

LIVE

2540

JESUS LOVES ME
Children's Center

September 2025 Jesus Loves Me Report for LIVE2540



Introduction

September 2025 was the busiest month of the center. The staff continue to work extremely hard and are taking care of very high numbers of children at a high standard with only one death. This is remarkable in this setting where the children are extremely unwell, often with complicated malaria and respiratory distress. This has taken place in the midst of new initiatives moving forward including the immunisations program, chronic illnesses and tuberculosis treatment office all either beginning or being developed for launch next month. This has continued while the Spiritual development of staff has been a big focus, with several families accepting the gospel.

Highlights

- Highest number of children admitted to the inpatient ward for the 8th consecutive month running, and all carried out with only one death.
- Numbers of children treated through outpatients rose above 2000 for the month for the first time in the history of the center.
- Chronic illness conditions were officially launched for the first time, providing monthly medications and reviews for children with sickle cell anaemia, asthma and epilepsy.

These conditions are all common in Bong county and JLMCC can provide consistent follow-up with the needed education to take care of these children.

- 6 people gave their lives to Christ whilst in the center and are receiving discipleship.
- Ledgers received for the installation of a tuberculosis treatment center with a room designated for this space.



September in Statistics

- 2036 children treated in the outpatient department.
- Additional 41 staff treated during September.
- 26 new children treated in the OPD for severe acute malnutrition, with 60 currently on the program, 22 discharged as cured.
- 187 children immunized against serious medical conditions.
- 167 total admissions to the inpatient ward.
- 38 admissions to the inpatient feeding ward with severe acute malnutrition, 6 of whom were less than 6 months old. 27 children were discharged from the inpatient feeding ward.
- 216 admissions to the ward with complicated malaria, 9 of whom required blood transfusions.
- 1 patient referred onward to other facilities for care.
- 1 death in the facility.
- 30 children less than 6 months old treated with formula milk.
- 5 children treated in the sickle cell clinic.
- 8 children treated in the asthma clinic.

Educational Developments

- Weekly in-service trainings have been altered to ensure improved rest time for the staff whilst also facilitating a healthy learning environment.
- Regular ward rounds involving PAs and nurses presenting have continued and been strengthened by more in depth questions being asked of the staff who have been working overnight.
- Patient and caregiver education groups have formed naturally around the asthma, sickle cell and epilepsy clinics.
- 2 staff members completed immunization training at the county health team.
- One PA and one RN completed tuberculosis training at the TB office at the county health team in preparation for the official launch of tuberculosis treatment in the center.



Challenges

- The center still needs more missionary staff to invest in training and mentoring for the whole team. A short term team is coming in November to begin addressing this.
- Numbers of children treated for SAM have started to increase a little but still remain relatively low compared with malnutrition rates in Bong county overall. Much of October will be spent addressing this concern and ensuring that children are being correctly identified at triage.
- There remains a tendency to over-prescribe in outpatients.
- Some of the oxygen concentrators are no longer functioning well.

Goals

- Installation of new higher flow oxygen concentrators to the inpatient ward during October to improve the provision of CPAP and other interventions.
- Tuberculosis medication to be made available in the center from October 6 onwards.

- SWOT analysis of the peds department to be carried out October 2025 in order to guide further developments in an evidence-based manner.
- Pharmacy review to be carried out October 2025 in order to improve prescribing habits.
- Consultation on outreach clinics to take place November/December 2025 involving community leaders.
- Extension of vaccinations to the entire coverage area with JLMCC reporting as its own facility to take place from October 2025 onwards.



Success story

Julia was just 14 months old when she came through the hospital entrance, her tiny body having already suffered terribly. She had already had malaria twice and had suffered from diarrhea when her family ran into even more difficulty and simply lost the ability to buy enough food for everyone. After just a few days, she started coughing. The kind of cough which simply does not disappear after just a week with a couple of doses of antibiotics and a couple of cuddles. The more she coughed, the more her breathing got worse.

Fears ran through her mother's mind. Fears of the cough becoming unbearable. Fears of little Julia's breathing worsening and more difficulty getting care. Fears of the terrifying weight loss and swelling to all of her legs and arms. Eventually she heard that there was a hospital in the county which would take care of little ones, and somehow the message reached her that the care was great. As she came in the gates, the triage staff very quickly realized that she was

extremely malnourished and unable to tolerate anything. Her little feet were swollen and her breaths came in short sharp gasps. Rapidly the team moved Julia to the ward and started oxygen, quickly followed by a nasogastric tube and the precious F75 milk with antibiotics. The milk helped, and she started to improve a little, her breathing settling a little. However still the cough persisted, and still her temperature jumped up and down, becoming increasingly tired.

The doctors noted that Julia was still coughing, and had fevers at night along with constant weight loss. Some quick thinking led to a rapid diagnosis of tuberculosis and treatment being started immediately. Day by day Julia started to improve, her body starting to respond to the treatment and her breathing settled. Every day, the doctors were able to turn down the oxygen concentrator and bring her back, as her breathing settled. The cough started to calm down, and day by day her weight began to increase.

Seeing Julia come back to life was a beautiful moment for both her and her mom. Light came back to her eyes, and was reflected with the smile in her mom's eyes, the fear disappearing amid much prayer and care. Today Julia is ready to go home, happy on plumpynut and tuberculosis medicine. All this shows the need for our tuberculosis treatment center, arriving next month, and the value of great care delivered in Jesus' name.

Many blessings in Christ,

Dr Michael Bryant MRCP MRCGP DCH DTM&H

Jesus Loves Me Children's Center Chief Medical Officer