Ministry of Health

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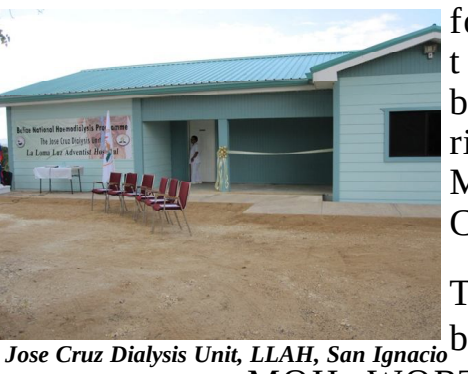
Official launch for National Dialysis Program

Ribbon cutting at KHMH Dialysis Unit

The Government of Belize and The Ministry of Health (MOH) in collaboration with World Organization of Renal Therapies (WORTH), Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital (KHMH) and La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital (LLLAH) launched two new Haemodialysis Centres, one at KHMH, Belize City and the other at La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital (LLLAH), Cayo District on Friday, February 4th, 2011. An official ceremony was held in Belize City for both centers, following which there was the unveilingof commemorative plaques at both KHMH and LLLAH.

Dr. Wayne Trebbin, President, World Organization for Renal Therapies (WORTH) and a small team were on hand for the official opening. Hon. Pablo Marin, Minister of Halth and partner of the Haemodialysis program celebrated with the team on finally seeing the realization of this project.The task force gave contributing remarks along with other officials of the Ministry of Health on the special occasion. Nurses and technicians of the program for both units were also present for the opening. They have experienced both theory and practical training in the program and they also haveparticipated in the treatment of several patients since September 22nd, 2010.



Jose Cruz Dialysis Unit, LLAH, San Ignacio

Both dialysis units have the capacity to dialyze up to eight cases per day with four functioning haemodialysis machines and two additional stand-by machines. A patient selection committee has been established. They will be responsible for the selection of patients for dialysis treatment based on criteria set by the Management Committee.

This venture by GOB, MOH, WORTH, LLLAH and KHMH will cost approximately BZ$1.8 Million annually which is largely subsidized by the Government of Belize. The Belize Social Security Board, Belize Natural Energy (BNE) Limited and The Challenge Golbie Foundations of BNE also contributed towards the completion of the program.

Mental Health Training for Community Nurses

The Ministry of Health, Mental Health Program in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization and the Mental Health Association, hosted a launching ceremony for a training project in Mental Health for Community nurses on Friday February 18th, 2011 at the University of West Indies Auditorium, Belize City.

Deputy Director of Health Services - Ms. Marjorie Parks

Deputy Director of Health Services in Nursing, Ms. Marjorie Parks gave remarks at the launch. She mentioned that the training will enhance the ability of nurses to provide a holistic care to patients not only in the physical and social well being but also in mental care.

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the conditions of mental health services in primary health care and also to improve the competencies of the community nurses in mental health.

The training will covers approximately 170 community nurses over a 3-month period from February to May 2011. The University of the West Indies (UWI) Open Campus will conduct the training through a curriculum they have developed. Participants will be receiving a UWI certificate at the completion of the project course.

Dental Department receives donation

Dr. Raphael Samos, Senior Dental Surgeon receiving chairs

The Dental Department of the Ministry of Health along with the Minister of Health, Hon. Pablo Marin was pleased to receive a donation of three portable dental chairs from the Humanitarian Endeavors Foundation of Utah, U.S.A.

A humanitarian mission of the foundation visited Belize during the week of February 20-26th, 2011 to assist the dental department with its school's campaign program. Flouride cleaning and treatment was offered to students and teachers at the Ladyville Roman Catholic School, Ladyville Seventh Day Adventist School and at Ladyville Evangelican Primary School.

Dr. Raphael Samos, Senior Dental Surgeon, Ministry of Health received the donation from the team leader of the Mission, Dr. David Hadley.

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