



**NHS SCOTLAND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMME
HEALTH PROJECTS/PARTNERSHIPS AND INITIATIVES**

Project/Partnership or Initiative Title:

Friends of Chitambo

Overall Goal(s) and Objective(s) of Partnership/Project/Initiative:

To support initiatives to improve health in Chitambo district, the current project is concerned with improving communication, especially in emergency care, which will involve introduction of a short code phone number for use of the public.

Key UK Colleagues and Partners you were/are working with:

Currently trustee of Friends of Chitambo, under chair of Jo Vallis

Currently in loose partnership with First Aid Africa.

Previously I have undertaken short-term volunteering with various British based organisations:

On Call Africa (in Zambia) 2012 – mobile clinics in rural Southern Zambia 2/12

Vine Trust (in Peru and Tanzania) 2005 and 2017 boat based primary care taken to communities on banks of Amazon River and Lake Victoria

Doctors World Wide (in Kenya) 2011 - 2/52 assessing nutritional state of school children, 2/52 investigating what interventions could help hospital on island of Lamu

International Partners and when Project/Partnership/Initiative was established:

Various international organisations:

2006/7 Metro Department of Health, Cape Town, South Africa. Nolungili Primary Health Centre, Khyalitsha, Cape Town. 6/12. A township clinic with high levels of TB and HIV

2007/8 St Apollinaris Hospital, KwaZuluNatal, South Africa, as the doctor in HIV clinic in small rural hospital. 6/12

2010 Edzimkulu (Canadian NGO) KwaZuluNatal, South Africa. Clinic in small village and also department of health HIV clinics in the area. 3/12 The charity was set up at the request of the residents of a village with high death rate from HIV. Now aken over by SA partners.

2014 Neri Clinic (Irish/Zambian NGO) (Zambia) helping to support staff in small township clinic, Lusaka 2/12

2016 Medical Santo (Australian NGO) Vanuatu. working in clinic and hospital OPD on island of Espiritu Santo and supporting staff in hospital on island of Malekula, which had no doctor 6/52

Country where activity will take/has taken place:

See above for previous activities, Friends of Chitambo supports work in Zambia

Which of the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) to transform our world does your work contribute to:



Funding Source(s):

Scottish Government Small Grant
Fundraising events
Individual donors

Description of Partnership/Project/Initiative.

a) How did the partnership/ project come about? What was the evidence of need?

Friends of Chitambo was set up by the chairperson, Dr Jo Vallis, who lived at Chitambo hospital as a child. Projects have been based on suggestion from the community, e.g. providing an ambulance, re-opening the nursing school, and improving emergency communication

b) In which areas were/are you working?

I am currently working in clinician education and service improvement

In other projects I have been involved providing clinical services and staff education/development.

c) What activities have happened so far/are planned?

In the current project, we have so far;

- Provided VHF radios to some of the distant rural health clinics that are out with mobile phone network, so they can contact the hospital or ambulance.
- Provided medical books and tablets with downloaded data for use of clinicians in clinics

- Provided life wraps for use in post-partum haemorrhage while awaiting transfer to hospital
- Supported first aid training for ambulance drivers and front-line staff
- Produced guidelines on treatment in various emergencies
- We have obtained permission for a short code telephone number,
- Training in operation of the short code number is planned to take place
- Community awareness and use of the number is planned
- I am investigating training in telephone call handling / decision making for clinicians

d) What are the changes you hope to achieve?

We hope to instigate a short code emergency phone number for use by the community in emergencies. This will involve training of clinicians in call handling and decision making. The aim is to reduce deaths due to inability to access appropriate help.

Any challenges faced?

I find that being based in Scotland, there can be communication difficulties.

In developing your work, which principles of THET partnership working did you meet and how?

1. The projects carried out by Friends of Chitambo are the result of suggestions by Chitambo hospital staff, and developed in co-operation with them
- 2, FoCH co-operates with the local district health organisation and also follows national guidelines
3. FoCH aims to develop projects with sustainable long term effects
4. Projects are planned together with in-country partners
- 5, and 6 all taken into account
7. Plans are changed in response to circumstances
8. 6 monthly MEL carried out and fed back to all partners

What have you gained from doing this work?

- Leadership and management skills
- Communication and teamwork
- Clinical skills
- Policy awareness and experience
- Academic skills
- Patient experience and dignity
- Personal resilience, satisfaction and interest

Other: An understanding of other cultures, and how people live under vastly differing circumstances to our own

What did your Partnership/Project or Initiative Achieve?

See c above

Next Steps?

See c above

Where can more information be found? [

Various personal and organisational links to previous work:

www.bridgetinsa.blogspot.com

www.bridgetinzambia.blogspot.com

www.facebook.com/Edzimkulu

www.doctorsworldwide.org

<http://i4life.ie/our-program/nutrition-clinic-at-neri/>

www.vinetrust.org

Current Organisation I am involved in:

www.facebook.com/friendsofchitambo

Key Documents

Summary of key documents provided:

Post-partum haemorrhage – example of emergency care guideline for rural health clinics

Chitambo Hospital Project – account of my role, for my appraisal last year

Case of Thalassaemia – account of child encountered in Vanuatu

Antibiotic Use – basis of teaching session with staff at Malekula Hospital, taking into account local guidelines.

Key Contact Details:

Name: Bridget Innes

Email: bridgetinnes@yahoo.co.uk

Consent

Consent has been given to share in the Directory of Health Partnerships available on the Scottish Global Health Co-ordination Unit website and at events and networking opportunities.

June 2018