



Medical Services Pacific

Annual Report 2013



Increasing access to reproductive, maternal and child health services

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Increasing access to reproductive, maternal and child health services



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Message from the Executive Director

A reflection upon the year past is more than a celebration of achievements: it is an opportunity to revisit the challenges of working in the Pacific and to grow as an organisation by learning from those challenges and how they were overcome. It also provides us a moment to truly appreciate the support of every team member, partner organisation, local stakeholder, donor and volunteer who were so integral to each success of the year.

In this report, which I am honoured to present, the value of this support can be seen clearly. Medical Services Pacific (MSP) ran projects funded by the European Union, the British High Commission, the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund USA, United Nations Trust Fund USA and the Australian Government that resulted in the program directly assisting more than 13,000 people to access a total of 32,304 services. Highlights of these projects are provided in this report in 'Making a Difference in 2013' (page 6).

In 2013, the Suva clinic and the Mobile Outreach program remained the two largest components of the MSP Fiji Program. At a pace of almost three outreach visits a week – and to complement services provided by the Suva clinic – the MSP Outreach Team continued to work hard to provide clinical and health awareness and information services to women, youth and disadvantaged communities across Fiji.

Partnerships and collaborations remained core to our work in 2013. Formal partnerships with several government and non-government organisations allowed MSP to draw from the strengths and services of these partners to ensure clients continued to be provided with quality healthcare services (see 'Working in Partnership', page 17). In particular, I would like to recognise MSP's strong partnerships with the Ministry of Health and the Fiji Police Force, which continued to be instrumental in providing a continuum of care for our community and special clients in 2013.

Stakeholder partnerships also allowed MSP to weigh in on issues of public debate in 2013, including the important issue of child protection and gender equality.

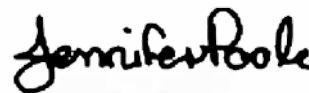
To this end, MSP assisted with several key government documents around child protection and gender equality, including the drafting of the National Gender Policy of Fiji (see page 7), which was accepted by the Government in February 2014, and launched 6 March 2014.

MSP was also an active member of the National Coordinating Committee on Children's (NCCC) new Terms of Reference, and remains complicit in actioning the Interagency Guidelines (drafted by the NCCC and submitted to the Government of Fiji for endorsement), which provides a working model to ensure correct reporting of abuse and assault to increase child protection in Fiji. This commitment to matters of national debate reaffirms MSP's dedication to a holistic method of behaviour change where community education is complemented and reinforced by public policy.

MSP's success in 2013 is also linked to the dedication of some special people. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our active Board Executive, Ms Joshila Lal (Chairperson), Mr Ken Brown (Treasurer), and Dr Bernadette Pushpaangali (Secretary), who continue to provide committed service to the MSP Board and staff in 2013. I would also like to acknowledge the wonderful support of the ladies of Corona Worldwide (Fiji Branch) who refurbished the clinic and reception area for MSP, creating a warm and inviting environment for clinical and counselling clients and

survivors. And to the MSP staff who work tirelessly to deliver services, Vinaka!

MSP continues to strive for improvement in our delivery of healthcare services to women and youth across Fiji, with funding commitments in 2014 promising to increase impact, ensure quality healthcare services and to further expand our efforts to support the rights of women, youth and children in our communities.



Jennifer Poole
Executive Director





Medical Services Pacific (MSP) is a registered Fijian non-government organisation (NGO) established in August 2010 to enable Pacific women and youth to have greater access to quality healthcare services, and to build resilience in vulnerable groups to cope with emerging environmental, economic and human security challenges.

In particular, MSP was formed to respond to a critical gap in healthcare services for women and youth in the Pacific, specifically in the sector of reproductive health and family planning; and in recognition of the impact of climate change on Pacific women and their communities.

The organisation works in partnership with key stakeholders and local government to maximise resources and strengthen local capacity. MSP values the collaborative nature of traditional communities and has a rights-based approach to encourage equity, empowerment and sustainable behaviour change.

Ms Jennifer Poole is the Founding Director of MSP. In 2013, the MSP team consisted of eight dedicated staff, including a highly experienced health team. In addition to this core team, a number of volunteers donated their time to MSP's initiatives throughout the year.

The foundation and flagship program for MSP is an integrated and holistic health program anchored in a human rights framework and linked to national development plans and goals. The health program in Fiji was designed to assist governments to reach key Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and MSP continues to be fortunate to have the support of several key government partners.

By empowering women through access to reproductive health care and family planning, MSP aims to effect positive impacts on behaviours that will allow women to adapt more readily to economic challenges, helping to achieve a sustainable health benefit for their families and communities. Thus, a woman with access to high-quality reproductive health services has greater choices and opportunities and is more able to cope with stress, change and disaster.

MSP's services are predominately delivered through the following two services:

■ **'One-Stop Shop' Suva Clinic**

MSP's 'walk-in' clinic in Suva provides free medical services for women, youth and children and those impacted by sexual assault. Clinical services include reproductive health examinations and Pap smear tests, voluntary confidential counselling and testing for STIs and HIV, and services to prevent unplanned pregnancy. Additional services include maternal health care (prenatal and postnatal), family planning, sexual assault or gender-based violence (GBV) support services (in partnership with Ministry of Health and Fiji Police Force), and referrals.

■ **Mobile Outreach**

MSP's Mobile Outreach includes clinical and educational components and provides both health and social services. The MSP Outreach Team delivers healthcare and family planning services with a focus on child protection, gender empowerment and reproductive rights. MSP conducts outreach visits predominately in the Central and Western Divisions of Viti Levu and, from time to time, in Vanua Levu. In 2013, MSP's Mobile Outreach services included general medical examinations, gynaecological examinations, family planning counselling and pregnancy testing, confidential counselling and STI or HIV testing, cancer screening (cervical and breast), diabetes testing, post-miscarriage care, prenatal and antenatal care, and oral hygiene.

Our vision

MSP exists to enable women and youth to have greater access to quality reproductive health care for successful family planning, and to support vulnerable populations in the Pacific.



Our aims

MSP's health program is designed to assist governments to reach key Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Working with our partners in the Pacific, MSP aims to:



LOOKING BACK AT 2013

Our outreaches



28 village visits



4 public events



22 faith-based organisations



26 settlement visits



5 workshops



18 corporate visits



21 market visits



6 tertiary visits

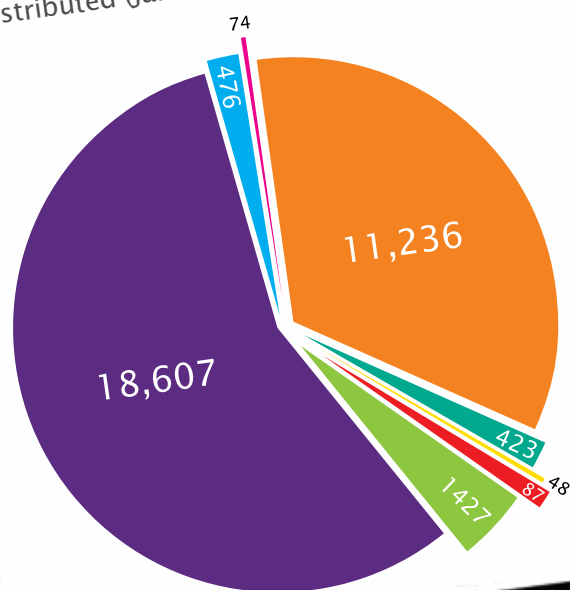
Our impact

Pregnancies averted	116
Unplanned births averted	78
Infant mortalities averted	5
Under-5 mortalities averted	5
Maternal mortalities averted	3
Abortions averted	30
Unsafe abortions averted	6

The above figures are derived from the total family planning methods that MSP distributed and performed between January and December 2013. The International Impact Calculation used is based on the global ratio of CYPs to impact. It is, therefore, an estimate based upon global conversion of CYPs generated, and the actual impact MSP provides in Fiji may be higher or lower.

Our services

Number of services delivered, performed and distributed (January - December 2013)



- Full Medical Checkup
- Family Planning
- Clinical Services for VAWG including Rape, Indecent Assault, Defilement and Gender Violence
- Information and Awareness on RSH, Family Planning, Gender-based Violence support and referrals
- Pap Smears
- Maternal Child Health
- Other Services

2013 in numbers



13,198
people directly
accessed MSP services


18,340
condoms distributed


1,427
medical check-ups
carried out


87
maternal child health


476
Pap smear tests
carried out


284
STI/HIV consultations
and blood tests


130
communities and groups
accessed our services


475
referrals to hub centres
for continuum of care


48
survivors of sexual assault



Making a difference in 2013

Throughout 2013, MSP continued to improve access to quality healthcare services for women, youth, and disadvantaged groups across Fiji.

The year saw the successful completion of the two-year project 'Integrating and strengthening services for those affected by gender-based violence in Fiji', funded by the European Union. The project assisted more than 68,000 people in total, surpassing the target number of 50,000.

Five new projects were implemented in 2013, with the support of the British High Commission, the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund, the Australian Government (through their Fiji Community Development Program and their Direct Aid Program) and the United Nations Trust Fund. The latter project – a two-year project to empower women and youth in Fiji – was approved late in 2013, with project activities scheduled for 2014.



Integrating and strengthening services for those affected by gender-based violence in Fiji

(funded by European Union)

Levels of violence against women in the Pacific rank among the highest in the world, with an estimated 64% of Fijian women having experienced some form of sexual and/or physical violence by a husband or partner. Complicating matters, in Fiji cultural taboos prevent open discussion of sexual matters, increasing the vulnerability of people, especially women and youth.

Though services for those experiencing violence are available through government and non-government organisations, providers often work

in isolation from one another. MSP noted referrals between agencies were often ad hoc and available services were not easily identified or marketed to community members in need.

With the support of the European Union, MSP launched a new project in 2011 to provide increased access to safe, confidential and integrated social and healthcare services for victims of gender-based violence and sexual assault in Fiji.

Under the project, in 2012 MSP became the first NGO in Fiji to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the Sexual Offences Unit of the Fiji Police Force to provide health services to victims of sexual assault and gender violence. At the signing, then Commissioner of Police Brigadier General Ioana Naivalurua said: “MSP is providing a service that will fill the gap in the provision of confidential health services for victims/survivors of domestic violence and abuse. I believe that NGO partnerships are important, and welcome the collaboration in service delivery between our two agencies.”

Also that year, the VAWG (violence against women and girls) Action Network was launched. This group of key health industry stakeholders was formed to support the integration of Fiji's health services to strengthen the country's capacity to engage effectively on key health issues.

2013 saw the project come into its second and final year. The VAWG Action Network group – renamed the ‘Women's Services Networking

Group' by its members – continued to meet regularly throughout the year to improve referral systems for survivors of gender-based violence, contributing to the creation of Fiji's first health Referral Services Directory.

In further collaborative efforts, MSP was honoured to be an active contributor to the drafting of the National Gender Policy in 2013. The overall goal of the policy is to promote gender equity, equality, social justice and sustainable development in the Republic of Fiji, and it includes a strong reproductive health component. The policy was developed by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Women, and Poverty Alleviation. The National Gender Policy for Fiji was approved by Fiji's Cabinet in February 2014, and launched 6 March 2014.

More than 30 outreach visits were conducted under the project in 2013 to a wide range of locations including markets, villages, settlements, sports days and religious centres. Though the project focused on education of the community, MSP also reached out to healthcare workers to strengthen the quality of already available services.

The project concluded in November 2013, achieving all project outcomes; however, the issue of violence against women and girls remains a critical national issue in Fiji. With this in mind, in 2014 MSP aims to obtain joint or complementary funding to appoint a human rights officer and will continue to work with gender focal points to strengthen women's support systems.

Achievements

- 68,206 direct and indirect beneficiaries were assisted over the length of the project, exceeding the project target of 50,000 people.
- The Referral Services Directory was launched on 20 September 2013: the first specific health directory in Fiji that provides contact information for the referral of clients or patients.





AWACEN: All Women and Children Empowered Now – Engaging youth in child protection

(funded by British High Commission)

Many children deal with violence, abuse, neglect, exploitation, exclusion and/or discrimination every day in the Pacific. Such violations limit their chances of surviving, growing, developing and pursuing their dreams.

In particular, severe and traumatising abuse remains a critical issue in Fiji, with the most recent figures (2011) from the Fiji Police Force showing an increase in child sexual abuse from previous years, and instances of sexual abuse doubling physical abuse figures for that same year.

The engagement of youth remains a key strategy in effecting lasting behaviour change. With this in mind, MSP gained the support of the British High Commission in 2013 to deliver a program targeted at engaging both male and female youth in child protection. The project comprised several components, including community outreach, support services for survivors of sexual assault, and stakeholder collaboration to contribute to the national dialogue on child protection. The key activity undertaken through the project, however, was the delivery of three workshops to youth across Fiji, entitled: Engaging Youth in Child Protection and Women's Empowerment to End Violence Against Women and Girls.

To achieve the broadest coverage possible, MSP hosted a workshop in each of the three divisions: Central, Northern and Western. The goal of these workshops was to deliver information, connections and knowledge around child protection to youth in each of the divisions, which could then be shared with peers, families and communities. To this end, MSP engaged the support of its government and non-government partners to deliver a two-day workshop in each division, open to nominated youth leaders in the area. Speakers from key protection agencies such as the Fiji Police Force, Ministry of Social Welfare, Women and Poverty Alleviation, and Ministry of Health presented at the workshops.

The workshops were deeply appreciated by the youth participants. For many, the workshops were the first time they had the opportunity to hear about the issues of child protection, violence against women and girls, and sexual reproductive health. The presentations from organisations were also a revelation, as most participants were not aware they





could access such services and information through these agencies. Youth commented that it was the first time for them to be present in a room with Ministers and leading government officers and to be able to talk to them about these issues.

Though the project had funding to deliver only one workshop in each of the divisions, the youth requested additional workshops to learn more about government reporting on CEDAW (Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women) and how youth could contribute towards achieving the gender goals to which Fiji is committed.

In support of this need, the British High Commission awarded MSP funding for a second phase of the AWACEN project, to be implemented in 2014. AWACEN 2 will broaden the reach of youth empowerment in child protection, and will focus primarily on youth in rural areas. Through this, an increased number of youth will be engaged in the national dialogue on child protection and gender equality, working together to end violence against women and girls.

Achievements

- MSP surpassed the goal of 3,000 beneficiaries, delivering clinical and information services to more than 4,349 clients across 37 locations.
- Around 90 youths in total attended the three workshops.





Healthy and Strong: Empowering women and girls through information, awareness and health care

(funded by the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund, USA)



In Fiji, most rural women are subsistence farmers who spend a large part of their time travelling to and selling their produce at centralised market areas. The market environment is often challenging and risky. In early 2012 in Fiji, markets had few facilities for women. Often female vendors would sleep overnight in the markets near their stalls or in the parks, some with their children. Working mothers would often take their children with them to the market where they would be exposed to the public, to the dust and noise of the markets and to the risk of child labour. Women vendors work extremely long hours and travel long distances from their rural villages and most don't have the time to access healthcare services. In addition, their busy lifestyle leaves them few opportunities for them to learn about their rights including their right to reproductive health care and family planning. In addition, family planning education is not provided consistently in schools in Fiji and the subject is often taboo, leaving girls and youth vulnerable to teenage pregnancies and other issues.

In recognition of these challenges, MSP created the Healthy and Strong project to bring healthcare information and services to women where they work. Under the project, the focal services to be provided included reproductive health care as well as awareness and information to build knowledge of rights to address gender-based violence.

In May 2013, the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (VGIF) USA provided the US\$7,500 funding needed to implement a pilot project. With the support of this funding, MSP was able to provide two days of clinical and awareness outreach at the Sigatoka, Nadi and Lautoka markets and one day of outreach at the Nausori market.

The rural women market vendors were delighted at having free health services made available to them at their work place. With services provided directly at the market, women wishing to visit the doctor

no longer needed to be away from their tables for so long. Because of this, vendors were happy to look after each other's tables as they took turns to access the healthcare services MSP had on offer.



MSP's clinical team found that most women were not aware of the importance of regular Pap smear testing or the importance of STI testing, and had not been recently tested or were afraid to be tested. Taking note, the MSP community educators held awareness sessions with the women on the importance of reproductive health care. After these discussions, many women felt empowered to access the free Pap smear service provided by the MSP Nurse. For many of these women, it was their first Pap smear.

"I am 65 years old now and I have seven children altogether. I haven't had a Pap smear test for a long time now because I didn't think it was important to have your smears taken. Now that I have heard the information today it has been an eye opener and I for one would like to have my Pap smear test taken. I would now advocate and inform the young mothers who are not present here today to please go and seek consultation on family planning and also have their Pap smear test taken because it would benefit them."

65-year-old mother and market vendor

Under the project, MSP also worked closely with the Ministry of Health Zone Nurses in the market areas to refer clients as necessary to ensure continuum of care for women who may need continuous healthcare support.

The women acknowledged the work of MSP with appreciation, on several occasions making requests for the team to return to the markets to provide health services again for them. To deliver these much-needed healthcare services, MSP has plans to revisit all four markets in 2014. This pilot project laid the foundation for the development of an integrated program of women's services, human rights awareness and child protection education, to be implemented in 2014.

Achievements

- The project target was to reach 1,000 women market vendors by May 2014; in 2013 alone, MSP delivered clinical and information services to 1,796 clients at the rural produce markets of Fiji, of whom 1,185 were women.
- Of these 1,796 clients, 1,400 benefited from information and awareness sessions and 388 clients accessed clinical services.





Mobile Outreach and One-Stop Shop

(funded by the Australian Government's Fiji Community Development Program)

Children, youth and adults who have experienced sexual assault require specialised care and support services, including ongoing counselling. Before the MSP clinic opened in Suva for sexual assault cases, survivors had to wait with a uniformed officer at the main public hospital, often sitting for hours in public corridors, at times asked by medical staff to repeat the issue or describe the ordeal. Clients often experienced a lack of privacy and confidentiality and were re-traumatised by telling their story over and over. Many survivors left the hospital before being seen by a medical officer and most never returned for their test results. The Fiji Police Force was struggling to process prosecutions and to bring sexual offence perpetrators to justice as the survivors would disappear from the hospital and not be available to follow up on the cases. A holistic and specialised healthcare service was needed to support survivors of sexual assault in Fiji.

In 2010 MSP opened the 'One-Stop Shop' clinic in Suva to provide confidential clinical and counselling services to survivors of sexual assault. MSP established a referral network and cemented a range of formal agreements with key service providers and partner stakeholders, including the Ministry of Health and the Fiji Police Force, to ensure that a full range of both clinical and support services could be provided and that clients could be referred for ongoing or long-term care.

In 2013, with support from the Australian Government through their Fiji Community Development Program (FCDP), the 'One-Stop shop' youth-friendly clinic launched into full service mode and strengthened its referral system. Part of this strengthening was MSP's role within the technical working group for the National Coordinating Committee on Children's (NCCC) new Terms of Reference. MSP was also complicit in actioning the Interagency Guidelines, which were drafted by the NCCC and submitted to the Government of Fiji for endorsement.

To complement the services provided through the Suva clinic, the FCDP-funded project enabled a Mobile Outreach Team to go out and service remote and vulnerable villages, settlements and schools, providing reproductive health care, maternal and child health care, and information and social services.

In 2013, the MSP Mobile Outreach Team undertook 29 outreach visits under the project, including 10 settlements, seven villages, two secondary schools and four markets. Public events such as the Hibiscus Festival were also targeted. The outreach visits work by educating the community – in particular, women and youth – on issues such as family planning, reproductive health and gender equality, before offering clinical services in these areas. By providing education about the clinical services MSP provides, the community achieves a greater understanding of the health services provided and feels empowered to access them.





“After the session that was done today in our community hall, I have now learnt of things that can be used to prevent unwanted and unplanned pregnancy. I only use the calendar method of family planning but I keep having children. Three children were unplanned pregnancies. I am 35 years old and have a total of eight children, and times are really hard. I know that I have been struggling with my children, and my husband on the other hand does not have a steady job. After today’s session I have been empowered to take a longer method of family planning so it can help me have a plan for my family for the future. I do want to be intimate with my husband but I do not want to get pregnant. So thank you to the team for bringing not only the information which has increased knowledge but also the services that has made it much easier for us – especially me.”

Mother-of-eight

The project also allowed for MSP’s Program Manager and Nurse to attend training on reproductive health issues, resulting in their Fiji Reproductive Health Practitioner certifications. The four-day training was held at the Fiji National University’s College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences. MSP is now authorised to provide voluntary and confidential clinical testing for STIs and HIV.

This program has secured funding for ongoing service provision in 2014.



Achievements

- 85 women and youth accessed the Suva Clinic under this project, including 21 survivors of sexual assault.
- The MSP Mobile Outreach Team provided services to 1,740 people living in settlements, 600 villagers and 2,112 market vendors under this project.



Healthy Choices Program: Health Fairs

(funded through the Australian Government's Direct Aid Program)

A Health Fair is an educational and interactive event designed by MSP for community outreach that provides an inclusive community health program through collaboration with partner agencies and local government.

Health Fairs work by providing personal health services and information to communities in a festival-style fashion, with booths offering a wide range of services from doctor consultations to Pap smears to dental examinations, and a kid's corner with free face-painting and special visits from Fiji's health mascots. Importantly, Health Fairs allow community members to better understand their health status; they motivate people through education on how to live a healthier life as well as providing services to detect early stages of health problems to prevent them from turning into medical emergencies.

In 2013, MSP secured funding through the Australian Government's Direct Aid Program to launch a new project that would see Health Fairs hosted in locations identified as having poor access to or take-up of healthcare services. The first Health Fair under the program was held in November at Quaia, Lami.

Quaia is not a village but a settlement. The early settlers came from Naitasiri, residing on land given to them by landowners of Lami Village; however, people from all areas of Fiji later settled in Quaia, bringing the population to more than 2,000 people. As in many of the settlements around Fiji, the majority of these people live below the poverty line.

Hosting a Health Fair at Quaia Settlement provided MSP with an opportunity to deliver a wide range of health services and information to this community. However, in order to deliver this range of services, several government and non-government organisations needed to be engaged.

MSP worked with its multitude of partners and key stakeholders to provide a strong selection of services, with organisations on the day including the Ministry of Health (dietary advice, nursing and wellness care); the Fiji National University's College



of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (dental examinations and extractions); and the Rotaract Club of Suva (face-painting for the kids). Colgate Palmolive was the corporate sponsor of the day, surprising the kids with a visit from the much-loved Dr Rabbit and his Community Educator to teach the kids about good oral hygiene.

The MSP Outreach Team was also at hand to provide doctor consultations, Pap smears, and health education and awareness on topics such as reproductive health and family planning. And on the occasion that community members were not physically able to make it to the Community Hall where the booths were set up, the team worked to bring the services directly to their house.

The day was a success, with more than 280 community members accessing services and information on the day. Of those that attended the Health Fair, most did not know that such free services were available and had little or no access to such services before the Health Fair.

The remaining Health Fairs under the Healthy Choices Program are scheduled for 2014.



Achievements

- 200 registered clients received healthcare services:
 - 68 reproductive health, maternal child health and general medical patients/clients assisted
 - 100 dental examinations were performed, including immediate and referred extractions. All had oral healthcare advice
 - 37 clients accessed the Dietician's table for blood sugar testing, awareness and consultation on NCDs and important dietary advice
 - 100 community members accessed the information booth to receive information on family planning, reproductive health care and ending violence against women and girls
 - 30 children received 'good touch, bad touch' child protection awareness
- 80 (non-registered) children were reached with education and awareness around oral health care and diet.



Looking ahead to 2014

In 2014, MSP will continue to support women and youth across the Pacific to empower them to access healthcare services and information, and to work towards achieving gender equality and a zero tolerance to violence against women and girls.

The AWACEN 2 Project, funded by the British High Commission, will further engage youth in the national dialogue around child protection and the rights of women and children. Building on the successful 2013 AWACEN Project, AWACEN 2 will see rural youth in the Naitasiri Province engaged in discussion. By engaging rural youth – particularly those located in the interior of Fiji where access to services and information is often limited – MSP aims to encourage the breakthrough of traditional barriers that currently prevent gender equality, to create a new generation where women and youth are empowered and protected to achieve their full potential.

Additionally, the newly funded WAYE (Women and Youth Empowered) Project will use a dual strategy of public awareness and service provision to change the way women seek and access healthcare services and information, and will engage men and boys to improve the status of women by introducing concepts and conversations around gender equality and child protection. Supported by the UN Trust Fund, the Grant Agreement for the project was signed in November 2013, with the MSP team beginning work in December towards planning and organising outreach visits under the project for 2014. The two-year project will see 25,150 women and girls in Fiji empowered and practising early health-seeking behaviours, increasing their access to reproductive health services and social services, and reducing the long-term health consequences of violence against women and girls.

In 2014, MSP will consolidate and expand services to survivors of sexual assault and their families, many of whom are from lower socio-economic areas. Recognising the need to provide ongoing support and mentoring to survivors of sexual assault and their families who in many cases are also traumatised, MSP will work to secure funding for a social support and livelihoods program.

In addition, MSP will endeavour to secure funding for a full-time legal aid officer in recognition of the many issues facing women in the community who have little or no opportunity for obtaining advice.

MSP will continue to lobby for resources to support youth and vulnerable children and to work with service providers to strengthen services for women, youth and children at risk. In 2014, MSP will strengthen linkages with youth networks and partners, including the Ministry of Social Welfare, Women, and Poverty Alleviation, in order to provide increased services across Fiji. Strategically, MSP is working with regional partners to provide integrated multi-sector development responses to communities vulnerable to climate change and poverty in the Pacific.

Continuing projects for 2014 include the Australian Government–funded Health Fair project and the MOOSS (Mobile Outreach and One-Stop Shop) project, as well as the Healthy and Strong project funded by VGIF, USA.



Working in partnership

MSP has a 'people first' approach that values and embraces the collaborative nature of traditional communities and values people as part of the solution. In 2013, MSP worked to build new partnerships and to strengthen existing ones, to better help women, youth and disadvantaged communities in Fiji. In addition to the formal partnerships outlined below, MSP continues to work in partnership with community groups, governments, institutions and local and regional countries and donors.

New Partnerships

New Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) were established with non-government organisations (NGOs) Aspire Network and Homes of Hope to strengthen health services to youth and to disadvantaged women and girls respectively. Additionally, a new MOU with Empower Pacific – an NGO that provides counselling services at a number of locations across Fiji – allows MSP to ensure community members helped through our outreach program have continued local access to counselling services, in recognition that most of these people would not be able to access our own counselling services at the Suva clinic due to time and travel restrictions.

These new partnerships will expand the capacity of MSP to provide services and information to effect lasting positive change in Fiji, and demonstrates MSP's commitment to the provision of quality health services for all.

Continued Partnerships

Ministry of Health

MSP signed an MOU with the Ministry of Health (MOH) in 2010 to work in partnership to provide reproductive, maternal and child healthcare services in Fiji, and to enable swift referrals and ensure all remote clients have access to a continuum of care. Working in close collaboration with MOH medical officers, MSP health teams provide a range of free family planning services (Pap smears, pregnancy tests, STI testing, contraceptive products, prenatal and postnatal care, etc.) as well as information and training as required.

Fiji Police Force

In November 2012, MSP became the first NGO in Fiji to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Fiji Police Force to provide health services to survivors of sexual assault and gender violence. The MOA addresses a critical services gap in post-rape care in Fiji by allowing the Police to escort survivors of sexual assault to MSP for confidential clinical care and counselling. In 2013, MSP assisted 48 survivors of sexual assault under this new MOA.

The Salvation Army

In 2012, an MOU was signed between MSP and the Fiji branch of the Salvation Army. Under the MOU, the Salvation Army can refer their clients for confidential counselling and medical care, while MSP can refer clients who may need emergency accommodation or other support.



Donations and volunteers

Donations



Corona Worldwide Fiji

A team of volunteers from Corona Worldwide Fiji worked tirelessly on Saturday 10 August 2013 to transform MSP's clinic on Waimanu Road. The aim was to turn the office and clinic into a child-friendly location with positive colours and a comfortable reception area.

The 'Working Bee', which included volunteers from Westpac, completely repainted the interior of the building in one day with paint and painting equipment generously donated by the Farrugia family. A desk, cupboard and variety of chairs, donated to MSP from the Corona club, and new curtains and sofa covers completed the look.



Bank of the South Pacific

MSP kindly acknowledges the support of the Bank of the South Pacific (BSP) in providing sulus for those clients in need.

Survivors of sexual assault sometimes must have their clothes taken for DNA testing and the donation of these sulus provides an alternate clothing option, reducing the risk of re-traumatisation that can occur.

BSP also provided the outreach team with a uniform of sulus and t-shirts to wear in the community.



SCA Libra

MSP is grateful to our corporate sponsor SCA Libra for co-funding the printing of the MSP Referral Directory.

The first of its kind in Fiji, the MSP Referral Directory provides a listing of all health and social support services available nationally, to the benefit of our community.

Volunteers

Medical Interns

Three medical interns volunteered with MSP in 2013. Mr James Clarke, Mr James Day and Ms Sonia McCaughie came to MSP from the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom.

The interns attended several outreach visits to villages, settlements and health centres in Fiji. Working under the supervision of MSP's Doctor, the interns had the opportunity to gain an insight into health problems such as scabies that are not as prevalent in the UK and to witness some of the barriers to health care that members of rural or remote communities can experience.

"We really appreciated how important contraceptives can be in the lives of Fijian women. We also recognised the importance of so-called 'invisible contraceptives' like the Depo which allow women to have the choice over whether they have children, without necessarily having to openly use contraceptives in front of their husbands."

Mr James Clarke and Mr James Day

Communications Officer

In 2013, MSP engaged a volunteer Senior Communications Advisor from 2Way Development to support the communications outcomes of MSP's projects.

Ms Susan Kearton worked on developing information-education-communication materials, including a Referral Services Directory; coordinating media events, press releases and interviews; and supervising a social media strategy for MSP. In 2013, Susan launched the MSP blog site – which has become quite popular.



Our staff

Staff Members of Medical Services Pacific as at 31 December 2013



From left:

Ms Sereima Senibici
Community Educator
and M&E Officer

Dr Elvira Ongbit
Doctor

Ms Jennifer Poole
Executive Director

Ms Ashna Shaleen
Program Manager and Counsellor

Ms Timaleti Nabati
Nurse

Absent:
Ms Roselyn Lata
Finance Manager

Mr Rokoseru Nabalarua
Peer Education and
Protocol Officer

NP Suliana Navicokalou
Nurse Practitioner (part-time)

This year's amazing achievements would not have been possible without the hard work of our dedicated staff members. Thank you to each and every one of you for your commitment to improving the quality of health care for women, girls and vulnerable groups in Fiji in 2013.

Our Board as at 31 December 2013

The MSP Board and Senior Management Team are focused on ensuring our organisation is well managed, financially secure and remains committed to our vision. The board met quarterly in 2013.

Executive Director

Ms Jennifer Poole

Chair

Mr Joshila Lal

Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair

Mr Ken Brown

Secretary

Dr Bernadette Pushpaangaeli

Patron

His Excellency, Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, President of Fiji

Management Collective Members

Mr Suluo Daunivalu

Dr Temalesi Mccaig

Ms Marie Koroi

Ms Teresa Sivan

Ms Janice Stewart

Ms Veronica Thoms

Trustees

Mr Tevita Ravumaidama

Ms Janita Prasad

Ms Alicia Sahib Shankar

We thank our Board and Senior Management Team for their dedication and support.



Report on the Financial Statements

Independent auditor's report for the year ended 31 December 2013

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Medical Services in the Pacific, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2013, the statement of income and expenditure, the statement of accumulated funds and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.



Trustees' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these Financial Statements in accordance with the Fiji Accounting Standards. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of Financial Statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Fiji Standards on Auditing to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Fiji Accounting Standards and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the organisation's financial position and the results of their operations, changes in accumulated funds and its cashflow.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Basis for Qualification

Donation forming part of other income in the Statement of Income and Expenditure could not be practically verified beyond the cash banked as shown in the books and records of Medical Services in the Pacific.



Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, subject to the possible effect of the matters described in the basis for qualification paragraphs, the financial statements have been properly drawn up so as to present fairly the state of affairs of the Medical Services in the Pacific and the results of its activities for the year then ended.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purpose of our audit.

aliz pacific
Chartered Accountants
Suva, Fiji
14 August 2014

In the opinion of the Board of Trustees:

- a) the accompanying Statement of Income and Expenditure and Statement of Changes in Accumulated Fund are drawn up as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation for the year ended 31 December 2013.
- b) the accompanying Statement of Financial Position is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of the organisation's affairs as at 31 December 2013.

Dated at Suva this 5th day of August 2014.

Signed for and on behalf of the Board of Trustees and in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Trustees.

.....
TRUSTEE

.....
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





Financial Statements

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2013

	31 Dec 2013 \$FJ	31 Dec 2012 \$FJ
INCOME		
Restricted Income	362,214	273,005
Unrestricted Income	0	20,000
Operating Income	362,214	293,005
Other Income	20,584	2,868
Total Income	382,797	295,873
EXPENDITURES		
Administrative & Professional Cost	2,614	0
Advertisement, Marketing & Fundraising	6,744	0
Depreciation	30,722	37,518
Project Cost	0	16,915
Insurance	3,254	5,872
Medical Services	13,300	3,373
Motor Vehicle Expense	7,585	0
Office & Other Cost	26,489	10,452
Repair & Maintenance	621	10,094
Rent Expense	14,800	21,283
Staff Cost	227,617	148,873
Superannuation	7,157	0
Travelling, Telecommunication & Utilities	12,929	13,558
Training & Workshops	11,029	7,475
Total Expenditure	364,861	275,413
SURPLUS	17,936	20,460

Statement of Changes in Accumulated Funds for the year ended 31 December 2013

	Accumulated Fund Total (\$FJ)
Balance as at 01 August 2011	130,476
Net Surplus as at 31 December 2012	20,460
Balance as at 31 December 2012	150,936
Net Surplus as at 31 December 2013	17,936
Balance as at 31 December 2013	168,872



Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2013

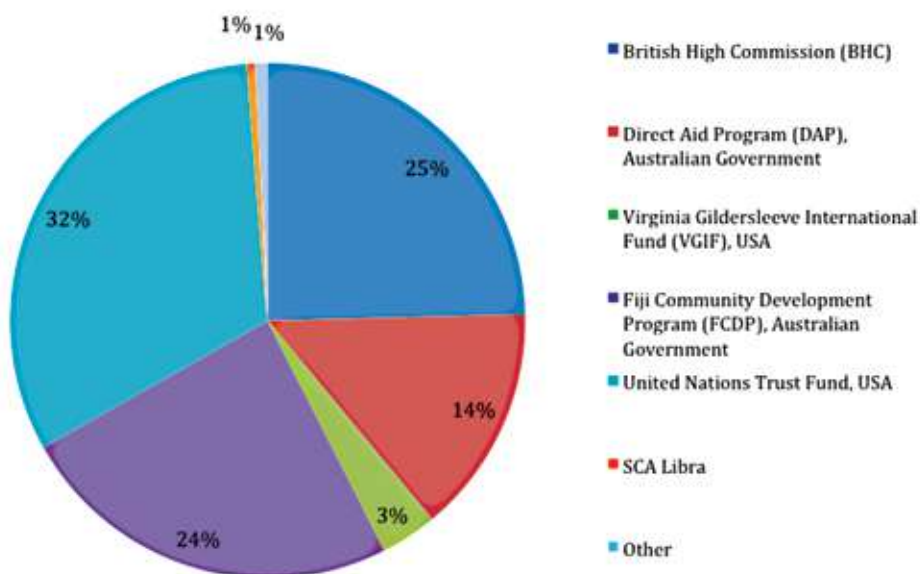
	31 Dec 2013 \$FJ	31 Dec 2012 \$FJ
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalent	101,871	59,820
Other Receivables	6,743	4,400
	108,614	64,220
NON CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant & Equipment	65,027	88,572
Total Assets	173,641	152,792
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade Payables	856	856
Other Payables	3,913	1,000
Total Liabilities	4,769	1,856
Net Assets	168,872	150,936
ACCUMULATED FUND		
Opening Balance	150,936	130,476
Accumulated Surplus	17,936	20,460
Total Accumulated Funds	168,872	150,936





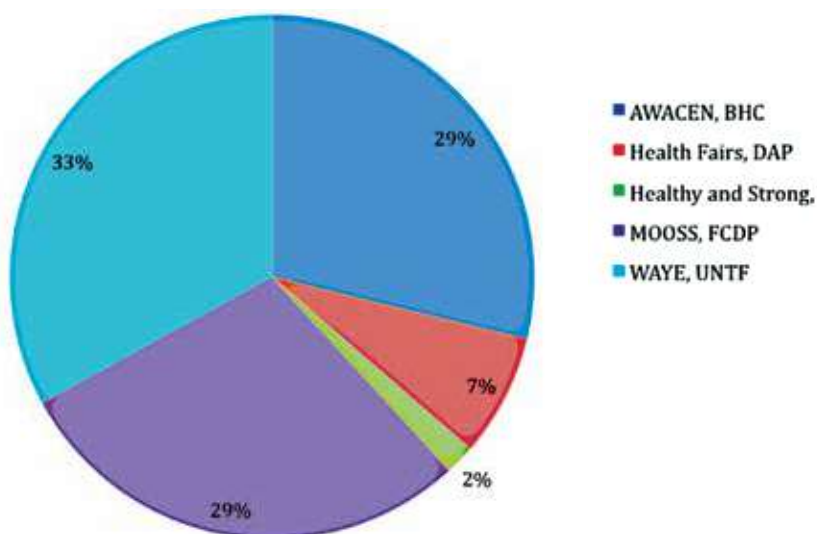
Financial Statements cont...


% Funding by Donor for Year Ended 31 December 2013



% of Total Project Worth

(NOTE: based on total funding for the life of each project)





Medical Services Pacific (MSP) is a registered Fijian Non-Government Organisation (NGO) established in August 2010 to enable Pacific women and adolescents to have greater access to quality healthcare services, and to build resilience in vulnerable groups to cope with emerging environmental, economic and human security challenges.



Medical Services Pacific

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Counselling (after hours):

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Email: info@msp.org.fj

msp.org.fj



facebook.com/msp.org.fj

