

## Background:

WEC international founded and has run the Sibanor Health Clinic for the past 50 years. They were very pleased to hand over the running of this rural clinic to the Evangelical Church of the Gambia at the beginning of 2018.

WEC continues to support the ECG church particularly in helping to recruit expatriate clinical staff (doctors, nurses, laboratory and pharmacy staff).

Services offered by the clinic Our aim is to meet the needs of the Whole Person: body, mind, social and spiritual through outpatient, inpatient and community care. The clinic offers general outpatient services on four days a week plus a 24/7 emergency service. We offer clinics in Non Communicable Disease (including hypertension, diabetes and asthma) and run malnutrition and HIV programmes. Additionally we offer infant welfare and maternity services. We have a small 13 bed ward, a 4 bedded post natal ward and two isolation cubicles.

We strongly believe in outreach to the local communities and before the covid restrictions we undertook weekly visits to surrounding villages to screen for hypertension and diabetes. We hope to start this again soon. We also carry out home visits to people living with HIV and other chronic diseases. As a clinic, our vision is to use the contact we have with patients to identify those who have an interest in the gospel or who would like us to pray with them as they seek God's help and healing for their medical problems. The village screening clinics are also opportunities to talk and pray with the local Community. Church members take opportunities to preach to patients in the waiting hall, pray with them both in the clinic and in the community, and show the Jesus film on the ward. There would be opportunities for any volunteer to develop relationships with our mostly Muslim staff and the young people in the village who speak good English and to be involved in discipleship activities within the church.

The Gambian team have a vision for a nursing school and we are very thankful for generous donors who have made it possible for us to go ahead with this plan. A Christian Head of nursing is essential as are Christian tutors before the school can start which we would hope would be in early 2022. Accommodation on site would be available.