

Umu Aro, (USA),Inc.
Executive Summary

Purpose

Umu Aro's primary purpose is to promote the delivery of health care, housing and educational services to underserved areas in Africa. While the primary focus is on those living in Nigeria, the organization provides support to low income families throughout the diaspora.

Umu Aro's Mission is "To improve the quality of medical care provided to the Aro people, while informing and educating patients about health related issues."

Background

Umu Aro is Igbo for All Aro, a region of Nigeria. The organization was originally organized in 1997 as a social organization. However, the organization was incorporated as a non-profit corporation on July 26, 2005, by Aros, a community of Nigerian immigrants currently living throughout America. Originally, the organization was a loose knit social group, only engaged in social activities designed to retain cultural and social traditions, however when the founders decided to incorporate they wanted to focus on making real change in African communities. The focus on health care, housing and education is directly related to the primary needs in the Aro region.

Programs

Umu Aro built a modern medical center in Arochukwu. The existence of the medical center has allowed the organization to host two medical missions. These bi-annual missions have provided health care services and medicine to more than five thousand people. The medical missions are held for one week in December and June of each year. The goals of the program are to expand and sustain the medical clinic and to provide advice and medical services to people who do not have access to basic medical care.

In January of 2006, the organization launched its year-round service program component. This component operates once monthly. This regularized medical service will allow for a greater regional health care impact. In addition to providing medical services, it allows the program to employ local nurses and doctors for one day a month. Currently we have five doctors, five nurses and one pharmacist on staff. While we are in the program's infancy, our hope is to expand to daily operation.

The clinic is located in Arochukwu, a town in Abia State. The next closest functioning hospital is seventy miles away. The clinic closest to the Umu Aro center is overwhelmed and functioning in crisis mode due to the high numbers of people it must serve. Our research uncovered that the most common illnesses of the people include: Malaria, Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, Appendicitis, Bronchial Pneumonia, Typhoid Fever, Urinary Tract Infections and basic malnutrition. These illnesses in the western world are easily prevented or cured. In Abia State, these illnesses lead to death.

With assistance from the World Medical Relief, Inc., we have provided over 800 pounds of medicine and medical supplies. The Association of Nigerian Physicians in the Americas

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(ANPA), provide the medical expertise and on our most recent mission, the Abia Nurses Association volunteered and provided more than twenty nurses to assist with not only medical care, but also transportation of the villagers to the clinic.

How to Help

Donations of medical supplies and equipment, furnishings and financial support are needed to ensure the continuation of services to the medical center. We encourage the participation of Medical Mission volunteers. All donations are tax deductible.

David N. Iphie, President

Donors

Abia Nurses Association

Association of Nigerian Physicians in America

World Medical Relief, Inc.