

BANSANG HOSPITAL APPEAL

NEW CHILDREN'S WARD

www.bansanghospitalappeal.com

DECEMBER 2004

Charity No. 1064469

Funding need £98,000, raised so far £54,000

Main aim and why we cannot wait any longer

To build an 80 bed children's separate medical and surgical ward with ancillary rooms.

It will comprise of a **Doctors on-call room** because the majority of children's deaths occur at night time when there is no doctor available on site. There will be a **staff room** for the first time, where the medical staff can actually sit down and take a well-earned break. A **treatment room** for newly arrived patients where they will receive the first stage of emergency care and assessment. An **isolation ward** of approx 8 beds, to cater for the seasonal spreadable diseases such as measles, meningitis etc., and also burns patients who need to be barrier nursed, at present these cases share beds in the children's ward passing infection back and forth.. The very first **intensive care unit** for newborn sick babies. As a first for developing Africa there will be a **playroom** off the children's ward, with both an indoor and outdoor area, greatly needed for long-term patient care. A **Malnutrition room** where the formulas can be prepared for the intensive 2 hour feeding schedule that seriously malnourished children require, this room will also double as an emergency diagnostic centre, for instance during the malaria season. For the first time there will be **separate toilet and shower blocks** for both medical and surgical areas.

The whole hospital will be solar powered provided by an anonymous sponsor

All this for £98,000. The price of a one bedroom flat in the Midlands.

I was last at Bansang in October and the problems the existing children's ward were experiencing is an ongoing one of keeping the power on. They can only afford to run the generator during the morning. In fact they have never had the funding to run for 24 hours. When the power is off nothing can be used, including the giving of life saving oxygen, it is candle and kerosene lamps only, and often not even these. The sewers running under the ward have collapsed and one cannot describe the smell that the staff and children have to endure. After I left the generator actually blew up, it has been repaired, but for how longSolar power will revolutionize the running of the hospital.

After 13 years of regular visits, having experienced unbelievable horrors, the suffering and the high mortality rate. Despite all the wonderful help you have all given, crunch point had been reached. Children had to be discharged long before they should have been, due to so many different reasons. I felt we could no longer wait for the full funding, so we begin to build in January and trust that with all the marvellous ongoing fundraising the balance will come in.

Thank you.

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