

*Reports form the EBOLA SENSITIZATION IN SALIKENNI
on 26th of October 2014*

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The Ebola Sensitization event was jointly organized by three organizations active in Salikenni and Jahally. Here are their individual reports written by:

1. Alasana Ceesay, Project-Coordinator “Future in Salikenni”
2. Lamin Jammeh, Jahally Health Centre
3. Alieu Sowe, Salikenni Health Centre



Mr. Kanyi, Officer in Charge of the Ebola Sensitization in North Bank Region,
speaking to citizens of Salikenni
(Location: Assembly Hall of the nursery school from “Future for Salikenni”)

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26/10/14 – Report from Alasana Ceesay, Project-Coordinator “Future in Salikenni”

EBOLA SENSITIZATION IN SALIKENNI

26th October this year 2014 was a big day for the Salikenni village. We had the "Ebola Sensitization Program" organised by "Future in Salikenni" and our german sister Tanja John.

The program was attended by the Imam of Salikenni, Alkalo of Salikenni, Alkalo of Jammeh Kunda, representative of the Chief of Central Badibou, resource personals from Ministry of Health, villagers from Salikenni and surroundings.

The program started with prayers leaded by the Imam of Salikenni then followed by the welcoming remarks from the Alkalo of Salikenni. They both expressed their delight to participate this important program and expressed their gratitude to the sponsors.

Mr. Alasana Ceesay (Fasana) chaired the occasion and the resources personals were: Dr. Janneh from Ministry of Health, Mr. Kanyi Officer in Charge of the Ebola Sensitization in North Bank Region based at Farafenni , Mr. Alieu Sowe also health worker and representing Sister Tanja John and Tida Kinteh our sister in charge of Salikenni Health Centre.

The program was organised in a way that each resource person was given a topic to talk about. Dr. Janneh was the first one to take the floor he talked about the seriousness of the disease and what can be done before the actual arrival of the disease. He said for their side they have prepared themselves and are now waiting for the arrival. He advised the participants not to be overconfident that it will not come he said, that may weaken us.

But we should be well prepared and look wait for

the arrive, he again advice the participants not to be quick in spreading information about Ebola case until it is confirmed by the experts, this will prevent panic in the community.

Dr. Janneh then move to the Salikenni Health Centre with the materials brought by Future in Salikenni to give training to the medical personals from Salikenni Health Centre and Jahaly Health Centre.

For Mr. Kanyi he started with a pre- test to find out the awareness level of the participants on Ebola. From the result 75% of the participants have really got basic information about Ebola. Mr. Kanyi then informed the gathering that Salikenni is lucky to be the first village in The Gambia where not only the sensitization been done but the availability of the material and the training of the medical staff in the village to get training on the handling and case management of Ebola. He asked the participants to offer special prayers to the donors. He then start giving the ministry stand on the fight against Ebola in The Gambia.

For their side they are still giving training to the different sections of our society like imams, traditional healers etc. They are also taking care of our borders. He then give a brief history of Ebola; its origin, how it spread from animals to man and what we can do to prevent the spread of the Ebola. He asked the community to be conscious about the strangers coming to our community

special from the area with Ebola. He said Gambians are very generous especially in the side of strangers but we need to change our attitude here and report any stranger from the areas with Ebola coming to our community so that proper follow up can be done. He emphasized the hand

washing that was demonstrated by "Kanyilleys", the local woman group. Any time we go out

or come to eat or from toilet we need to use soap and wash our hands properly. We also need to avoid the direct body contact with the Ebola patient and their dresses.

Mr. Alieu Sowe also came in and explained the symptoms of Ebola, prevention and how we need to work with the medical expert to prevent and control Ebola. He also emphasized the need to change attitude towards disease, since Ebola is dangerous disease, and the disease does not know who is rich, educated or poor.

Our sister Tida was then given the floor. She started with the general clearness and than remind the participants that the clearness they were always crying special the hand washing was not taking serious, so Ebola has come

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to proof them right. She also emphasized the change of behaviour and worn the people to help the medical personals by given correct information, because they mostly depend on the people when they are diagnosing, so any wrong information given can create a problem. She also advice the people not to be so curious and wanting to see everything as this may lead one to get in contact with the patient or spread wrong information. She also advised the youths not to eat wild animals and animals that died naturally. She also put the villagers to task to make sure that they participate in the monthly general cleaning exercise.

The "Kanyilleys" have shown their talent in entertaining the crowd by dramatizing the whole ideas of Ebola from the definition, spread and prevention. You can see the video and feel the taste. We apologize for the bad quality of the video.

The whole program was successful thanks to Mr. Lamin Kolley who created and enabling environment to make sure every things goes smooth and successful. Bravo Mr. Kolley everybody went home happy and satisfied. Bravo again to the members of Future in Salikenni and our Sister Tanja.

Alasana Ceesay (Fasana)

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26/10/14 – Report from Lamin Jammeh, Jahally Health Centre (Matthias Ketteler)



Praying ceremony before the training starts

On Sunday 26th of October 2014, Jahally Health Centre and kindergarten staff were invited on a training workshop on ebola. There was one participant from J/H/C, one from the kindergarten, one from Jahally basic cycle school, and two from Brikamaba plus the ambulance driver all attended the training workshop.

It was very interesting and educative as much was said and understands people from different community and health centre attended the training. The training was sponsored by a German philanthropy organisation supporting Salikenni Health Centre and the Community. The programme was headed by doctor Janneh, Doctor Kanyi of Fafafanni Hospital, a village health worker, Salikenni public health officer and Tida Kinteh Official incharge of Salikenni Health Centre. The training started off with praying, opening speech by the Alkalo of the village and then presentation follows by the different speakers.

Dr Janneh who was the first to presentation gave the introduction of Ebola, what is Ebola, how is Ebola speared, what should be done to someone suffering from Ebola. These topics were very interesting and educative and a lot was understood.

Dr Kanyi present on who is at risk to Ebola what are the signs and symptoms of a person suffering from Ebola, how can Ebola be prevented, and what should be done In case of suspected ebola case.

Drama and musical play were also in the mix by the Salikenni youth and women groups on the deadly disease.

Tida Kinteh the officer in charge of Salikenni Health Centre also presented on hand washing techniques.

Demonstration an how to use the protective gloves and mask was done.

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Finally came the presentation of item to various Health Centre who are in attendance with Jahally Health Centre team receiving 20 protective gowns, 20 face masks, one box of small size gloves, one box of large size gloves, one thermometer, some protective spectacle, some posters about hand washing and sign of Ebola and 4 DVD cassettes on hand washing, how to handle patients with ebola and how to use the thermometer.

The training was educative and interactive as all participants were grateful to the sponsors.

Lamin Jammeh

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26/10/14 – Report from Alieu Sowe, Salikenni Health Centre (Tanja John)



Tida Kinteh speaking, Officer in Charge of Salikenni Health Centre

I write to give a very short feed back on the ebola training. The training has just ended and I am sure sure our aims have been achieved. I will send a detailed report with pictures before the end of the week.

1 The community training: the turn out has been very good. Key people present include; a representative of the Regional Director for Health Services, a representative of the chief, two village alkalos, Imams, representatives from numerous women and youth groups, traditional healer, traditional birth attendant, people who wash dead bodies (1 male and 1 female), members of the village development committee, teachers, extension workers, medical staff from Salikenni, Brikama Ba, Jahally etc. Ebola and hygiene were thoroughly dealt with. Participants were also taught water treatment techniques for wells and households using bleach. An interesting part was the question and answer session just before the simulation exercise as this cleared doubts on the side of the participants and also availed the facilitators the opportunity to emphasize on pertinent issues. The post test indicated that the message that the resource persons conveyed sank down well.

2 The medical training: It was also very interesting as it was largely practical. The training focused on infection control measures, what to do once a suspect is seen, proper usage of gloves and nose masks etc. It was amazing to see various participants take turns to imitate what Dr Janneh did.

Both community and medical staff participants expressed delight with the training. The representative of the regional health director expressed his appreciation of the good initiative. He said the people of Salikenni are very lucky to have it as it is the first of its kind in his region.

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I will type the participants list and email it to you tomorrow together with the payment voucher as there is no scanner here.

The event was also covered by a journalist.

Aliou Sowe



Distribution of gloves, hand masks and other materials to Salikenni Health Center (sponsored by “Future for Salikenni”)