Nursing in Sendafa, Ethiopia: A Collaboration of Mission, Mentoring and Medicine

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Sendafa, Ethiopia on the East Coast of Africa
• Population 84,000,000 (2.6% annual growth rate)
• Size 435,186 sq.mi. (Texas + Oklahoma)
• Average income $100/yr
• Life expectancy (from birth) in 2011- 56 yo (US- 78)
• Physicians/100,000 population- 2.9 (US=549)
• AIDS prevalence 4.4-7% (12.6%urban, 2.6%rural)
• Infant mortality rate in 2011- 77/1000 live births (US= 6.63)
History of Ethiopia

- One of the poorest countries of the world
- We started there in 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>World Rank</th>
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<tr>
<td>health</td>
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<td>158&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>education</td>
<td>0.237</td>
<td>184&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>living standards</td>
<td>0.326</td>
<td>174&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>total</td>
<td>0.363</td>
<td>174&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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(2011)
Essential Components

• Avoid Ethnocentricity

• Demonstrate Caring, Concern and Compassion

• Reliability to return- dependability (7-10 yrs)

• Empower the Ethiopians to carry on
Agricultural People
PAAV Team
LWCC Team (York Hospital)

• Medical team (2011)
  – 6 Primary care physicians (3 Ethiopian)
  – 1 General Surgeon, 1 Anesthesiologist
  – 1 Optometrist, 1 Ophthalmologist (Ethiopian)
  – 1 Gyn nurse practitioner, 1 Physician’s assistant
  – 1 Dentist
  – 7 Nurses (1 Ethiopian)
  – 1 Pharmacist + 2 pharmacy techs (Ethiopian)

• Nonmedical team
  – 17 who worked in the schools, did construction, HIV/AIDS home visit
  – 30 Interpreters, helpers (Ethiopian)
Medical Clinic
The nursing team of 2011
Variety of levels of nurses, Vice President of nursing, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Nurse Practitioner, Staff Nurses and Students
Ethiopian Nurse Role Model
Student Nurses
Physician to Physician Mentoring
Cataract Surgery
Before and After
Statistics

- 1 week medical clinic
- 50% of the cases are due to contaminated food and water
- Glasses 500-600 pair per year
- Cataract surgeries 40-50 per year
- General surgery 25-35 per year
- Dentistry 65-75 per year
HIV patients

• Started with about a dozen
• Now >300 people mostly women
• No doctor in the village...people shunned
• Now medication is available to the people of Sendafa
• One HIV positive woman with 2 sons who are still HIV NEGATIVE
Aids
Diarrheal Diseases

• Accounts for 46% of mortality for children under 5 years old
• Contaminated food and water
  – Fecal oral transmission
• Incidence rates of 5.5 to 8 or more episodes of diarrhea per child per year
• Viruses, bacteria, protozoa
Iodine Deficiency

• Goiter rate 23% - tip of iceberg
• Households with iodized salt- 19%
• Hypothyroidism
• Cretinism
• Mental retardation-
  – Average loss of 10-15 IQ points from iodine deficiency alone
  • Not reversible
• Increases neonatal and infant mortality
Common Illnesses
• Goiter
• Keratitis due to cooking over open flame indoors
• Cataracts
• Rashes
• Tuberculosis
• Fatty tumors
• Leprosy
• Questions?