

Newsletter December 2019

Dear members, friends and supporters of SAREPTA Suisse,

It is the end of the year 2019!

Many things have happened since our last newsletter in the month of September.

Preparations for the inauguration of the first part of the SAREPTA Medical Center in Tangafla, Côte d'Ivoire

After our return last August, it was necessary to follow the final phase of the construction from here in Switzerland...the final electrical and plumbing installations and the painting. With the help of the local committee everything was accomplished with success. The 15th of October 2019, the construction manager informed us that the first part of the center was finished and ready to receive the medical equipment.

Since we had already selected the equipment while in Abidjan, we proceeded with the financing and transportation of the material to the site. On the 23rd of October at 2 AM the equipment arrived at the SAREPTA center supervised by Doctor Tuo Torna and my younger brother Soro Zakary. Thanks to each of you for this important step in the process of the project. Your vigilance and abnegation made it possible for the medical center of Tangafla to receive its first medical equipment.

The center is also equipped with sixteen solar panels and their recharge batteries permitting all three of the existing buildings to be illuminated at night (see photo at right).



The inauguration of the first part of the main building of the SAREPTA Medical Center of Tangafla

The 7th of December, as scheduled, three members of the SAREPTA Suisse board (Claudine Tschelessnig, Päivi Soro and Pierre Soro) were present at Tangafla for the inauguration of the first part of the main building of the medical center. The local committee of SAREPTA in Côte d'Ivoire had done an excellent job of preparation, which insured a successful ceremony.

The Ivorian authorities were present: the Sous-préfet of Niofoin (highest administrative local authority in the county), the Regional Director and the Department Director of health, as well as other local leaders. We had the honor of welcoming the Counselor of the Swiss Ambassador of the Embassy in Abidjan, Mr. Thomas Heimgartner.

The village chiefs of the surrounding villages and their people came to the ceremony creating a very festive atmosphere.

We sincerely thank the Ivorian and Swiss authorities for their presence and support which made the occasion a great success.

As of today, the medical center of Tangafla is ready to receive its first nurse so as to open the dispensary part of the center as we wait for the construction of the final part of the center so as to welcome a doctor and a mid-wife. More personnel will follow as the functioning of the structure draws more and more patients.



The perspectives for the New Year 2020

We would like to begin the construction of the second part of the building, if the funding is secured. The foundation of this part of the building was built in 2019. What remains is to make the bricks and put up the walls.

Our desire is to finish the construction, equip it and put it into service before the 31st of December 2020.

We invite you to once again accompany us beginning in January 2020 as our project continues so as to permit the people of the Tangafla region to obtain the medical services dreamed of for more than 20 years.

Our thanks:

We thanks all the foundations, clubs, the Swiss Embassy in Abidjan and all the individual contributors who gave in their way and according to their abilities so that the dream of creating a medical center in Tangafla to become a reality. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

Joyous holidays to you all!

Very Happy New Year 2020 as well to each of you!

Written in Penthaz on December 20th 2019

For the Association SAREPTA SUISSE



Navigué Pierre SORO
General Secretary



07.12.2019