

Information about the Edward Michaud Memorial Health Center

As described by Sister Maria, Director of the center

The Clinic

Who is Edward Michaud?

Edward Michaud was the Bishop of Tabora, Central Tanzania and founded a Catholic order in the 1930s.

How long has the health center been open?

Since *June 2007*

How many rooms does it have?

It has *14 Rooms*

How many patients can it see in a day?

The average attendance so far is 15 patients per day but we could see more than this.

How many square meters is the center?

3,800 Sq. Meters

Why do people go to the E.M. health center instead of to other clinics or hospitals? *The clinic offers user-friendly services and affordable charges*

Is there a pharmacy at the health center? *Yes but it is for patients treated at the centre*

If so, how much do medicines cost compared to a regular pharmacy? *We add 25% charge on price obtained from whole sale pharmacies*

Types of health services the clinic provides

Out Patient Department-Patients see doctors, are treated and get access to laboratory investigations where required. The patients go home after treatment. The laboratory investigations include liver and function test and other routine laboratory tests for common diseases in our communities such as malaria etc.

Reproductive Child Health Unit-Services offered in this unit include provision of services to pregnant women and children less than five years of age. Health education is also given in groups or individually. Other services are vaccination against the following diseases: Polio, Measles, Tuberculosis Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Diphtheria and Hepatitis The centre also conducts normal deliveries while complicated cases are referred to hospitals. The centre has also started Voluntary Counseling and Testing for HIV/AIDS.

In Patient Department: The centre admits serious cases. The centre currently has 10 beds excluding two delivery beds,

The center also provides reproductive health education

The Community

What “part” of Dar Es Saleem is the center located?

The centre is located in an area that is surrounded by both middle-class and low income neighborhoods.

What are the demographics of the community?

Economic:

Most people work in small income generating activities and employed in the informal sector. The average yearly income is 400 US dollars

Educational:

Most people have a primary school (7 years of primary education)

Urban/rural:

The center is located in an urban setting

Employees

How many volunteers work there? ***6 Volunteers (Sisters)***

How many paid staff? ***14 paid staff***

How many nurses work there? ***6 nurses***

How many doctors? ***2 doctors***

Who the clinic helps

Is the health center free for people in the community?

It is only free for children and elderly who have no means of support or care.

How many people have been helped so far by the Centre? ***240 people have been given free treatment so far because they are unable to pay for the services.***

How many people are helped per day? Who are they?

On average 1 person received free treatment from the centre.

They are mostly children and elderly patients without care and support.

Who are the main beneficiaries of the hospital?: ***Mainly children and women from low income families located in the surrounding communities***

How much do people pay to see the doctor?

The centre charges under 1 dollar (0.85 of a dollar) to see the doctor.

How do patients know about the health center?

We use Television, magazines, brochures and announcements in the churches and patients to market our services.

Do people come from the rural areas or only from the city to the health center?

From both rural and city

How long is the average stay of a patient? *2 days*

What are the five biggest health problems that the center deals with?

1. Malaria 2. Worms 3. Pneumonia 4. Acute Respiratory Tract Infection 5. Skin Diseases

Who is the average patient?

Age?: *Children of both sexes*

Income?: *A mixture of low and middle income*

Standard of living?: *Low standard of living*

Housing situation? : *Generally poor housing condition*

What are two stories of patients who have been helped by the health center.

First Case: A girl of 11 years who was brought to the Centre unconscious with high fever (40 degrees). The laboratory investigation showed that she had plenty of malaria parasites in her blood. We treated her with Quinine Intravenous in Infusion for 3 days and then oral quinine. After one day she gained some consciousness. Her parents were only able to pay half of the bills.

Second Case: One mother was brought to the centre in coma state. The examination revealed that the patient had high Blood Pressure of 240/125. She was a lactating mother who delivered 9 (at another hospital) two days before she was brought to the centre. We hospitalized her for one week and she recovered.

Funding

Is the health center funded by the Catholic Church in Tanzania?*No it is not*

Why should people support E.M. health center with their money?:

First we have a need in the context of the services that we provide to the communities that cannot afford such services from other health centers. We also offer free services for those who cannot afford to pay and are in need of our services. Provision of health services with through public or private institutions is inadequate and expensive.