



REINFORCING THE MALNUTRITION PROGRAMME - DUBBO, ETHIOPIA

Info:

Sr. Berhane Ashebo, MSC, Director, berhanemscl@gmail.com Mrs. Enrica Valentini, Development officer, enricav@cabriniministries.com



Malnutrition program overview

Cabrini Ministries Ethiopia (CME) has been working to curb the burden of malnutrition in Wolaita since 2020, by providing prevention and treatment services.

CME's approach addresses both medical and socio-economic root causes of malnutrition, empowering families to become resilient and self-sustainable.

In spite of the progress made so far, with families becoming aware of the importance of proper nutrition and better able to take care of the health of their children, malnutrition remains a major concern in our area.

Scarce rainfalls, conflicts, and economic deterioration make Ethiopia a hotspot for food insecurity, with almost 16 million people facing high levels of acute food insecurity and requiring assistance, and more than 6.2 million acutely malnourished children.

For this reason, CME will continue to work improve and expand its nutrition program to the most vulnerable communities of Boloso Sore woreda and Damot Sore woreda.

Updated action plan 2024/2025

As of the second semester of 2024, CME has further expanded the scope of its malnutrition program integrating additional topics to its community health education component and reinforcing the livelihood component.

Given the relationship of mutual trust between CME staff and the community members, health education sessions, both in the communities, and at BJCL malnutrition

rehabilitation center, have started to include discussion around female genital mutilation (FGM), a traditional practice deeply rooted in our areas, adn negatively affecting the physical and emotional development of young girls.

10 youth, who have not undergone such practice, have already been trained to become peer educators and sensitize fellow young women about the risks of such practice, and they join the outreach teams twice a week to raise awareness during community sessions.

In order to ensure the self reliance of families, adult literacy trainings have been added to the livelihood program, for parents and caregivers of children admitted to BJCL, who are not able to read and write, to be better equipped to run their own income generating activities.

In the coming months, and until the end of May, funds will continue to support the activities already agreed upon, though the budget has increased because of the inflation and devaluation of the local currency, which lead to a raise especially in the cost of salaries, fuel and food items.

Ongoing activities:

Children nutritional care

- Outreach screening for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) cases;
- Hospital referral for official diagnosis;
- Admission to BJCL for full rehabilitation;
- Discharge and follow up.

Parents support

- Health education during BJCL admission;
- Livelihood training after BJCL discharge;
- Startup support income generating activities;
- Follow up.

In addition, we shall integrate additional interventions to maximize the impact. Such activities will require support up to the end of 2025.

Added activities:

School support:

- School feeding program: delivery of nutritious 2 meals for 5 days a week to 500 children enrolled in CM pre-schools in Dubbo, Areka, and Wallacha, to ensure proper nutrition when children are in school;
- School fees (payment of part of the school fees of sponsored children who are enrolled in school after receiving treatment at BJCL);
- School uniforms (delivery of school uniforms to sponsored children who are enrolled in school after receiving treatment at BJCL).

Such activity will have a positive impact on children's nutrition after discharge from the rehabilitation program, as they will continue to follow a balance diet every day, but will also help fostering regular attendance to school, thus contributing to an integral physical and cognitive development of children.

FGM awareness:

Education and awareness sessions in the community: 10 peer educators will visit the communities twice a months to sensitize fellow girls and young women about the negative impact of such practice on the health and well being of girl children and women. 2000 gils and women in 36 villages will be targeted.

By exposing girls and young women to the experience of role models who were not victims of FGM, we will pass the message that FGM is not the norm, and that dignity and repect for women does not come from that.

Adult literacy:

- Literacy class: 2 groups of 30 adults meet twice a week, one in Dubbo and one in Wallacha. Each session lasts 3 hours, for a total of 6 hours per week. During sessions they will be taught how to read and write, and how to use those skills in their jobs, so as to increase their capacity to generate income to suppor their families;
- Training support: in addition to literacy, parents will also have the opportunity to share their experience and suppor each other. During such meetings, parents will also get training in practical skills (e.g. embroidery, agriculture) to further increase their employability.

Thanks to the literacy training, parents will be better equipped to run their activities and therefore improve their income and economic status, but they will also be able to suppor their children in their education, by teaching them and monitoring their progress.

Budget

	ltem	Unit	Unit cost	Nr. Of Units	Local Currency	USD
Α	CHILDREN CARE				373.500 ETB	\$ 3.113
	Human resources (community coordinator,					
	health officer, community health worker, nurse,					
	driver) - monthly	month	23.000,00 ETB	5	115.000 ETB	\$ 958
	Food and therapeutic feeding - monthly	month	34.500,00 ETB	5	172.500 ETB	\$ 1.438
	Medications - monthly	month	17.200,00 ETB	5	86.000 ETB	\$ 717
В	PARENTS SUPPORT				189.750 ETB	\$ 1.581
	Human resources (livelihood officer) - monthly	month	11.500,00 ETB	5	57.500 ETB	\$ 479
	Temporary food package	month	20.700,00 ETB	5	103.500 ETB	\$ 863
	Health education facilitation (refreshments,					
	demonstration items)	month	5.750,00 ETB	5	28.750 ETB	\$ 240

	Item	Unit	Unit cost	Nr. Of Units	Local Currency	USD
С	SCHOOL SUPPORT				633.000 ETB	\$ 5.275
	Feeding programme	month	52.000,00 ETB	10	520.000 ETB	\$ 4.333
	School fees	term	28.000,00 ETB	2	56.000 ETB	\$ 467
	School uniforms	lumpsum	57.000,00 ETB	1	57.000 ETB	\$ 475
D	FGM AWARENESS				305.400 ETB	\$ 2.545
	Human resources (community coordinator, case worker) - monthly	month	16.000,00 ETB	12	192.000 ETB	\$ 1.600
	Awareness campaigns	item	6.900,00 ETB	4	27.600 ETB	\$ 230
	Hygienic packs for peer educators	month	1.400,00 ETB	12	16.800 ETB	\$ 140
	Allowance for peer educators	month	5.750,00 ETB	12	69.000 ETB	\$ 575
E	ADULT LITERACY				256.200 ETB	\$ 2.135
	Human resources (teachers)	month	7.600,00 ETB	12	91.200 ETB	\$ 760
	Didactic and training materials	Participant	1.600,00 ETB	60	96.000 ETB	\$ 800
	Refreshments	month	5.750,00 ETB	12	69.000 ETB	\$ 575
F	SUPPORT COSTS				642.120 ETB	\$ 5.351
	Communications (airtime and internet for follow up with families)	month	1.850,00 ETB	12	22.200 ETB	\$ 185
	Bank charges	month	460,00 ETB	12	5.520 ETB	\$ 46
	Utilities (water, electricity)	month	1.800,00 ETB	12	21.600 ETB	\$ 180
	Human resources (director, finance manager) - monthly	month	14.900,00 ETB	12	178.800 ETB	\$ 1.490
	Transport (fuel and vehicle maintenance) - across all activities	month	34.500,00 ETB	12	414.000 ETB	\$ 3.450
				TOTAL	2.399.970 ETB	\$ 20.000