



ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE OF NURSING

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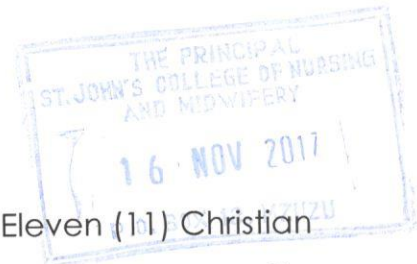
November 16th, 2017

MALAWI SCOTLAND PARTNERSHIP FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: OUR BRIEF PROFILE AS WE LOOK FOR A SCOTTISH PARTNER

1.0. Introduction and Background

St John's College of Nursing & Midwifery is one of the Eleven (11) Christian Health Association of Malawi (CHAM) member training colleges operating within Malawi. The college was opened in 1963 by Medical Missionary of Mary Sisters (MMM) and it is under the proprietorship of the Catholic Diocese of Mzuzu. There are currently 57 members of staff, 17 of whom are Nursing and Midwifery Tutors/Educators, including those seconded to the College by the Ministry of Health, Government of Malawi.

Currently, the College is implementing a 3-year Nursing and Midwifery Technician (NMT) Programme, with a student population of **316 (187 Females, 129 Males)**, from the innovatively designed 2 streams each year since 2014 – one residential, and another one non-residential. In this (NMT) programme, the College is training and graduating Nursing and Midwifery Technicians (NMTs), the level II cadre in/of the Nursing and Midwifery Professions.



Of late, as enshrined in our 2015 – 2019 Strategic Planning directions, we intend to introduce an **upgrading University Diploma in Nursing and Midwifery (UDNM)**, and a **Certificate in Pharmacy Assistants programme** from the year 2017 onwards.

The UDNM programme is purposefully designed to help in the career progression of those graduate Nursing and Midwifery Technicians (NMTs), a Nursing cadre that has stagnated at this level, as there is only one (1) College pursuing this programme in Malawi. The draft Curriculum for this programme has been presented to Nurse and Midwives Council of Malawi (NMCM), and we envision its implementation next year as soon as it passes.

On the other hand, the Pharmacy Assistant Programme, while responding to our SP, is designed to address the acute shortage of this cadre in our health care delivery system, particularly in those health centres in rural settings. This has led to health centres utilizing the none qualifying personnel like health centre attendants to handle drugs, supplies and pharmaceuticals to clients, posing risks and threats to communities and societies. We appreciate that the College of Medicine, with funding from the Global Fund also have plans to commence this programme, utilizing two (2) Colleges in our (CHAM) family. This informs a synergy to our College Plan, particularly the process of Curriculum development and later on, its implementation. As such, commencement of this Pharmacy Assistants Programme is both as responsive to our (the College) Strategic Plan and the available opportunity in the endeavour of improving drug storage and management in our health centres and thereby reducing the enormous associated risks.



It is hoped that this initiative will directly feed into, and impact on the Health Care Delivery System of Malawi since the introduction and implementation of these two (2) programmes will lead to increasing the number of Health Care Providers in general, and cadres of Registered Nurse/Midwives and Pharmacy Assistants in particular, with consequent improvement in the quality of care to be rendered to rural communities of Malawi.

2.0. The Malawi Scotland Partnership: call for partner(s)

Recently, the Scottish Government has opened its call for grants for the 2018 to 2023 funding period. St John's College of Nursing and Midwifery would like to access and benefit from these resources for the cause as outlined above. As is a requirement that the College needs to a partner on the Scottish side, we would therefore like to call for and invite Scottish partner(s).

On behalf of the College, yours in the Vine yard,


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COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

