

**CHRISTIAN HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF
SIERRA LEONE**



CHASL

ANNUAL REPORT

2012

INTRODUCTION

This report will give an overview of the activities of the CHASL Secretariat and its 53 member institutions scattered all over the country, for the period of 1st January to 31st December 2012. The CHASL membership comprises of a total of 53 Health Institutions owned by both Church denominations and Christian Organizations registered and operating within the borders of Sierra Leone. It comprises of 10 General Hospitals, 2 Eye Hospitals 35 Health Centres/Clinics and 6 Faith based NGOs with health promoting programmes. Our members have a presence in all but one of the 14 districts in the country and mainly operate in rural settings serving the poor and needy communities (see Appendix 1 for list of CHASL Members and their locations). The year 2012 was a year of challenges for our members as they strove with their meagre resources to provide quality health care service to people in their catchment areas. Similarly, the Secretariat of CHASL located in the capital city of Freetown faces considerable challenges as we tried to coordinate the activities of the member institutions, helping to create an enabling environment for them through supportive services, advocacy and some trainings.

Nevertheless there were some successes for which we are thankful to God and those partners who supported us over the period. This report will attempt to highlight our achievements and constraints so as to learn from them and seek ways to enhance our strength and overcome our weaknesses as we face the year 2013.

CHASL MEMBER INSTITUTION ACTIVITIES

CHASL Member Institutions have been working hard in supporting the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MOHS) in the area of health care delivery and promotion. Through various services rendered, our member hospitals and clinics attended to a total number of 322,841 people in 2012 (See Appendix 4A).

The caseloads of diseases treated by CHASL Institutions during the year 2012 are shown in appendix 4B. Malaria and respiratory tract infections continue to be the highest amongst the diseases treated, while typhoid, diarrhoea and hypertension also reflect high incidences.

In the area of Maternal and child health a total of 4,782 live births of which 3,582 were normal deliveries recorded for the period under review. Also 539 Caesarean sections and 27 assisted deliveries were conducted. Our members recorded low incidence of maternal and neonatal deaths but recorded relatively high incidences in the area of still births and under five deaths. These high incidences are largely due to late reporting and referrals. See Appendix 4D. The number of people

accessing Family planning services at CHASL Member Institutions in 2012 was 8,849, reflecting an increase over 6,348 recorded for 2011 from the baseline survey conducted early 2012.

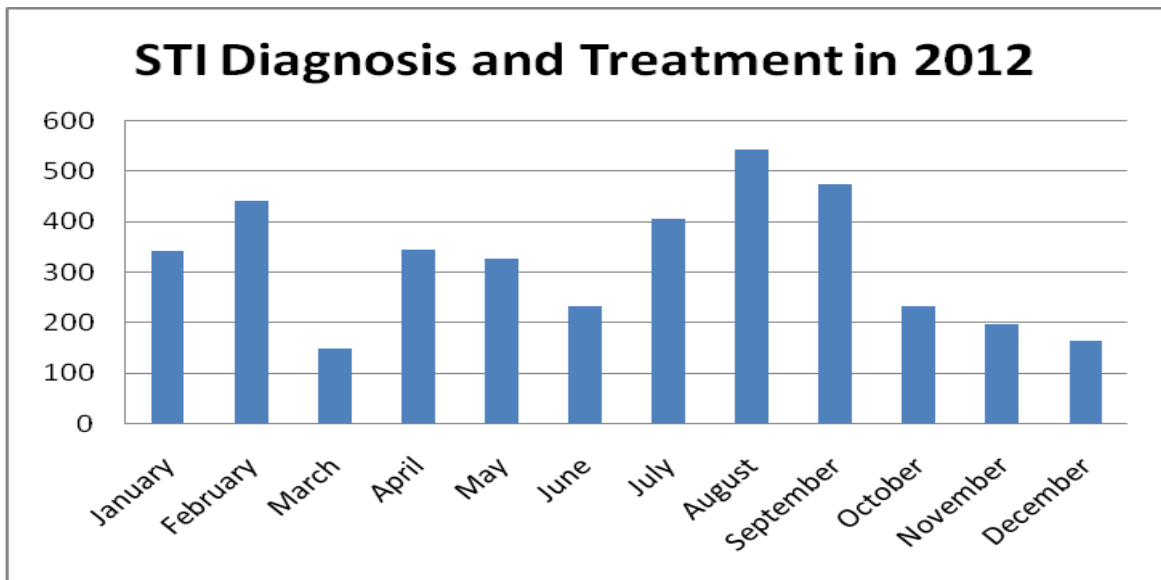
The total staff capacity of our Member Institutions by the end of 2012 stood at 681 of which 425 are clinical staff (See Appendix 4C). When compared with the number of cases seen by these facilities over the period under review and also compared with the size of the catchment population in their areas of operation, our constraints in the area of human resource for health is highlighted. For this we continue to look up to the government for support through the MOHS.

HIV/AIDS PROGRAMME

CHASL received Support from the Global Fund programme for HIV/AIDS. The principal recipient for the Global Fund in Sierra Leone is the National AIDS Secretariat (NAS). CHASL is a sub-sub recipient under the AIDS Response Group (ARG) of the MOHS and implemented the following activities during the period under review:

I. Treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs).

A total of 3,867 cases of STI were treated by CHASL Health Facilities in the year 2012.



II. Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) and Voluntary Confidential Counselling and Testing (VCCT)

4 workshops on PMTCT and VCCT were conducted over the period as follows:

- 10th & 11th January 2012 for 16 participants from 5 CHASL Member Institutions
- 6th & 7th March 2012 for 11 participants from 7 CHASL Member Institutions
- 1st & 2nd May 2012 for 24 Participants from 13 CHASL Member Institutions

- 18th & 19th July 2012 for 22 Participants from 16 CHASL Member Institutions

III. Community Sensitization on VCCT and PMTCT

4 Community Sensitization sessions were carried out in 2012 in communities where CHASL Members operate, as listed below:

- 2 (two) sessions in Serabu in the Bo District in the months of March and December
- 1 (one) session in Kamakwie in the Bombali District in the month of May
- 1 (one) session in Mattru in the Bonthe District in the month of August

These sessions attracted over a total of 500 people especially pregnant women and lactating mothers.

IV. Nutritional Support to Mothers, New Born Babies and Children Living with HIV/AIDS

Positive Clients under the above categories were identified, and received nutritional support during the period under review, as listed below:

- 52 - New born
- 52 - U5 Children
- 52 - Positive mothers

FAMILY PLANNING

The CHASL Family planning programme sponsored by CORDAID started in the later parts of 2011. The main focus of the programme is “**Promoting Informed Decision Making on Family Planning in Communities**”, as a strategy to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality. It was initiated with a base line survey in which 35 CHASL Members and 28 Communities were targeted. One thousand survey questionnaires were administered in communities. The aim of the survey was to assess the level of services rendered by CHASL members on one hand and also the level of knowledge, attitude and practice of people in the communities towards Family planning on the other.

As a follow up to the baseline survey, two sets of 4 days training on Reproductive Health and Family Planning were conducted for Health Staff in May 2012 at the CHASL Conference hall. 2 (two) Muslim health Institutions also benefited from the training. We are grateful to the Planned Parenthood Association of Sierra Leone (PPASL) who provided resource persons for the training.

Also following the surveys in the Communities, a series of sensitization sessions were conducted through community radio and meetings. Our member Institutions are now warming up toward the idea of educating their clients and communities on the importance of family planning and to start providing services. For the year under review our members serviced **8,849** clients who sought

Family Planning services from their facilities. When compared to the baseline survey figures in which 23 CHASL member institutions provided Family Planning Service for **6,348** clients in the year 2011, it reflects an increase in the number of people now accessing Family planning services at CHASL Member Institutions.

PHARMACY DEPARTMENT

The main function of the Pharmacy Department in CHASL is to assist members in the area of drug procurement and handling. It secures Clearance and Import permits for drugs and medical supplies imported into the country by CHASL Member Institutions; provide clearing services of these imported medical supplies. Also advises and when funds are available provide training on drug management and use. During the period under review the pharmacy Department was able to facilitate the Clearing and distribution of 19 consignments of drugs and Medical supplies for 10 CHASL Member Institutions and 2 other health related institutions as follows:

Clearing of Drugs and Medical Supplies for 2012		
No.	Name of Institutions	No. of clearing
1	World Vision Sierra Leone	6
2	Catholic Hospital, Serabu	2
3	Mercy Hospital, Bo	1
4	Caritas	1
5	Baptist Eye Hospital	1
6	UMC Eye Hospital	1
7	Methodist Church Sierra Leone	2
8	St. Joseph (Loreto Health Services)	1
9.	Kamakwie Wesleyan Hospital	1
10.	Sierra Leone Midwives Association (SLMA)	1
11.	Artificial Limb Fitting Centre, Bo	1
12.	Southern Eye Clinic, Serabu	1
Total		19

CHASL in collaboration with the Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network (EPN) based in Nairobi Kenya organised a 10 day Training Workshop on “Essential Pharmacy Practice” in September 2012. The course was designed to equip medical staff of CHASL Hospitals who, due to shortage of Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians, are charged with the responsibility of handling drugs in their Institutions, but lack the requisite skills as they are not trained. The Course did not make them

become qualified Pharmacists, but gave the necessary skills for them to function effectively in their task of handling drugs. One module out of a six module course was conducted. At the end of the course an examination was conducted and later the scripts were marked and certificates of participation awarded. 25 health staff from CHASL health facilities benefited from the training. We anticipate conducting training in the other 5 modules, pending the availability of funds.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

As required by our Constitution CHASL conducted 3 General Meetings in the year 2012 - in February, June and September (The June meeting was the Annual General Meeting - AGM). The Executive Council also met 3 times in the year prior to the General meetings. For the period under review all meetings scheduled were held as follows:

- **3 Executive Council meetings** were conducted on: 22nd February, 28th June and 26th September 2012.
- **3 Membership meetings** held on: 23rd and 24th February, 2012 in Bo, 29th June 2012, in Freetown, 27th and 28th September, 2012 in Segbwema

Our membership grew by 3 (three) during the year under review as the following institutions were accepted into CHASL membership:

1. MCSL PLHA Clinic, located at Wellington Village in the Western Urban Area
2. Evangelical Lutheran Clinic, located at Calaba Town in the Western Urban Area
3. Catholic Mobile Clinic, located in Madina Village in the Kambia District.

We heartily congratulate them and welcome them into the fold.

COLLABORATION WITH MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SANITATION (MOHS)

The CHASL Secretariat continues to collaborate closely with the MOHS at Central level while our individual members collaborate at District Level with the District Health Management Teams (DHMTs). At Central Level, CHASL served in the following Committees and task forces of the MOHS:

- **Health Sector Coordinating Committee (HSCC):** CHASL continues to sit on the Health Sector Coordinating Committee (HSCC) and the health Sector Steering Group (HSSG). One major activity of this committee was the signing of the National Health Compact and the finalization of the Joint programme of work and funding (JPWF).
- **Health Sector Steering Group (HSSG)**
- **The Human Resource for Health Development and Management working group**
- **The Integrated Service Delivery working Group**

- **Involved in the preparation and launching of the following:**

- Mental Health Policy and Strategic Plan
- Human Resource Policy and Strategic Plan

In 2012 CHASL was involved in the preparation and launching of the following health documents:

- **Mental Health Policy and Strategic Plan**
- **The Human Resource for Health Country Profile, Policy and Strategic Plan**

COLLABORATION WITH OTHER PARTNERS

During the period under review CHASL Secretariat collaborated with other key players in Health as follows:

- **Tony Blair Faith Foundation** – Discussions were initiated with Tony Blair Faith Foundation for the continued implementation of the Faith Act on Malaria Programme by CHASL by mid-2013.
- **Mercy Ship Whole Persons Ministry** – CHASL continued to play the role as the contact for the Mercy Ship Mental Health Programme after the ship left the shores of Freetown. The main task was helping to coordinate with various government and other institutions for follow up/refresher training of their staff in mental health. These included Religious Leaders/Church Workers, the Police, the Fire Force, the Military, the Prison/correctional Officers, Teachers and Social Workers. Plans for the training of Traditional Healers in 2013 were initiated.
- **Enabling Access to Mental Health** – CHASL was re-elected to chair the Executive Council for the MH Coalition of Sierra Leone. The Coalition is working with MOHS advocating for the implementation of the Mental Health Policy and Strategic Plan, which was launched on 10th October 2012 on the World Mental Health Day. The Coalition initiated planning process for the second Mental Health Conference in Sierra Leone scheduled for 19th March 2013.

CONSTRAINTS:

Our major constraints faced by the Secretariat and our Member Institutions include:

- Inadequate funding for the running of the Secretariat.
- Inadequate funds to effectively support our members in their delivery of health care, training and other logistic support

- Transportation to do effective monitoring and supervision of our members by the Secretariat on one hand and effective operation of our members for the purpose of referral, emergencies, and utility on the other.
- Lack of access to reliable drugs at reasonable cost for our members' operation.

FUTURE PLANS

CHASL has the following plans for the year 2013

- Collaborate with EPN in investigating drug supply to our Institutions through survey.
- Work towards setting up a drugstore for CHASL member institutions to ensure availability of good quality drugs at affordable cost.
- Continue to collaborate with government in the area of health care delivery as a Private Not For Profit (PNFP) health institution.
- Continue to render services to our members in the area of the clearing of drugs and medical supplies imported into the Country for use in their work in health care delivery work.
- Support the MOHS by participating in the various committees and subcommittees to which we are invited
- Conduct three (3) membership meetings for CHASL members for planning, reporting and experience sharing
- Conduct refresher training for health staff of CHASL member institutions on Family Planning service delivery
- Continue to support CHASL members in promoting informed decision on Family Planning in their various communities
- Conduct other capacity building trainings for CHASL member institutions in areas of identified gaps in their operations.
- Ensure our member institutions continue to provide quality health care services to the nation, through the introduction of an accreditation system within the CHASL network. The system will set minimum standards of operations that our members must meet for them to become or continue to be members of the Association.
- Participate as sub sub-recipient for Global Fund HIV/AIDS programmes
- To continue to seek partnership with UNICEF to promote maternal and newborn care in the communities while we monitor health staff trained in 2010/2011.

CONCLUSION

As an organization, CHASL is thankful to God our heavenly Father for His guidance and sustenance through the year 2012, for without Him we can do nothing. We also sincerely appreciate the support we have received from our partners especially CORDAID who had over the years supported us financially and with training through the project “Strengthening Health Capacity of FBOs”.

The Government of Sierra Leone, especially through the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MOHS) and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MOFED) has over the period been of significant support to us in various ways especially in the granting of duty free waiver on drugs and medical supplies imported into the country for use at our member facilities.

In closing I want to use this opportunity to also thank those of our member Institutions who over the period under review had worked hard in providing quality health care service to the people of our beloved Sierra Leone. They have contributed to the statistics we have proudly displayed in this report. We also appreciate those CHASL members who have faithfully complied in maintaining standard in their operation, in sending in their returns regularly and on time to both the CHASL Secretariat and the District Health Management Teams (DHMTs) in their various Districts, in their regular attendance at CHASL meetings and in regularly paying their dues to the CHASL Secretariat. I salute them and encourage them to keep up the good work. Their efforts have contributed tremendously in ensuring that CHASL’s vision and mission come to fruition. We pray that their services to humanity will be greatly rewarded and their labour in the Lord’s vineyard will not go in vain.

I wish to conclude this report with an appeal to the Government of Sierra Leone and Health Development Partners to increase their effort to strengthen the hands of the Faith based Hospitals and Clinics as we work towards achieving the National Goals of the Health sector in the Country.

To God be all Glory, Honour and Praise.

APPENDIX I LIST OF CHASL MEMBERS

NO	CHASL MEMBERS	LOCATION	DISTRICT	CHIEFDOM
1.	* Nixon Memorial Hospital	East Province	Kailahun	Njaluahun
2.	El-Shaddai Clinic	East Province	Kailahun	Pejeh West
3.	KDHCO Clinic – Pendembu	East Province	Kailahun	Upper Bambara
4.	* Catholic Hospital, Panguma	East Province	Kenema	Lower Bambara
5.	UMC Health Centre, Jaiama	East Province	Kono	Nimikoro
6.	* UMC Hospital, Kissy	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
7.	* UMC Eye Hospital, Kissy	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
8.	Wesleyan Health Centre, Kissy	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
9.	St. Anthony Clinic	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
10.	Shepherd’s Hospice	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
11.	Stella Maris Clinic	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
12.	UMC Secondary School, Freetown	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
13.	Gospel Health Centre	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
14.	MCSL Community Clinic	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
15.	Nat. Leprosy/T.B. Control Prog.	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
16.	Catholic Relief Services	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
17.	CAUSE Canada	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
18.	St. Joseph’s Clinic, Kissy	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
19.	World Vision Sierra Leone	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
20.	Willamette Medical Team	Western Area	Western Urban	Freetown
21.	WAM Mobile Clinic,	Western Area	Western Urban	Bureh Town
22.	MCSL PLHIV Clinic	Western Area	Western Urban	Wellington
23.	The Evangelical Lutheran Health Centre	Western Area	Western Urban	Calaba Town
24.	* Baptist Eye Hospital	Northern Province	Port Loko	Marampa
25.	* St. John of God Hospital	Northern Province	Port Loko	Marampa
26.	Nonkoba Health Centre	Northern Province	Port Loko	Masimera
27.	St. John of God Clinic, Lungi	Northern Province	Port Loko	Kaffu Bullum
28.	New Life Clinic, Yongoro	Northern Province	Port Loko	Kaffu Bullom
29.	Modia Clinic, Lungi	Northern Province	Port Loko	Kaffu Bullom
30.	Rural Health Centre, Port Loko	Northern Province	Port Loko	Maforki
31.	Wesleyan Health, Madina	Northern Province	Kambia	Thonko Limba
32.	Catholic Mobile Clinic, Madina	Northern Province	Kambia	Thonko Limba
33.	Roseba Health Centre (BCSL)	Northern Province	Kambia	Mambolo
34.	Kasirie Health Centre (BCSL)	Northern Province	Kambia	Samu
35.	Loreto Clinic, Makeni	Northern Province	Bombali	Bombali Shebora
36.	* Holy Spirit Hospital, Masuba	Northern Province	Bombali	Bombali Shebora
37.	Doris Acton UMC Clinic, Manonko	Northern Province	Bombali	Bombali Shebora
38.	Wesleyan Health Centre Gbendembu	Northern Province	Bombali	Gbendembu Ngowahun
39.	* Kamakwie Wesleyan Hospital	Northern Province	Bombali	Sella Limba
40.	CHE Programme	Northern Province	Bombali	Sella Limba
41.	NarSarah Clinic, Kabala	Northern Province	Koinadugu	Wara Wara Yangala

42.	UMC Health Centre, Yonibana	Northern Province	Tonkolili	Yoni
43.	Our Lady of Guadalupe Mile 91	Northern Province	Tonkolili	Yoni
44.	UMC Health Centre, Manjama	Southern Province	Bo	Kakua
45.	* Mercy Hospital	Southern Province	Bo	Kakua
46.	St. Luke's Clinic - Gerihun	Southern Province	Bo	Baoma
47.	Southern Eye Clinic, Serabu	Southern Province	Bo	Bumpeh Ngao
48.	*Catholic Hospital, Serabu	Southern Province	Bo	Bumpeh Ngao
49.	*UBC Hospital, Mattru	Southern Province	Bonthe	Jong
50.	* Hartsfield Memorial Hospital Rotifunk	Southern Province	Moyamba	Bumpeh
51.	Mabel Silver Clinic	Southern Province	Moyamba	Kaiyamba
52.	Kangahun Health Centre	Southern Province	Moyamba	Kaiyamba
53.	UMC Health Centre, Taiama	Southern Province	Moyamba	Kori

APPENDIX II MEMBERS VISITED

NO.	INSTITUTION	REMARKS
1.	Stella Maris Clinic, Juba	Routine inspection & Programmes
2.	St. Anthony's Clinic, Brookfields	“ “ “
3.	MCSL Clinic, Brookfields	“ “ “
4.	UMC Eye Hospital, Kissy	“ “ “
5.	UMC Hospital, Kissy	“ “ “
6.	Gospel Health Centre, Joe Town	“ “ “
7.	Wesleyan Health Centre, Kissy	“ “ “
8.	Shepherd's Hospice, Allen Town	“ “ “
9.	El-Shaddai Clinic, Bunumbu	“ “ “
10.	UMC Health Centre, Rotifunk	“ “ “
11.	Holy Spirit Hospital, Makeni	“ “ “
12.	Baptist Eye Hospital, Lunsar	“ “ “
13.	St. John of God Hospital, Lunsar	“ “ “
14.	Wesleyan Hospital, Kamakwie	“ “ “
15.	Nixon Memorial Hospital, Segbwema	“ “ “
16.	Panguma Hospital	“ “ “
17.	UBC Hospital, Mattru	“ “ “
18.	Catholic Maternity Clinic, Pendembu	“ “ “
19.	UMC Health Centre, Jaiama	“ “ “
20.	St. Joseph's Clinic, Kissy	“ “ “
21.	St. John of God Clinic, Lungi	“ “ “
22.	New Life Clinic, Yongoro	“ “ “
23.	Modia Clinic, Lungi	“ “ “
24.	Rural Health Centre, Port Loko	“ “ “
25.	Wesleyan Health Centre, Madina	“ “ “
26.	Catholic Mobile Clinic, Madina	“ “ “
27.	Loreto Health Services, Makeni	“ “ “
28.	Wesleyan Health Centre, Gbendembu	“ “ “
29.	NarSarah Clinic, Kabala	“ “ “
30.	UMC Health Centre, Yonibana	“ “ “
31.	Our Lady of Guadalupe Clinic, Mile 91	“ “ “
32.	UMC Health Centre, Manjama	“ “ “
33.	Mercy Hospital, Bo	“ “ “
34.	Southern Eye Clinic, Serabu	“ “ “
35.	Catholic Hospital, Serabu	“ “ “
36.	Kangahun Health Centre	“ “ “
37.	UMC Health Centre, Taiama	“ “ “

APPENDIX III

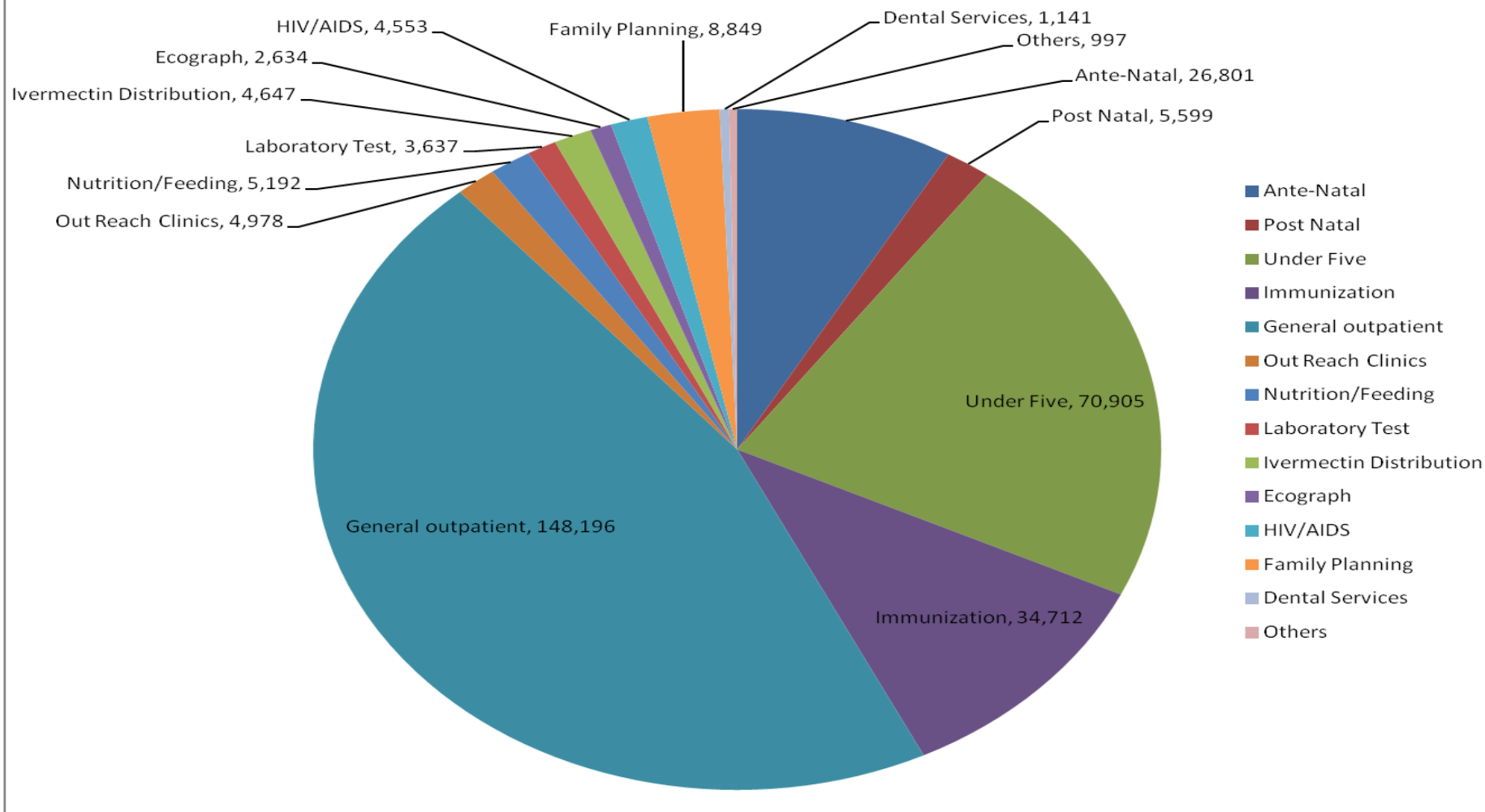
OVERSEAS VISITORS TO CHASL JANUARY – DECEMBER 2012

MONTH	NAME	COUNTRY	REMARKS
January	Hamjatu Khazali	ACF, Freetown	Meeting for Western Area Needs Assessment
	Sophia Renault	ACF, Freetown	
February	Abdulai Bayo Bangura	Police Hospital	Meeting
	James P. Komeh	Pharmacy Board, Freetown	Meeting
March	Mustapha Samura	Freetown, Sierra Leone	Meeting
	John Kobina Abakah	Australia	Meeting
	Rev. Gordon W. Sollis	Bridgerd, Wales, UK	Part of Sabbatical Visit
	Bro. Thomas S. Braima	Methodist Church S.L.	Moving with visitors fr. UK
	Tim Martineau	Options/Liverpool, UK	Meeting
	Sam Tapena	MOHS	Meeting
	Lindolf Rinhmilh	Frankfurt/Germany	Meeting
April	Kate Wilson	USA	Meeting on Mental Health
	Joseph Dwyer	USA	“ “ “
	Edward Bockarie	Freetown, Sierra Leone	“ “ “
	Andrew H. Pamela	USA	“ “ “
	Frederick Sam Kumbaka	Koidu, Sierra Leone	“ “ “
	Sarty Banya	Kailahun, Sierra Leone	“ “ “
	David Gangsei	USA	Learn about Mental Health Coalition
July	Banktec Systems	Freetown, Sierra Leone	Visit on business

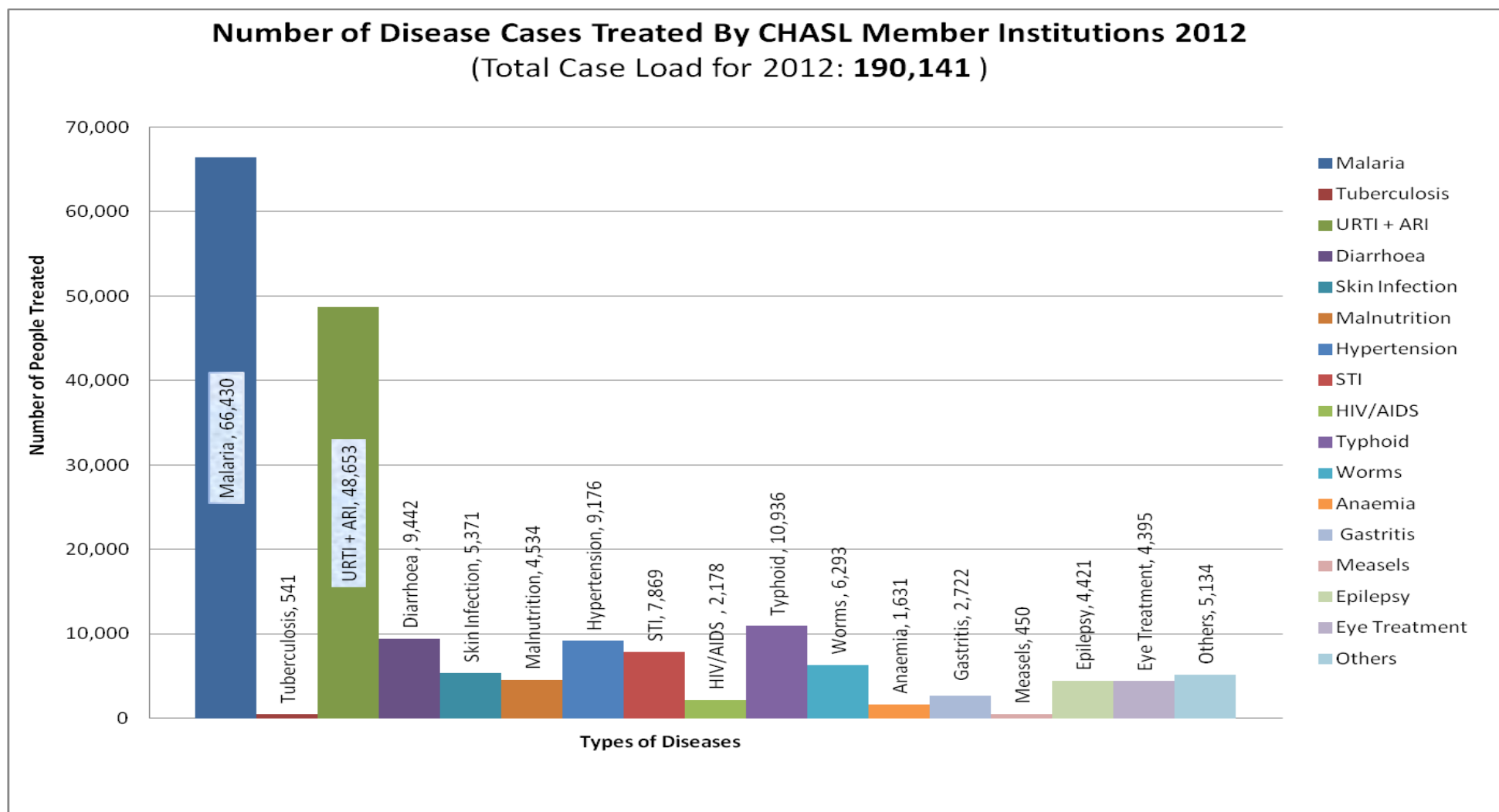
APPENDIX IV

Appendix 4A Services by CHASL Member Institutions in 2012

SERVICES RENDERED BY CHASL MEMBER HOSPITALS & CLINICS IN 2012 (Total number of people served is: 322,841)



Appendix 4B: Diseases Treated in 2012



Appendix 4C: Staff distribution in 2012

