



## **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN SIERRA LEONE**

**(ELCSL)**

### **EBOLA FOOD ASSISTANCE TO QUARANTINE COMMUNITIES**

#### **FIELD UPDATE**

##### **Background**

Since the outbreak of Ebola virus in West Africa early this year in neighboring Guinea, Sierra Leone recorded its first suspected case in Koindu kissi Teng Chiefdom, Kailahun District very close to the affected community in Guinea. Since then, there has been suspected and confirm cases across the country with the exception of Koinadugu District in the Northern Province of Sierra Leone . Due to the high risk of contracting the virus, the government has instituted strict measures to contain the virus by declaring state of health Emergency. Kenema and Kailahun has been affected greatly and has recorded the highest suspected, confirmed and death rate since the outbreak and has lost huge number of medical personals including three renowned doctors (Dr. Khan, Dr. Modupeh and Dr. Rogers) in the country.

##### **Brief summary**

To complement the government effort to contain the Ebola virus across the country, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sierra Leone with the help of their partners, The NT-NL Synod of the ELCA,, donated food items to affect families in the quarantined areas in Peje Bongre Chiefdom Kailahun District. Among the food items donated were **Rice, Oil, Onion, Salt and Maggi** which are the basic essential food items for life sustenance.

Delivery the items to Chiefdom authorities, (Paramount Chief, Town Chief, youth leader, mammy Queens, Pastors, Imam and Councilor ) it was made clear that the donation was from a Faith Base Organization (FBO) the Evangelical Lutheran Church Sierra Leone for the affected communities and families who has been quarantined and also lost their loved ones in the cold hands of the deadly Ebola virus.

The PC and the Chiefdom authorities appreciated the food assistance donated to the Ebola affected survivors in the Manowa, Puhehun, Golahun, Njala and Bunumbuwole. 36 households were affected in the above communities. Manowa 5 HH, Pujehun 12 HH, Golahun 17 HH, Njala 1 HH and Bunumbu 1 HH.

The exercise was done alongside the Community Health Officer (CHO) and contact tracers in the affected communities. The contact tracers are responsible to identify suspected cases; monitored quarantine families affected by Ebola and prepare updated filed base report on weekly bases.

After the assessment was done, distribution plan was develop together with the CHO and contact tracers and was presented to the chiefdom authorities including the PC, Chiefdom speaker town chiefs in affected communities.

Finally the food item was presented to the chiefdom authorities for the affected families in the following communities affected by Ebola (Manowa, Pujehun, Golahun, Njala, Bunumbu wolo.)

### **Steps involve in the distribution plan**

- Meeting with CHO and contact tracers to have update Ebola case file
- Brief meeting with affected community leaders (Chiefs, Religious leaders)
- Identified homes affected by Ebola
- Conduct debriefing with authorities on findings on household affected in all communities
- Unveiling of food assistance to all Ebola affect family survivors
- Discuss distribution plan with authorities and survivors.
- Documentation of all process involve in the distribution.
- Final meeting with PC Baion after distribution
- Report/field update on food assistance to Ebola communities.

### **Issues identified during the HH identification of affected families**

- Children are highly affected due to the loss of both parents means there are lot of Orphans.
- Single parenting due to loss of one of the parent.
- Women are more affected (Widows)
- Affected family members are still suspect in the community (stigmatization)
- The socio economic activities of the families and the communities is greatly affected
- Affected houses are abandoned, most of them will be possibly demolish.
- Lot of grandparents left in the affected homes.

### **Photos of items purchase hired vehicle**



**Arriving at Manowa Peje Bongre Chiefdom offloading of food items**



**Manowa CHO Borbor Alieu, Moi Nyah the nurse who replaced the late Nurse Siawo and Satta Senesie who first died of Ebola in Manowa.**



**Hand washing station at the PHU Centre Support team briefing CHO on food assistance from ELCSL to affect communities/families**



**Meeting with town chief and contact tracers of Pujehun. A small community about three miles from manowa the chiefdom head quarter. The community is currently under quarantine. Nonmembers of the community are allowed to go to any nearby village except the contact tracers upon demand by the CHO for update.**



Contact tracer Sao

Morrison identifying households affected by Ebola in Pujehun



Contact tracers Sao

Alieu identifying children who lost their parent and mothers who lost their husband in Pujehun .



Preparing of final list of decease and survivors and handing over of list by contact tracers in pujehun



**Visit to Golahun the community that recorded the highest death of Ebola in Peje Bongre**





**The only survivors**



**Returning from Pujehun, Golahun, Njala and Manowulo to Manowa**





Affected/ survivors of Ebola (In the mauve shirt is Ebola victim survivors due to early treatment)



Meeting with local authorities (Left town chief of Golahun middle chiefdom speaker and Right town Chief of Manowa)



Radio moa reporter Augustine Mansaray Right, left PC Baion far right Moses Foray presenting Food items to Ebola affected families.



Distribution at community level (Contact tracers in active support) there was strong community support and corporation from affected family members.



Cross section of family members receiving their food item in Pujehun the current quarantine community in the chiefdom



Presenting food item to CHO for affected family members in Manowa. CHO addressing family member and making statement on behalf of the community.



Family members receiving food item at distribution center



Radio Moa reporter identifying Children who lost both Parent

### Conclusion

The entire process was done under the supervision of the chiefdom authorities and chiefdom base reporter radio Mao 105.5 base in Kailahun Mount Kenewa.

The total number of death recorded for private information was;

No	Community	No of HH	No of death	No of beneficiaries
1	Manowa	7	17	35
2	Pujehun	15	18	75
3	Golahun	19	35	165
4	Njala	4	5	25
5	Bunumbuwole	4	6	30
	Total	49	81	330

This is the actual total of death in the chiefdom.

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**Submitted to ELCSL**  
**10<sup>th</sup>, September, 2014**