

Dear Friends and partners,

May I thank each one of you for the tremendous assistance that you have all given to this our noble institution since the discovery of the first Ebola case in May in Sierra Leone.

Because of your enormous support, as a hospital we have been able to assure all staff of the high risk of transmission to self and to others and to patients. However, you all know that we lost 2 staff working in the same Emergency Unit and one security personnel receiving patients in the first week of July, 2014 who were not diagnosed earlier, and a student nurse in the same unit. Four staff from the same unit fell sick and one from the Security unit but three have recovered fully of which one was screened and tested negative and now they are doing fine and later this week, two staff (1 nurse and a sanitary officer) were admitted and we sent their sample for screening and later absconded from the hospital to another hospital. The nurse has died last night in a centre in Freetown which is not known to us. There are confirmed news from a reliable source that the Chinese hospital at Jui has been closed and surrounded by police because a positive Ebola case died there. The other case has been arrested and sent to Kenema because the result of the two samples indicated positive after the first analysis. Since one of them has just died, we could imagine.

However, we as a hospital we are still in doubts as to why from the same unit some are positive and others are negative meanwhile, all of them have manifested the same or similar symptoms.

It is also important to note that, we quarantined for 21 days all the staff alive from the Emergency unit and they are to report on August 4, 2014. So we are closely monitoring their health status.

Yesterday, I participated in a stakeholders meeting in the town after the declaration of state of emergency by the president, the population has now started changing their perception by accepting that Ebola is real and can kill. In the meeting, the political and traditional leaders expressed interest in our hospital and would not like us to be infected since I threatened to shut down if the leadership in the town does not collaborate with the hospital by tracking contacts and supporting the hospital economically and with other resources. As at now the patients attendance has dropped drastically and this will affect the hospital economically and the staff as well because we can not continue. As at now, the hospital needs US\$ 36,000 equivalent in leones for staff wages only excluding the routine operations. The political leadership has shown concern but let us see what happens next. Now byelaws have been put and implemented.

Happily for us again, the hospital is now receiving electricity from the National Grid since last night for 12 hours. It is an improvement.

I am now to compare the cost.

I want to express my sincere thanks to all friends and partners which include the Brothers and staff from Barcelona Hospital, Spain, the nursing school in Barcelona, the St. John of God Development company Ireland, John Mitchel & David, Fund raising office, Holland, Global

Lab Germany, Juan ciduad, Spain, Torsten and Vanessa, UK, Victor Bangura , USA, Provincial Superior, Accra, Br. Moise, Br. Pascual, Br. Andre and Br. Jesus Etayo, Rome, Br. Fernando Aguilo, Spain, and others.

I thank you all and may God Bless you.

Br. Michael

Hno. Fernando Aguilo

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