

The establishment of CHAL's Drug Supply Unit and CHAL's Minilab

Achieving your goal in spite of challenges



CCIH 2023

HOPE IN HEALTH: OUR LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN



About CHAL



CHAL is an umbrella organization for faith-based health facilities in Liberia

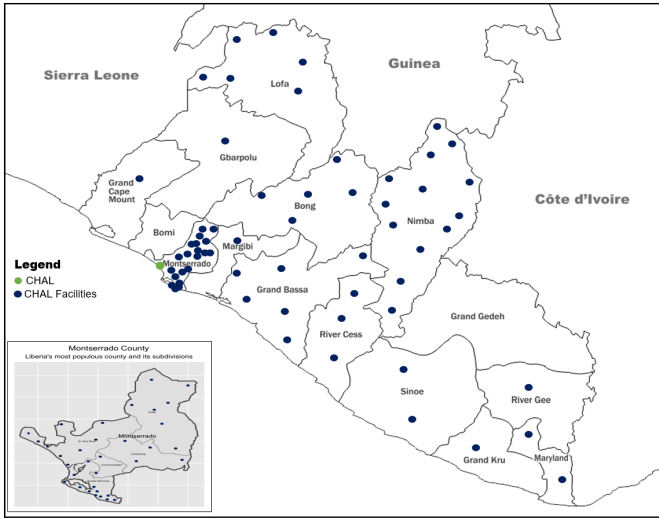
Membership:

- 80 health facilities
- 2 churches
- 1 nursing teaching institution

Faith-based facilities are providing healthcare services to about 13.28% of the total population in Liberia

Key interventions:

- Procurement and sale of **essential medicines and medical supplies** to member health facilities to ensure easy access to good quality and affordable essential medicines.
- **Capacity and infrastructure** development in member facilities
- **Community health**



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Establishment of the Drug Revolving Fund

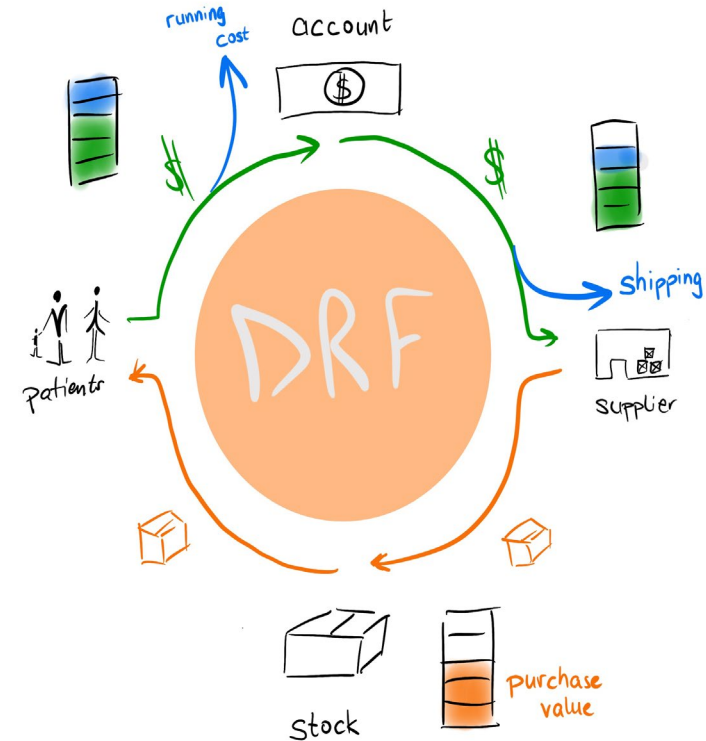
- CHAL's first drug supply unit (DSU) operated up until the 1990s and became dormant due to the civil war
- Revived in 2006, could not be sustained
- In 2018, Difaem provided seed funds and technical assistance for the reactivation and development of CHAL's Drugs Supply Unit in Monrovia
- A depot in Central Liberia was dedicated and set up in 2019



Drug Revolving Fund Concept at CHAL

Normally, DRF concepts are applied to health facilities, but CHAL DSU works according to similar principles:

- A seed fund is used to procure seed stock
- The stock is sold with a mark-up to cover shipping and running cost
- The funds raised are re-invested into stock



Establishment of the DRF



- CHAL planned to extend this concept to members
 - However: the gov't had introduced **"no fees for services"** in Liberia
- CHAL met strong resistance to the concept from gov't
No Fees For Services – Problems:
- gov't unable to sufficiently fund operations at public health facilities
 - Staff often goes unpaid for months
 - No funds to replenish stock
- Free services often lead to unavailability of medicines and medical supplies at facilities and unmotivated staff



What did CHAL do to convince gov't of the DRFs?

- Constant supply of quality drugs to members that has led to increased patient
- Continuous advocacies at various national meetings
- Seed funds from Difaem in 2019 for 26 Facilities
- 4 Government hospitals have initiated the drug revolving program



Minilab Establishment and Advocacy



- Establishment of the Minilab in Gbarnga, Liberia in collaboration with EPN, Difaem and Phebe Hospital in 2021
- The Liberia Medicines and Health Products Regulatory Authority (LMHRA) vehemently opposed the establishment

LMHRA argued they had the exclusive mandate to conduct quality control testing in Liberia
CHAL commenced intense advocacy work with the support of EPN to sway LMHRA:

- Stakeholder Meeting held December 2021
- LMHRA invited to inspect Minilab in 2022
- Compliance with all demands made by LMHRA about equipping of the lab



Minilab Achievements

- **Memorandum of Understanding between LMHRA and CHAL about the Minilab signed in August 2022!**
- 101 samples analyzed in 2022
- Visual Inspection Training for facilities and all CHAL staff conducted
- Project extension to March 2023



Achieving your goal in spite of challenges

- Believe and act on the scripture:

Mark 9:23 If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

- Stay consistent with your goal
- Be persistent in asking (don't take no for an answer!)
- Be transparent in your dealings

THANK YOU

