning of Friday 17 of March to return to Spain on Sunday.

Br. Viadero was in Asafo (1980 – 1983 as a

nurse; 1989 – 1998 Superior/Director and then paid a visit in 2013). In an interview with him he said they were here to see the situation of some sponsored projects and also to the possibility of sponsoring more. On his impression about things, he said “I have seen tremendous changes in the cities but not much in the rural areas, health care delivering system is improving but still a lot of challenges with water, health of women and children. However the people are working with a lot of enthusiasm. There are difficult moments; social, economic, environment, etc. Ghana has more resources now.” He suggested that Ghana should take into accounts its most vulnerable people. “The micro-economics is growing fine but Macro difficulties, there is suffering for the poor. For us we have to help, we are the voice of the people, we are the Brothers at the centre of this; we have to talk with the government and demand for the people, it’s our duty. Ghana is my second home especially Asafo; I have the best moments of my life here in Asafo as a human being and as a Brother. Am satisfy about the implementation of the projects, we will try to sponsor as my as we can, our funds are limited - donor fatigue is a fact. To get sponsor is quite difficult now than before.



**Br. JOSE Mª VIADERO
(JUAN CIUDAD ONGD
PARA LA SALUD –
DIRECTOR) SPAIN**



Maria Simarro Professor Centro Universitario San Rafael-Nabrija

This is Maria's first time in Ghana, in an interview with her she expressed surprise at the level of hospitality accorded her by the local people. She thinks the people are nice and wonderful. She said Asafo hospital is well organized. "Am eager to come back with my husband."



Julio Vielva Asejo (Fundacion San Juan De Dios-Director Gerente)

Julio's Second visit to Asafo 33 years ago. He was happy about the hospitality, he saw improvements in infrastructure-roads, etc. and also at the hospital's new services, new maternity, etc.



Dr. Fernando Rivilla (Pediatric Surgeon Hospital Universitario Ramoncasal)

Dr. Fernando in Asafo 7 years ago to perform surgery on children. He was happy about the improvement about in the quality of health care-new facilities; eg eye and emergency structures



Xisco Munoz Espuig (Technician of Projects for International Cooperation-Juan Ciudad)

This visit being his first time, Xisco expressed that Ghana has got the potential to develop "Ghana has go nice people and I want to come back to see the projects."



Inspection of the on-going Laboratory and Pharmacy Project at Oseikojokrom



Br. Opong leading a tour of the hospital – Maternity



A visit to Kofi Sika (blind and amputee); one of the vulnerables taken care of by the hospital



Br. Viadero receiving warm welcome in town

OPERATIONS UPDATE

Last year saw a lot of new recruitment in line with the hospital's strategic plan to boost staff strength of the hospital, this was done in accordance with international standard practice to improve upon the overall health care delivery at the facility. Majority of the new recruits were critical staff with few being non-critical staff. Unfortunately three (3) medical doctors left around the same time last year, however the hospital was able to replace them with two new engagement; Dr Dominic Mintah Annor-Specialist Surgeon and Dr Zachariah Coffie-Medical Officer) and a return to post by Dr Charles Obeng Mensah (Medical Director) Obstetric and Gynecologist who was on study-leave.

With the engagement of these three doctors and the other staff, health care delivery has immensely improved at the hospital; while the hospital is operating two laboratories, it has also got one general theatre, Obstetrics and Gynecology theatre and two other mini-theatres though not fully functioning. With the number of anaesthetics being four the hospital is able to operate two of its theatres concurrently when the need be. The theatre-in-charge Mr. Silvester Agyemang commended the hard working nature of these doctors and encouraged management to provide them with at least most of the equipment they needed for their work.

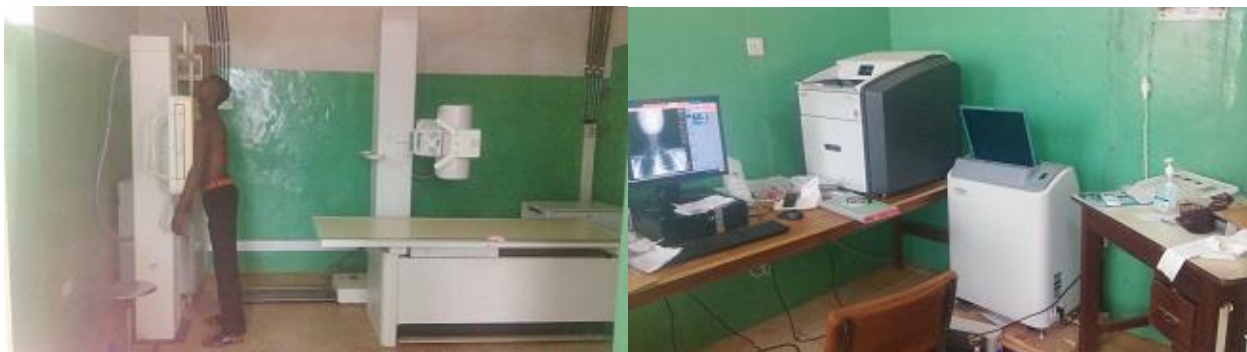


Dr. Dominic Mintah Annor-Specialist Surgeon



A baby delivered through Caesarian Section

Last year 15th November, the X-ray department was recommissioned after it had ceased operation for some time. Physicians and patients alike have expressed relieve, hitherto patients had to go kilometres away from the hospital to get their x-ray taken.



The new X-ray Machines at the X-ray Department



The hospital's ambulance service has resumed after the department halted operations due to a breakdown of the ambulance car. The hospital has managed to repair the ambulance car due to the critical nature of the department.

The Mental Health Unit

This unit has been operating from the OPD for the past two years, however on the 1st of March, 2017 it was relocated to the basement of the new emergency block. This move is to allow the nurses and patients have their privacy in their daily routines. The unit is manned by two Mental Health Nurses and plans are far advanced to adequately resource it to meet international standard practice.

Acquisition Of A New Autoclave

The French Province has sponsored the acquisition of a new autoclave (capacity – **300 litres**) for the theatre. Previously there was too much pressure on the only one properly functioning autoclave (70 litres) which was donated by Dr. Mark Egan-UK some time ago; departments had to wait in turn in a long queue to sterilize their instruments, but now they can heave a sigh of relieve as they get their things sterilized effectively and most importantly any time the need be.



The new autoclave: Jactermac 300litres



The new washroom at St. John of God Clinic, Oseikojokrom

Since its establishment the Clinic has had no appropriate washroom facilities. In October 2016, Management embarked on a washroom project at (from internally generated fund) the Clinic for both staff and patients. This project is considered a dying need of the Clinic and has also come to complement the status of the Clinic's upgrade to a Health Centre with a Physician Assistant. The facility consist of nine (9) individual rooms of washrooms, toilets and urinals for staff and patients and accordingly for both gents and ladies.

Strategic plan

Last year 2016 the hospital developed a five-year strategic plan (2016 - 2020) to lead the change of success and sustainability of the hospital. The mantra for the strategic plan was "The New Face of St. John of God Hospital Asafo". The plan is meant to guide our business strategies and decisions with a focus on six strategic priorities in which we will invest our time and resources; Human Resource, Infrastructure, Governance, Logistics, Patient Care and Financial Management.

Asset valuation

All hospital fixed assets have been valued. The committee that sought to this exercise presented its report to management this year January 2017. The categories of the assets were; motor vehicles, office equipment, plant and machinery, medical and laboratory equipment, furniture and fittings, computer and software and motor bikes.

BR. FRANCIS OSEI ATTA'S RECUPERATION



Brother Francis Osei Atta (Asafo Community) who is in his early seventies was suddenly taken seriously ill and admitted at the emergency unit; St. John of God Hospital Asafo on the 8th of January, 2016. Upon discharge after more than three weeks on admission he was still given home care and attention as when the need be.

"Thanks be to God" Br. Francis expresses he is doing well, "I see significant improvement in my health now compared with some three months ago. My Profound gratitude goes to the Superior and Brothers, the doctors and nurses as well as all for the care and support extended to me all this while."



EASTER GIFT PRESENTATION

On the Easter Sunday 16th of April, 2017 a Christian Family at Asafo visited the Hospital and as they normally do every Easter and Christmas presented prepared food to all patients and staff. The Hospital Director Br. John K. Opong, and Severin Kanbigs at the Paediatrics received the items on behalf of the patients and staff. Br Opong who was moved by the gesture thanked the Family for their good will and support for the hospital.

WORKSHOP ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The Hospital Director/Superior of Asafo Community Br John K. Opong, attended a three day workshop on Strategic Planning and Resource Mobilization organised by the Christian Health Association of Ghana in collaboration with UK Aid from the 26th to 28th of March, 2017 at Tyco City Hotel, Sunyani (Brong Ahafo Region) for heads of institutions. The workshop consisting of lectures, group discussions and exercises took about fifty-five participants through topics such as; strategy, distinct characteristics of the health industry, planning, setting goals, objectives and activities and resource mobilization. “The programme was educative and very insightful for us as heads of institutions”, said the Hospital Director Br. Opong.

A VISIT TO MADAM GLADYS BRENYA

The two Superiors of Koforidua and Asafo communities, Br. Torwoe Johannes and Br. John k. Opong respectively paid a visit to Madam Gladys Brenya (Benefactor of St. John of God Services, Ghana) at her residence in Tema (Greater Accra Region) on the Sunday 2nd of April, 2017. The visit was to wish her speedy recovery as well as pray for her after she had been discharged from Korle Bu Teaching Hospital. The two Brothers found Madam Brenya in a good condition and on behalf of all the Brothers presented assorted gifts to her. She expressed her gratitude to them for their visit and also beseech them to continue praying for her.