

## May 20, 2011 CBPHC Interest Group Teleconference Notes

### **Global Health Ministries' Community Based Primary Health Care Interest Group**

Present: Tom Duke, Dave Thompson, Tim and Sandy Iverson, Steve and Nancy Laible, Gary Sande, Anne Langdji (from Cameroon), Jim Gonia, Lon Kightlinger, Chuck Hays, and Karen Plager

Dave noted that this was an introductory call so we started with introductions and then he wanted to talk about the next scheduled events.

Lon Kightlinger (from Pierre, South Dakota) is the State Epidemiologist for SD Public Health Dept. He is interested in infectious disease, infant mortality and child health. He spent 20 years in Madagascar working with the Lutheran church doing primary health care and collaborated with a number of other groups while there.

Steve and Nancy Laible (from New Brighton, MN). Through Nativity Lutheran Church they work with a project known as Lutheran Aid to Medicine in Bangladesh (LAMB). Steve has a business background, but in retirement his passion is health literacy with a focus on childhood pneumonia and diarrhea in Bangladesh, including community-based primary health care (CBPHC) in the schools. They have been successful in providing clean water and sanitary latrines in the area where they work in Bangladesh, an area where there are 5,000-8,000 children. Nancy's background is in microbiology. She worked primarily in the industry sector with a focus on food and pathogens. Her focus areas are prevention and nutrition.

Gary Sande (from Twin Cities) taught in Nigeria in the 1960's. For 12 years he did community clinic management in the Cities and now owns a small bakery. For the past 5 years he has worked in Nigeria on behalf of GHM trying to get the LCCN "back into shape". He was a member of the GHM team that went to Jamkhed, India 1/2010 to learn about their CBPHC training center.

Rev. Jim Gonia is a pastor currently working with ELCA Global Mission. He spent 10 years in Madagascar as a missionary pastor. His interest areas are health and development in many countries, including Madagascar, Tanzania, Liberia, Nigeria, and Senegal. He works primarily with the Diaconia Project (formerly IDDR, International Disaster and Development Response).

Rev. Tim Iverson is the Executive Director of GHM. He has traveled extensively on behalf of GHM projects around the world.

Sandy Iverson is a pediatric nurse practitioner with a background in public health. She has been involved through GHM in a CBPHC education program in El Salvador. She works with Pastor Conche who is a pastor and nurse serving as a health coordinator for

the church in El Salvador. This is a train the trainer program. In June 2010 they did a health assessment of 9 communities of interest. They held focus groups in which people were invited to participate in a PH needs assessment. Based on that assessment, the first training took place in March 2011 for 2 days with 3 people from each community. The focus was on first aid using the Red Cross program and Where There Are No Doctors. In June 2011 there will be a 0-5 year old pediatrics care and nutrition focus for a training. The first group (who did the first aid training) will participate. A second group (from another set of villages) will start the first aid training.

Anne Langdji joined us by Skype from Yaounde, Cameroon. She works for Global Mission ELCA with a health focus with churches in West Africa. She has extensive PHC experience as a missionary for 6 years in CAR and 9 years in Senegal. She has also worked in CAR on HIV-AIDS and maternal-child health.

Chuck Hays is an MD, public health epidemiologist. He taught epidemiology in medical school for many years. His interest area is malaria. He served in Nepal for 2 years as a malaria epidemiologist and then for 7 years in Geneva, Switzerland doing malaria training with the WHO. More recently he has been involved in the ELCA church-wide malaria program. He was been interested in CBPHC since the early 1970's and was a member of the GHM team that went to Jamkhed, India 1/2010 to learn about their CBPHC training center.

Rev. Tom Duke is a retired pastor. He is one the main initiators/organizers for the GHM-CBPHC Interest Group as our "communicator". He was previously paid staff at GHM and now works with GHM in a volunteer capacity. He has been involved with CBPHC in Nigeria and India. He is interested in interfaith dialog. He was a member of the GHM team that went to Jamkhed, India 1/2010 to learn about their CBPHC training center.

Dave Thompson is a retired MD pediatrician. He spent 12 years as a missionary in Chad working on a community-owned CBPHC project which he helped to develop and that is still operating under local leadership. Five years ago he got involved with GHM when Tim Iverson asked him to visit Nigeria. He has been working with Gary Sande on the CBPHC project in Nigeria through the LCCN. He currently serves on GHM Board of Directors. He led the GHM team that went to Jamkhed, India 1/2010 to learn about their CBPHC training center.

Karen Plager is nursing faculty at Northern Arizona University and a family nurse practitioner. She served on the GHM Board of Directors from 2004-2010. She is interested in international health, advancing nursing education and the nursing profession and CBPHC. She worked in Madagascar with the Malagasy Lutheran School of Nursing and with the National Institute of Public Health and Community in Antananarivo to develop the first master's of nursing science program. She is preparing to do an assessment in southern Tanzania for a possible CBPHC collaboration with Njombe University and Ilembula School of Nursing. She was a member of the GHM team that went to Jamkhed, India 1/2010 to learn about their CBPHC training center.

Next step: July 2011 (exact date TBA) there will be a teleconference with Dr. Henry Perry who is an adjunct professor at Johns Hopkins University. He has been involved with a study How Effective is CBPHC in Improving the Health of Children commissioned by the American Public Health Association with assistance from WHO, UNICEF, the World Bank & USAID..

There will be additional teleconferences scheduled on a variety of other topics at later dates.

Future Generations Seminar will be sponsored by GHM on October 19-20, 2011, will be open to all and free. Daniel Taylor from FG will be the presenter. His new book will be available in Oct. 2011 for the seminar. His 2002 book Just and Lasting Change is available through Amazon.com or Future Generations.

Karen announced that there will be a Global Health Conference in Montreal November 13-15, 2011. She has suggested that some in the interest group might want to get together and submit an abstract on CBPHC work that is being done through GHM.

Tom announced that facebook for CBPHC is available as is a GHM website list serve.

Tim asked that people share their issues and struggles related to CBPHC. Discussion ensued with some of the following point being made:

Tim noted the struggle to sustain programs that get started.

Dave shared that re-tasking of medical care is one approach to increase accessibility to health care and noted that Henry Perry has an excellent PowerPoint on the subject that can be accessed online. He noted that for re-tasking to be successful, supervision must increase as the level of education of the health care personnel decreases.

Sandy mentioned that there is a lack of education on how to utilize resources that are available. In her work in El Salvador a government health educator is included in the training to help bring resources together for the program.

Dave asked for comments/critique of today's meeting—how it has gone today and what could be improved?

Steve noted that education materials could be implemented by teachers in Bangladesh. Today's meeting can serve as a conversation/resource sharing. He is quite interested in the group.

Anne noted that Skype works 4 out of 5 times. Today, she has been challenged with being able to hear all of the conversation. She would encourage drawing on more people at international sites to participate in this conversation. It is important to use models that most address needs of communities.

Tom is interested in expanding the invitation list. Please email him with additional names.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am CDST.

Respectively submitted, Karen Plager