

IHDN News

December 1998

Volume 2 Issue 3

*International
Health and
Development
Network
"Thanks for
making a
difference."*

AGBOZUME FAMILY MEDICAL CENTER HAS FULL-TIME PHYSICIAN

In our last newsletter we reported that Dr. Randy Sepenu was recruited as the physician in charge of the IHDN Family Medical Center in Agbozume beginning November 1, 1998. We are pleased to inform you that Randy has begun his practice as scheduled. The first month has gone quite well and Randy is adjusting to his new role. We are pleased to introduce Dr. Sepenu to you.

DR. RANDY SEPENU JOINS IHDN PROJECT

Dr. Randy Sepenu was trained at the University of Ghana Medical School from 1991-1997. He then pursued an internship in General Surgery and Pediatrics before joining IHDN.

Randy is a believer in the Lord Jesus. He desires to use his skills in a career that has to do with the work of God. He believes he has found that in IHDN and the Family Medical Center in Agbozume. This project, he feels, is the answer God has provided.

Randy communicated his commitment to the IHDN Board in Ghana and in the United States recently. He made his decision carefully and plans to spend a year or two with the project before embarking on further medical studies.

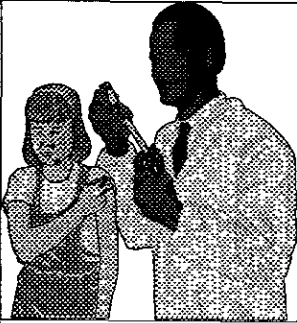
On weekends, Randy is involved with his church, Lighthouse Chapel, in Accra. He is working with a new choir for the church which started just over two months ago. Randy helps with the sound control and needs to be in Accra almost every weekend for choir rehearsals. He hopes when the choir is more established that he will be able to spend more weekends at Agbozume, helping the local church.

Please join us in praising God for sending Randy to work with us.

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IHDN welcomes the interest and support of friends as we seek to make a difference in the developing world. Please make your tax deductible gift payable to IHDN. Thank you.

FAMILY MEDICAL CENTER IN OPERATION FOR ONE MONTH



The Agbozume Family Medical Center welcomed Dr. Randy Sepenu on Monday, November 2, 1998.

On his first day at the center, Dr. Sepenu saw 50 patients. This was a special day promoted in the community as an Open House and Free Clinic. In the remaining weeks of November, there have been about 20 patients seen per day, with the numbers picking up gradually. Dr. Randy has performed mainly minor procedures and wound debridements.

A nurse is yet to be recruited. Randy is working currently with one clerk. Some of the Community Health Workers that were trained in the summer are assisting with blood pressure measurements and registration.

Medical supplies for the first month were mainly leftovers from the summer Health Fair, supplemented with local purchases of essential drugs here and there. Now, most of the essential drugs are running out, so a major purchase is being planned. Randy and the Ghanaian Board are looking for the best and most economical source for procuring the needed supplies.

Randy has started building relationships with the chiefs and community leaders. He will soon be meeting with the doctors at Aflao, Dzodze and Ho Hospitals.

We are also researching an affordable way to have e-mail accessibility at the Center. Presently, e-mail is received and sent through the communications center in Accra for a somewhat reasonable cost. The difficulty is getting the type of telephone systems needed for e-mail service to be installed at the project site.

PRAY WITH US

Please pray for **RANDY**. He is the first full-time physician to be stationed at Agbozume providing medical care. He is also the project leader for the Christian Community Health Program. He needs wisdom and guidance from above. Pray for guidance as he develops relationships with the community and the leaders, both religious and traditional.

Please pray for Randy as he works to develop a **BUDGET** for the project site and the Community Health Program. We are praying that he will be able to raise enough money to pay staff salaries and the overhead, estimated at about \$1,000 per month.

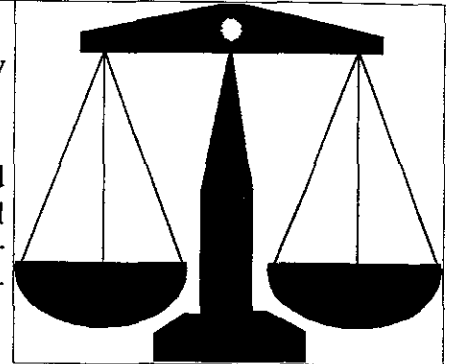
Please pray for the **PEOPLE WORKING WITH RANDY**, to have a Christ-like spirit to serve to the glory of His name. Pray that the Community Health Workers will remain motivated and that we can find creative ways to further train them and help them make a living.

Please pray also for our next **MISSION TRIP IN AUGUST 1999**. We are seeking a team of men and women who love the Lord and are called to serve Him. Pray for the program that we are developing to prepare the volunteers.

IHDN FINANCIAL REPORT

On behalf of the IHDN Board, I would like to wish all friends and family of IHDN a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The year 1998 has been very exciting and fulfilling for IHDN. We would like to thank over 100 individuals and organizations who provided financial support for our mission efforts. We also thank you for your prayer support. Our greatest gratitude goes to the Almighty Father for making 1998 a reality for IHDN.



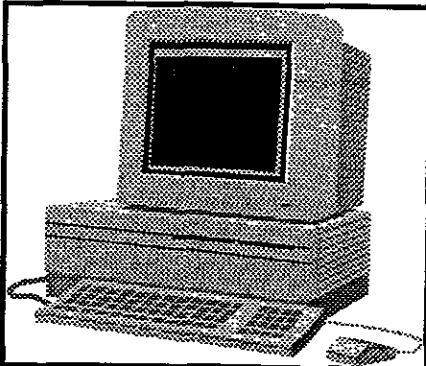
As we enter 1999, we are privileged to share with you the preliminary summary of our Financial Report for 1/1/98 through 9/30/98.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO IHDN	\$40,420.00
TOTAL EXPENSES, including the Mission Trip	\$44,574.66
DEFICIT	\$- 4,154.66

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 98-99

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>
Head Office - USA	4,592	5,730
Ghana Office & Family Medical Center	5,520	25,910
Missions Related Expense	42,870	47,986
One-time Capital Expenditure	3,700	13,750
TOTAL	56,682	93,376

The marked increase in 1999 is attributed to the cost of running the Ghana Office and the Family Medical Center. Please pray and give as the Lord leads you to support our efforts.



Feel free to send words of encouragement to Dr. Randy Sepenu.
You may use the e-mail address "hometown@ghana.com"
and ask for messages to be passed on to Randy.

IHDN ANNOUNCES 1999 IHDN MEDICAL MISSION TRIP TO GHANA August 6-26, 1999

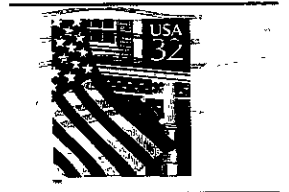
The dates have been established for the 1999 IHDN Medical Mission Trip to Ghana. We are seeking volunteers, both medical and non-medical, to travel to Ghana for a two week or three week period of time. Interested persons are invited to contact:

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Please respond as soon as possible. Our next informational meeting will be January 9, 1999.

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