

# About mhBeF

*The Mental Health Beyond Facilities (mhBeF) project intends to develop an evidence-based Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services (CCMHS) package for Persons With Severe Mental Disorders and Epilepsy (PWSMDE) in low and middle income countries (LAMIC). The mhBeF package bridges the gap between clinical care and community-based supports while strengthening individual and family livelihoods and reducing stigma toward PWSMDE and their families.*



mhBeF Formative Research, 2013

THE  
CARTER CENTER



## Mental Health Beyond Facilities Project (mhBeF)

The Carter Center Mental  
Health Program,  
Ministry of Health & Social  
Welfare,  
LiCORMH, JFK/ES Grant Hospital  
Sinoe County Health Team,  
River Gee County Health Team,  
Grand Kru County Health Team

Contact: Wilfred S. Gwaikolo,  
Project Coordinator.  
0886444037 / 0770444037  
wilfred.gwaikolo@cartercenterliberia.org

Tarnue Gbelee,  
Mental Health Focal Point/SCHT  
0886758727

Produced by: Wilfred S. Gwaikolo and Dr. Janice L. Cooper,  
February, 2014

### Project objectives:

- To define and develop the CCMHS package with a strong culturally-competent mental health component
- To train health care workers, Community Resource Persons (CoRPs), and Patients Support Groups (PSGs) for the delivery of the CCMHS package
- To implement the CCMHS package in Liberia, Uganda and Nepal
- To evaluate the CCMHS package using a quasi-experimental

### Project components:

- Clinical component:** Strengthen screening, referral, assessment, and management for PWSMDE
- Patients Support Groups:** promote psychosocial and socio-economic support services for PWSMDE
- Anti-stigma:** reduce stigma toward PWSMD and epilepsy.



Community engagement meeting, Karquepo, 2012



Courtesy: mhBeF CCMHSP training, Sinoe, Feb. 2014

## Partners

Mental Health Beyond Facilities is financed by Grand Challenges Canada and led by Makerere University School of Public Health, Uganda. mhBeF is implemented by the Carter Center Mental Health program in Liberia, Makerere University School of Public Health and Trans-cultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) in Uganda and TPO in Nepal.

In Liberia, the Carter Center collaborates with the Ministry of Health, and LiCORMH.

### Roles of Liberian Stakeholders.

**The Carter Center:** Manages project activities, trains project staff and oversees project activities and research.

**LiCORMH:** Refine and implement family psycho-education manual using General Community Health Volunteers (gCHVs) and consumers groups, and support anti-stigma campaign.

**Ministry of Health & Social Welfare:** Provides the policy and practice framework for project implementation.

### Liberia's Investigators:

**Dr. Janice L. Cooper,** Project Co-Investigator and Representative of the Carter Center Mental Health Liberia Initiative. [janice.cooper@cartercenterliberia.org](mailto:janice.cooper@cartercenterliberia.org)

**Dr. Brandon Kohrt,** Project Co-Investigator and Representative of the Carter Center Mental Health Liberia Initiative. [brandonkohrt@gmail.com](mailto:brandonkohrt@gmail.com)



Diyankpo Clinic, Jeadea District, Sinoe County

## Project communities

Sinoe County is the direct beneficiary of the project as the project site, however; lessons learned from this project will benefit the entire nation of Liberia. Ten clinics in 6 of Sinoe's 10 health districts participate in the project.

Four health facilities supervised by Mental Health Clinicians (MHCs) in Grand Kru, and five facilities in River Gee also participate in the project.

### Project communities in Sinoe

District	Pop.	Facility	Facility Catchment pop	Network Availability
Greenville	2385	Lexington Clinic	2,360	Good
Butaw	3,773	Butaw Clin-	2,000	Good
Tarsue	7,326	BOPC Clinic	7,326	Limited
Dugbe River	12,192	Juaryen	2,387	No
		Menwah	3,625	No
Kpanyan	12,666	Karquekpo	4,438	Limited
		Kabada	1,032	Limited
		Kilo Town	4,325	Good
Jeadea	10,976	Government Camp	5,403	Good
		Diyankpo Clinic	2,502	Limited

Courtesy: Sinoe County Health & Social Welfare Team, 2012

## Our Achievements

### CCMHS development

- ◆ Formative research was conducted in March 2013 to inform the development of a comprehensive community-based mental health service package training manual.
- ◆ An mhealth component was developed.

### Capacity building

- ◆ Ten Mid-level Health Care Workers, 10 community health volunteers and 3 social workers have been trained to implement the CCHMS package in Sinoe. Ten Mental Health Clinicians (MHCs) already trained to provide support supervision in Sinoe while 8 MHCs are providing services in River Gee and Grand Kru Counties.
- ◆ Health care workers and mental health clinicians were trained on application of an mhealth component that captures and store patients' clinical and demographic data and support clinical decision making.
- ◆ Anti-stigma training conducted for health care workers, community health volunteers, MHCs, MH service consumers, family members, religious leaders and traditional leaders from Sinoe to lead community awareness.

### Mental Health Service

- ◆ One hundred and thirty eight PWSMD&E (adults) have been enrolled into the cohort study for treatment (88 in intervention arm in Sinoe and 50 in control arm in Grand Kru and River Gee).