CBR Effata
2013-2014

CBR Effata is a small Dutch non-governmental organization that helps people with disability to live in dignity.
CBR Effata creates awareness and facilitates in rehabilitation and advocacy.
Background

People living with a disability in rural sub-Saharan Africa have poorer health outcomes, lower educational successes, less economic participation and higher levels of poverty than people without disability. In sub-Saharan Africa an estimated 10-15% of the population is disabled.

Efforts towards reducing the burden of disability remains challenging due to social and political instability, poverty, stigmatization, poor health care system infrastructure, scarcity of trained medical personnel and a severe shortage of rehabilitation specialists.

There is, however, increasing evidence that community-based programs improve access to treatment and increase awareness in resource-poor settings. The World Health Organization specifically advocates the use of community-based rehabilitation (CBR) services to equalize the social integration of people living with a disability.

Mission

The mission of CBR Effata is to i) support people and families living with disabilities, ii) increase social engagement and reduce prejudice in the community, iii) treat people with disabilities and iv) introduce disability prevention strategies.
Method
The CBR method is used as much as possible, so i) immobilized people with disabilities are visited and if possible treated at home, ii) family and community member are always be included in the rehabilitation process, iii) schools, churches and village meetings are attended for awareness activities, and iv) educational and vocational training take place at village level, through a system of apprenticeship.

Collaboration
CBR Effata strongly believes that collaborations at national and international level are important for effectiveness and sustainability, so we work together with two general hospitals in Ebonyi State, local primary and secondary schools in Ebonyi State, the Ministry of Health, Education and Social Welfare (Nigeria), local churches (Nigeria, Guinea-Bissau) and the WHO and UNICEF (Nigeria and Guinea-Bissau).

Countries
The focus area of CBR Effata is rural sub-Saharan Africa. Currently we work in a rural area in one of the poorest states of Nigeria, Izzi Local Government Area, Ebonyi State and the rural Oio region in the North of Guinea-Bissau.

Registration
CBR Effata started in 1996. It has officially been registered with the Kamer of Koophandel and has been registered as a charitable organization (ANBI). CBR Effata is registered in Nigeria at a Federal as well as State level as a Christian, non-denominational non-governmental organization.

In Guinea-Bissau the process of registration is still pending.

Financial position
The total annual budget of CBR Effata in 2012 was approximately € 45 000. Support is provided by Board for Special Needs (The Netherlands) for the Orthopedic and Epilepsy Unit, Light for the World (The Netherlands) for the Eye Unit - this will end in 2013 - private gifts for the Vocational Unit, Jars of Clay Foundation for the Special School for the Deaf, private gifts for the AIDS Ministry and occasional support from the Local Izzi Government.

Monitoring and Evaluation
The projects are monitored and evaluated by means of quarterly reports, annual narrative and financial reports, monthly team meetings, quarterly Board meetings and staff evaluation.
Management Structure

CBR Effata has a Board in The Netherlands, an Advisor and separate local Boards for each program in Nigeria. A local Board in Guinea-Bissau and an Advisory Committee are currently being formed. Dutch Board members are volunteers.

Frank van der Maas is the founder of CBR Effata. He has been working as a missionary in Nigeria since 1992. Presently he is Advisor to the Board in the Netherlands and Advisor to the local Boards in Nigeria.

Frank van der Maas will initiate a new Inclusive Education Unit in Nigeria and a new CBR program in Guinea-Bissau in 2014. He works as a volunteer and receives no salary.

The organigram of CBR Effata is shown in Fig 1.
Nigeria

The first project, Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) started in 1996. The project location is Omorodu Iseke and comprises three Units: an Eye Care Unit, an Orthopedic and Epilepsy Unit and a Vocational Training Unit.

CBR Effata works closely together with CBM who sends an eye surgeon every five weeks. An orthopedic surgeon visits the project every three months for consultation and operation.

In 1996 CBR Effata started a Special School for the Deaf, located at Onuennyim Iseke.

In 2002 CBR Effata initiated an AIDS Ministry at Nwofe Agbaja.

In 2014 CBR Effata plans to start a Secondary School with Inclusive Education. The school will be located in Nwofe Agbaja. Secondary education is not yet available for deaf children living in Ebonyi State.

This Inclusive Education program was specifically requested by the State Government. The project development will therefore be in close cooperation with them.

Aims

Provide community based rehabilitation for children and adults with visual, physical, mental and hearing impairments.

Improve educational opportunities for blind, hearing impaired, mental and physical disabled children.

Increase economic independence (livelihood) of people with disabilities.

Create awareness among the general population about prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

Educate people with disabilities and the community on the spread and prevention of HIV/AIDS as well as care and support people infected and affected by HIV.

Guinea-Bissau

In 2014 CBR Effata will also open a new branch in the northern states of Guinea-Bissau. CBR activities will start in close cooperation with the local community and the church located in Bissorão, Oio region. Bissorão is a small, centrally located town with an active local disability organization.

Aims

Provide community based rehabilitation for children and adults with visual, physical, mental and hearing impairments.

Improve educational opportunities for blind, hearing impaired, mental and physical disabled children.