

AMURT FOUNDATION 2021



EBONYI STATE, NIGERIA - PRIMARY HEALTH CARE,
MATERNAL HEALTH, WATER PROJECTS & MORE

AMURT overview

AMURT's mission is to help improve the quality of life for the poor and disadvantaged people of the world, and those affected by calamity and conflict. We encourage and enable individuals and communities to harness their own resources for securing the basic necessities of life and for gaining greater economic, social and spiritual fulfilment, while respecting their customs, language, and religious beliefs.

AMURT (Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team) is one of the few private international voluntary organizations founded in the developing world. Since its inception in 1970 its original objective was to help meet the needs of the affected population after disasters. Over the years AMURT has established teams in thirty-four countries, to create a network that can meet disaster and development needs almost anywhere in the world.



AMURT staff 2022

Message from the director

2021 was a busy year for AMURT Nigeria. Our achievements include the construction of two new staff quarters, the upgrade of Uloanwu Health Center to an emergency obstetric referral center, 28 new village boreholes, two new ambulances, and a new dynamic Adolescent Sexual & Reproductive Health Program.

*AMURT faced unprecedented security challenges in 2021. Our work was seriously affected by the violence and tensions created by multiple communal conflicts in Ebonyi State. However, thanks to our successful **"Every Life Counts"** fundraising drive, we were able to come to the aid of victims of violence and support the displaced population.*

The number of pediatric surgeries sponsored by AMURT doubled. The AMURT medical team gave each patient the attention and care he or she deserved, following our commitment to go the extra mile to save lives. This spirit of service defines the day-to-day work of AMURT.

As we enter 2022, our focus is on strengthening the self-reliance of the AMURT assisted health centers. We have made progress in this regard through careful financial management and regular monitoring. The way forward to achieving our development goals lies in the partnership with government and community to build a viable model of healthcare in rural areas.

Yours, in Service ,

Dada

Making primary healthcare work

AMURT is building a sustainable and replicable model for meeting the primary healthcare needs of rural communities through a partnership involving the communities, grassroots organizations, the private sector and government.



Children at Ephuenyim, Abakaliki LGA



Project areas and health centers



From each health center AMURT serves a 'project area' of about 20 surrounding villages for outreach, monitoring and health education activities.

	HEALTH CENTER	LOCAL GOVT>	MONTH/YEAR OPENED
1	Gmelina	Abakaliki	Sep 2010
2	Offia Oji	Abakaliki	Nov 2010
3	Ephuenyim	Abakaliki	Nov 2010
4	Elugwu Ettam	Ikwo	Feb 2012
5	Odeligbo	Ikwo	Jun 2012
6	Akparata (suspended 2021)	Ohaukwu	Apr 2015
7	Inikiri (suspended 2021)	Ohaukwu	Oct 2016
8	Mgbalukwu	Onicha	Nov 2017
9	Uloanwu	Ebonyi	Aug 2018
10	Ohagelode	Ebonyi	Mar 2020
11	Item Amagu	Ikwo	Dec 2020

Strengthening primary healthcare at the facility level – promoting self-reliance



Stakeholders meeting for health center finances at AMURT office



Well managed drug revolving fund ensures well stocked pharmacies in the health centers



Community members working on construction at Uloanwu Health Center

In 2021, the number of support staff paid directly by the health centers rose to 70, a significant achievement. In addition, Uloanwu and Ohagelode Health Centers took full responsibility for all labor, sand and gravel for their construction upgrade projects.

In 2022, AMURT's focus is on further strengthening the self-reliance of each health center step by step. This is an important indicator of success. AMURT's model for primary healthcare involves a broad partnership among government, the private sector and the community, with each fulfilling a specific role crucial to success. The mission of bringing quality healthcare to rural areas demands that all stakeholders work together.

In the AMURT model, community participation through management committees and local health workers, is at the heart of the strategy, while financial management is decentralized to serve the interest of the health center. Each AMURT assisted health center runs its own drug revolving fund to ensure that the pharmacy is always well stocked. With a modest mark-up on drugs, the health centers cover all operating expenses, such as support staff, cleaning supplies and fuel, and still save money for maintenance, upgrades and expansion. AMURT's responsibility is to build capacity, provide monitoring, and ensure that the agreed procedures for governing health center finances are respected

Emergency obstetric care: improving access



Dr Omogo installing the equipment at the new operating theater at Uloanwu Health Center in Ishieke Community, Ebonyi LGA

AMURT's primary goal is to reduce maternal and child mortality. In July 2021, Uloanwu Health Center was upgraded with an operating theater. AMURT subsidizes each emergency obstetric care department, making obstetric emergencies, such as cesarean sections, affordable. As a result, 80% of the 237 cesarean sections in AMURT assisted health centers were paid in full by the patients' families. With resident doctors, lab scientists and midwives, the four AMURT CEmONC (Emergency Obstetric Referral Centers) enabled early identification of complications and reduced the referral time delays. 82% of the cesarean sections came from outside our project areas, revealing the gap in access to emergency obstetric services in the rural areas. Only 11 % of the cesarean sections were elective, and 89 % were emergencies.



The first cesarean section at Uloanwu Health Center

Safe motherhood

In 2021, the reach of AMURT's maternal and newborn health services was limited as war forced the suspension of services at Akparata and Inikiri Health Centers in Effium, Ohaukwu LGA. The number of deliveries in 2021 was 3320, with 46 % them from outside the project area. Mgbalukwu Health Center was the most improved with an 18% increase in number of births. Only 1.7% of total births, were referred to the tertiary hospital due to serious complications. A total of 265 deliveries were done by caesarean section. Of those, 237 were done at AMURT assisted health centers, and 28 were done at the tertiary referral center. The CS rate remained steady at 7.8% of total births. The average ratio for facility birth vs. home birth in AMURT project areas went down from 75% to 73%. Offia Oji, Odeligbo and Elugwu Ettam health centers achieved over 90 % health center delivery.



Ohagelode HC



Mgbalukwu HC



Offia Oji HC Midwife Adline



Gmelina Health Center Midwife Do

Comprehensive antenatal care & follow-up



Dr. Bayero examines a pregnant woman Ohagelode



Pregnant women exercising at Uloanwu



Gmelina Health Center Dr. Duru

AMURT makes comprehensive antenatal care accessible in all our project areas. In 2021, 6252 women attended ANC days in AMURT assisted health centers. Two or three doctors are on ANC duty so that every pregnant mother can be examined well. AMURT has six portable ultrasound machines and scanning is free. Early identification of women who are at high risk of complications is essential. Health workers make home visits to follow up on high-risk cases. During ANC visits, mothers receive many tests to check for dangerous diseases. The lab scientists also do PCV blood tests and determine the blood group of every woman to crucially save time in the event of an emergency. Other lab tests are done on indication.

During ANC days, AMURT also provides family planning counselling, routine drugs, tetanus vaccine, preventive treatment for malaria, and mosquito nets. It is significant that 56% of the women attending ANC at AMURT health centers in 2021 came from outside the project areas



Health worker Godwin taking vital signs at Mgbalukwu HC

Laboratories: the gift of blood is the gift of life

As also increases and the role of the lab and the lab scientists becomes crucial. The lab department is ready 24 hours a day to provide blood for all our patients on referral. The number of blood transfusions in the health centers rose to 937: a 53 % increase over 2020. This sharp rise reflects the heightened community confidence in the AMURT assisted health centers' ability to manage serious complications.

An important role of the labs is to conduct routine investigations on antenatal days for pregnant women. These tests include urinalysis, hemoglobin, blood grouping and tests for malaria, HIV, hepatitis B & C, and VDRL. In 2021 the reactive rates were as follows: hepatitis B – 9 %, hepatitis C – 6 %, syphilis – 6 % and HIV – 1.4 %. 63 pregnant women tested positive for HIV and were provided PMTCT treatment the number of obstetric emergencies referred to AMURT assisted health centers rises, the need for blood

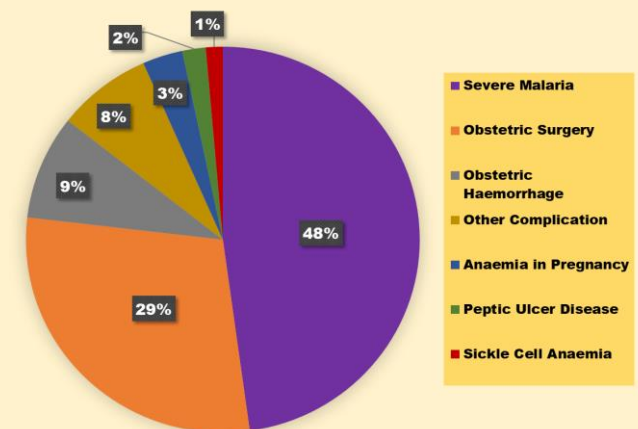


Scientist Mayor and team doing blood groupin at Ohagelode HC



Laboratory work at Item Amagu HC – scientist Anayo with theam

Reasons for Blood Transfusion in 2021

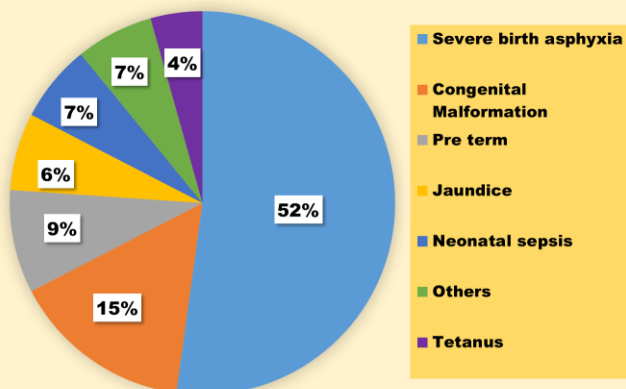


Quality care for mothers and newborns

In 2021, we recorded fourteen maternal deaths inside our project areas. Of these nine came from outside the project areas, while five were from within the project areas. Eight of the mortalities were un-booked, that is they had never visited the health center for antenatal care. AMURT reviews every maternal mortality during monthly medical team meetings to learn lessons and make changes to improve the quality of care.

The number of complications and “near misses” (meaning the mother was very close to death) successfully managed in the health centers, or with AMURT support at referral center, confirm that many lives were saved.

Causes of 46 Neonatal death in 2021



Odeligbo Health Center



Iloanwu Health Center Dr. Gofwin



AEFUTHA tertiary hospital



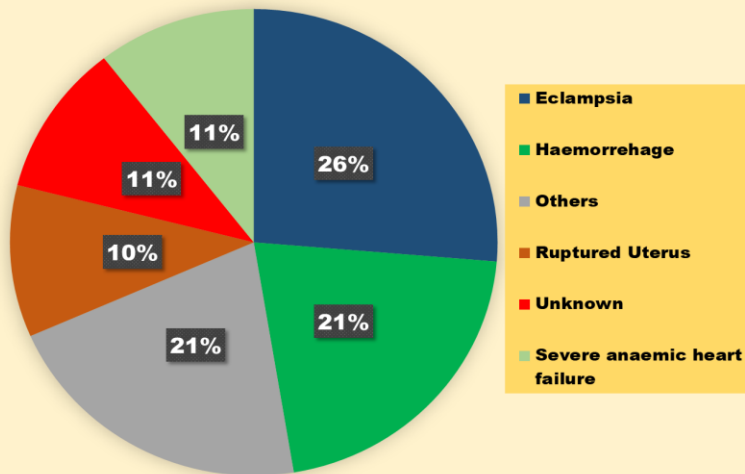
Mgbalukwua Health Center health worker Joy



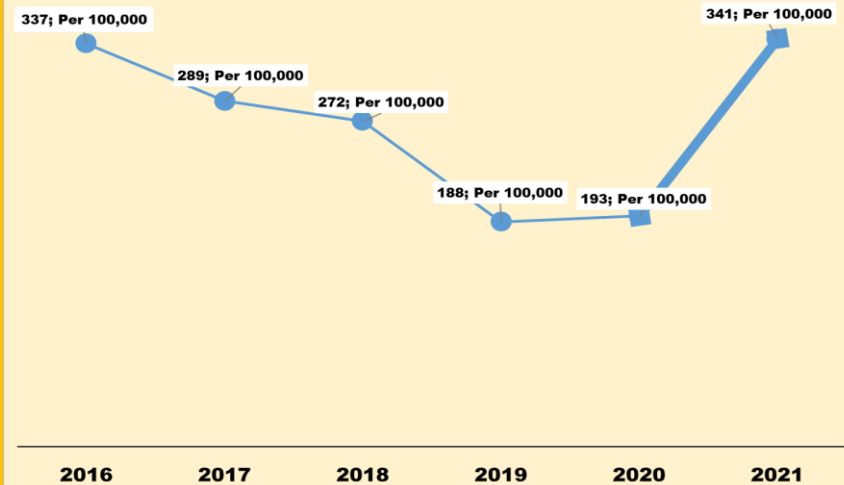
Odeligbo Health Center

Maternal complications and mortality

Causes of 19 Maternal Mortalities in 2021

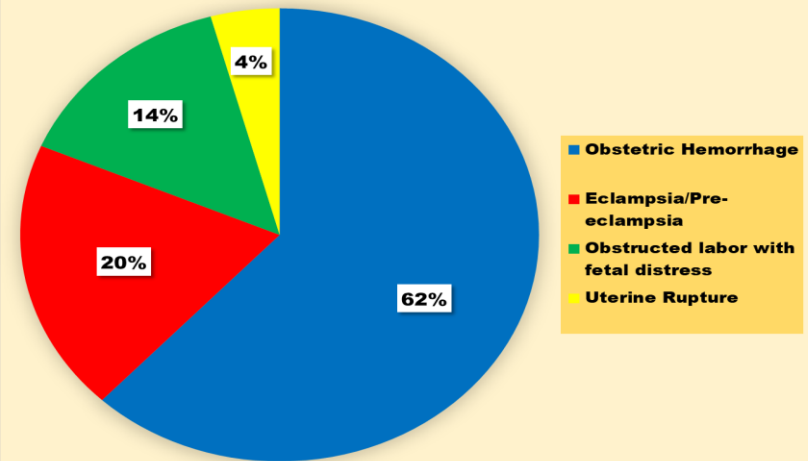


Maternal Mortality Rate Per 100,000 Birth



NOTES: The maternal mortality rate (MMR) is based on the number of women lost in the project area. In 2021, we lost 14 such women: ten died at the health center, two at home, and two in transit. Another five women died after referral to the tertiary hospital, bringing the total maternal deaths to 19. Of these, 13 came from outside the AMURT project areas. The high mortality rate was caused by the high number of serious obstetric emergencies brought to the AMURT assisted emergency obstetric referral centers from outside our project areas. 194 out of 237 cesarean sections were from women from outside the project area. 19 of 48 obstetric emergencies referred to tertiary hospital were from outside the project area. A total of 350 obstetric emergencies were successfully managed at the health centers. Even with this influx of obstetric emergencies from outside our areas, the MMR was well below the national average, which comprises both rural and urban areas.

350 Maternal Complications managed at AMURT Assisted Facilities in 2021



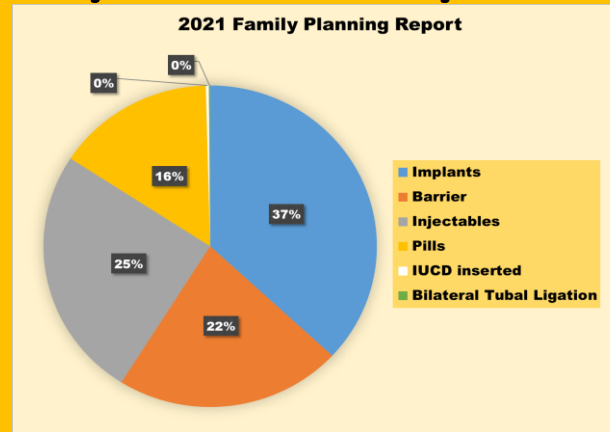
Family planning: a key to family health

Patiently, and through hard work, AMURT's family planning team is creating awareness and acceptance of the benefits that child spacing brings to the family. Our programs target both men and women, as AMURT's experience is that male involvement is crucial for community acceptance.

The results are good. We have seen an increase in the number of families seeking family planning by themselves. We are encouraged by the number of women returning for a second implant after the first one has expired. Others, after removing the implant to get pregnant, come back for another implant after giving birth.

The birth rate in our project areas has reduced as over 6000 women have chosen long term contraceptive options.

The AMURT assisted health centres offer women a variety of short-and long-term contraceptive options. This includes providing support for natural methods like LAM (Lactational Amenorrhea Method), as they harmonize well with cultural beliefs. Women's access to family planning has been described as the single most important factor in reducing maternal mortality. Accordingly, AMURT identifies women who would be at risk from pregnancy and birth and follow up with home visits by the family planning focal persons.



Nurse Ezinne removing implant



Family planning focal persons from the health centers with Nora and Ezinne

Reducing delays to save lives: Ambulance service and support for referrals



Two new ambulances deployed in December 2021i

In rural Nigeria, transport is hard to find. Therefore, AMURT operates subsidized emergency transport service, serving 11 health centers. Eight ambulances with full time standby drivers are based in the rural health centers, deployed exclusively for patient transport.

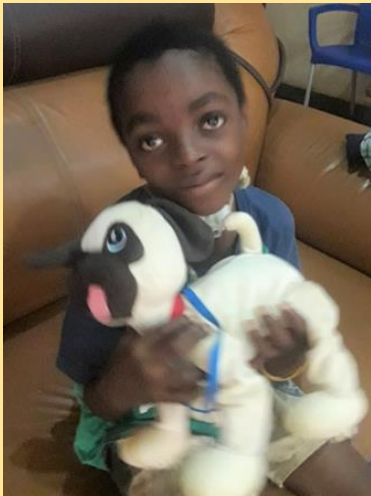
With the upgrade of AMURT assisted health centers to emergency obstetric care centers, the number of obstetric referrals to the Federal Teaching Hospital in Abakaliki has reduced from 226 in 2018 to only 48 in 2021. Health workers accompany every ambulance referral to assist the families with registration, investigations, drugs and urgent care. AMURT staff follow up the referrals to provide support, especially for obstetric and pediatric cases. Financial assistance is available for obstetric and pediatric cases when lives are in the balance, so that no lives are lost for lack of financial means.



IFESINACHI, 7 year old girl from Offia Oji suffered bad intestinal obstruction and was rushed by ambulance to AEFUTHA. Her condition was critical at the point of presentation. Thanks for quick response by Offia Oji team and AEFUTHA staff, and the availability of ambulance, Ifesinachi is fine today.

DESTINATION	OBSTETRIC	NEWBORN	OTHERS	TOTAL
TO TERTIARY	58	48	92	198
TO AMURT	114	17	48	179
TOTAL	172	65	140	377

Every Life Counts: Life saving interventions



IFEANYI is 11. He was brought to Odeligbo Health Center with acute breathing difficulties. He was diagnosed with Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis. Growths on his vocal cord hampered his speech and obstructed the airways. AMURT sponsored laser surgery in a specialist hospital in Kaduna. He is now speaking and can breathe without difficulties.



CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY SURGERIES

In 2021, AMURT sponsored 94 children's emergency surgeries. 67 of the pediatric surgeries were done in the health centers, 23 at AEFUTHA, 2 at UNTH Enugu and 1 in Kaduna.



ONYEKACHI gave birth through cesarean section in another state. Coming home to Ebonyi she suffered wound breakdown. She was referred from Odeligbo to AEFUTHA. She spent one month in intensive care and underwent three additional surgeries, while trying to care for her baby. After over three months on she recovered fully and was finally discharged.



CHIAMAKA was referred from Item Amagu Health Center to Odeligbo Health Center with typhoid perforation. Typhoid is common in Nigeria. If left untreated for an extended time, it can result in perforations of the intestines which can lead to death very fast. In 2021, AMURT sponsored eight typhoid perforation repairs, all for teenagers.

Every Life Counts: personal attention & care

Support For Referrals

AMURT provides support for obstetric and pediatric referrals from the health centers to the tertiary institutions. AMURT assisted health centers have doctors and facilities to manage most patients, so only the most serious life-threatening cases are referred. AMURT staff follow up to ensure that requirements for treatment are met without delay. In 2021 we assisted 48 obstetric emergencies, 94 pediatric surgeries, 75 newborn complications and over 30 pediatric cases.



Miracle was born at 600 grams. Here she is at one year old, and very healthy

High Risk Follow Up

In 2021, AMURT health workers made 604 home visits to women at high risk of complication during birth. The mothers at risk are identified by doctors during the antenatal days at the health centers. During home visits, health workers advise the families how to prepare for the birth and take precautions according to the doctor's advice. Vital signs are measured and samples collected for lab work. This direct follow up is crucial to reduce maternal and neo-natal deaths.



Midwife Perpetua visiting a young mother who gave birth by cesarean section

Special Needs Children

AMURT gives close attention and support for special needs children and the parents of children with disabilities, birth defects and chronic conditions. AMURT believes these children deserve the best and has made their care a priority. AMURT also assists over 50 orphans with school fees.



Ogadinma, special needs children coordinator, visits surgery patient Chidera

Construction and upgrades

Uloanwu Health Center: construction of new staff quarters and renovations for new operating theater. Ohagelode Health Center: construction of new staff quarters.



Paul, AMURT construction manager, with engineer, planning Ohagelode staff quarters



All the labor and sand for the construction at Ohagelode was provided by the community



The Ohagelode Staff quarter provides 10 self-contained units for staff close to the health center



The Uloanwu Health Center staff quarters enjoys a spacious courtyard



The construction of the staff quarters is a good achievement for the Uloanwu community



10 comfortable self contained units with bathroom and kitchen for health center staff

Fighting malnutrition: the silent killer



Ready to use therapeutic food given at Uloanwu Health Center

For AMURT's health education department, the fight against malnutrition took center stage in 2021. In many rural villages malnourished children are a common sight. Poverty in the rural areas is one cause, but ignorance plays an even greater role. Many of the children are left to survive largely on starchy foods. The parents do not know how to combine locally available foods to create complete proteins. The AMURT health education team taught parents in many villages how to use locally available foods for a nutritionally balanced diet.

AMURT worked in partnership with the Ebonyi State Ministry of Health to assist severely malnourished children. Over 1300 children benefitted from micronutrient powder, while 111 severely malnourished children were supported with RUTF (ready to use therapeutic foods), along with 15 more children in Offia Oji during Christmas. In 2021, AMURT nursed 51 malnourished children back to health on admission in the AMURT assisted health centers.



Teaching on nutrition at Item Amagu



Malnourished child at Ovuoba

Health education and cultural pride



Obegu Omege dancers at health rally



Danceers Enyebicheri Amagu, Iwko



Agatha speaking on family planning

AMURT mobilizes health rallies: full day events organized by the maternal health promoters and village youth leaders. They combine health talks and educational dramas with cultural displays like dance, drumming and masquerades to create a festival atmosphere. In 2021, AMURT mobilized 8 health rallies in Item Amagu, Ikwo project areas. The health rallies provide opportunities for questions, answers and a dialog between the community and the health center. In 2021 health rallies, the benefits of child spacing and the importance of early presentation and giving birth at the health centers were highlighted.

6 KEY MESSAGE IN VILLAGE SENSITIZATION

- a. Importance of skilled birth attendants
- b. Early arrival at the hospital
- c. Family planning
- d. Importance of blood donation
- e. Dangers of herbal concoction and self-medication for pregnant women and children under 5
- f. Prevention and early treatment of malaria, especially for pregnant women and children under 5

A network of maternal health promoters



Ephuenyim Maternal Health Promoters

In AMURT's project areas, the women in each village elect a maternal health promoter from amongst themselves. This unique network now extends to 214 villages. They conduct monthly pregnant women support group meetings and work closely with health workers from the health center. Their responsibilities include identifying pregnant women, educating and guiding expectant mothers, and monitoring pregnancies and all births, including homebirths. As community-based volunteers, they ensure that the program is well anchored at the grassroots. While promoting safe motherhood, the maternal health promoters play a central role in changing the outlook and attitudes of the rural population to embrace child spacing and women's leadership in health and community affairs.

Selected health workers at each health center engage in health education outreach. They participate in the monthly meetings of pregnant women. In 2021, they gave over 300 health talks in local churches, women's association meetings and other village settings, conveying key health messages to everyone.



Offia Oji Maternal Health Promoters



Health worker Oluchi dialoging with community women at Ebusike, IKwo

Engaging with youth on reproductive health



Peer educations at Hope secondary school



Meeting of Youth Champions at Gmelina Health Center



Esther on home visit to teenage mother

Teenage pregnancy is all too common where AMURT works. Many girls are victims of abuse. Others have been abandoned by the men who made them pregnant, and find themselves out of school, and without support for themselves and their growing babies. In 2021, AMURT extended the Adolescent Sexual & Reproductive Health Program to four project areas: Mgbalukwu in Onicha LGA, Gmelina, Ephuenyim and Offia Oji in Abakaliki LGA.

In the rural villages and schools, adolescents have little access to good information related to sexual and reproductive health. Practical teachings on personal hygiene and the hazards of drug abuse are scarce. Harmful traditional practices, like female genital mutilation and child marriage continue to pose a threat to young girls.

AMURT works in partnership with selected high schools. to train peer educators. Once selected by their teachers, youth of both genders are trained to carry key health messages to their fellow students. During regular sessions with the AMURT facilitators, the student educators get a chance to deepen their understanding on pertinent issues.

On the village level, AMURT works with Youth Champions. Young residents of each village are selected by village leaders to be trained in key topics related to sexual and reproductive health. They share the key messages with the adolescent in their villages. In monthly meetings, the Youth Champions learn new topics, and report on their activities during the month.

Young mothers: hope for a better future



First time mothers doing an exercise on building confidence and ambition at Mgbalukwu Health Center



Art and creative methods give better results than lectures



Young mothers with their babies meet with pregnant girls at the Offia Oji First Time Mothers' Club

AMURT's First Time Mothers Club brings pregnant teenagers and teenage mothers together at the health centers for learning and sharing. The young mothers get personal care and attention from AMURT staff. This includes support for safe births, medical attention for mother and baby, and psycho-social support and family counseling. AMURT counselors make home visits to identify needs and address any family issues.

The sessions are full of creative activities, including arts and drama, song and dance. While learning is important, it is equally important to have a good time. In the First Time Mothers' Club the young women are exposed to new perspectives and enjoy new experiences.

Coming together with others who share the same circumstances has been socially and psychologically beneficial for these young women, many of whom feel wounded and defeated by their predicament. Through AMURT's guidance, and the support of their peers, they gain in personal ambition and feel confident that they can create bright future for themselves. In 2021, AMURT supported eight young mothers to return to school to complete their education. The First Time Mothers' Club also share livelihood skills, such as cooking buns, chin-chin (a local snack) and soap-making.

AMURT in emergency response

The biggest challenge of 2021 was communal conflicts and violence affecting the population in half of our project areas, The war at Effium, which remains unresolved, compelled us to abruptly suspend service in Akparata and Inikiri Health Centers. In the first weeks of the conflict, AMURT supported over 700 displaced families with food aid and clothes and provided medical support for victims of the violence. The AMURT medical team also responded to the State Epidemiology Unit's request and intervened in cholera outbreaks in Izzi and Ikwo Local Government Areas.



Horrible scenes at Ohagelode Health Center after the deadly attack on Ndiobasi village on 30th May 2021



Jacinta, 18 years old, was carried to Ohagelode Health Center from Effium in critical condition and quickly referred by AMURT ambulance to the Federal Teaching Hospital. She had two bullet wounds and her mouth, nose and eyes were cut by a machete. In the hospital she was nursed back to life with intravenous feeding and a breathing pipe inserted in her throat. Sadly she lost one eye and the baby she was carrying. She spent three months in hospital.



Dr. Godwin attends to cholera victims at Izzi LGA

Youth capacity building in healthcare



AMURT scholarship candidates on matriculation day



Young volunteers writing exams to compete for scholarships

In coordination with local leadership, AMURT recruits community volunteers from the local project areas to help ensure 24 hour service in the health centers. The presence of locals on the staff has been crucial in strengthening the bond between the health centers and the communities. It has contributed to increased community confidence and higher patronage. The local staff easily organize outreach programs and when necessary, follow up on pregnant women with home visits. The local staff has been reliable in being at their post and doing their best for their own people.

AMURT offers a scholarship program to give the most talented and committed of these community volunteers the opportunity to become qualified health workers. At the end of 2021, seventeen candidates were in school on AMURT scholarships. Through employment and support for further education, AMURT has given dozens of young rural women, and a few young men, a career and opportunity to serve their communities. Most of the candidates enter the School of Health Technology to become CHEWs (Community Health Extension Workers) or Junior CHEWs. A few entered university to become registered nurses and medical lab scientists. AMURT cultivates a strong relationship with the academic institutions and accept dozens of IT students every year to get practical experience by placement in the AMURT assisted health centers.

Capacity building in the rural health sector is a key factor for increased self-reliance of primary healthcare facilities in remote villages.

Water is life: reaching every village



Obegu Item, Ikwo LGA



Ebusike, Ettam, Ikwo LGA



Onuoji Echara Ezza South LGA.

Many rural villages in Ebonyi State still rely on rivers and ponds for their drinking water. In 2021, AMURT drilled 28 new boreholes giving communities safe water at their doorstep for the first time. AMURT's WASH (Water Sanitation & Hygiene) program gives priority to remote villages who are without a source of safe water.

Through a partnership with Hon. Chinedu Ogah, AMURT provided safe water for 26 villages in Ikwo and Ezza South Local Government Areas in 2021.

In addition to drilling new boreholes, AMURT also repaired 32 old and broken boreholes across 10 LGAs. The WASH team made follow up supporting visits to support villages that had benefitted from AMURT WASH interventions since 2011.

BOREHOLES DRILLED 2011 – 2021

Local Govt Area	Village	Clinic	Total
Abakaliki	39	5	44
Ohaukwu	62	2	64
Ikwo	20	3	23
Ezza North	5		5
Onicha	16	2	18
Ezza South	9		9
Ivo	3		3
Ishielu	11		11
Izzi	13		13
Ebonyi	18	2	20
Afikpo North	7		7
Afikpo South	4		4
Abia State	5		5
Total	212	15	227

Community ownership of water projects



The WASHCOM at Eguoloko Nsuba Ettam, Ikwo LGA



WASHCOM training on use toolbox at Ndufu Ezzama, Onueke, Ezza South LGA



WASHCOM installing new borehole at Ndiegu Azu, Amana, Ezza South LGA

After the assessment and identification of villages for the WASH program, AMURT conducts a one-day sensitization program for the whole community. On this day, the villagers elect 12 men and women as their Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Committee (WASHCOM). Members are chosen from different families, to ensure a broad representation. People with mechanical, leadership and teaching skills are prioritized.

Once the WASHCOM is constituted, they learn about the mechanics of the borehole and how it works. AMURT provides a training in borehole maintenance and repair, with each village getting a toolbox with all the tools necessary to repair their borehole. The WASHCOM training also includes protection of water sources, hygiene and environmental sanitation, and critical health issues like family planning and female genital mutilation. The members also learn how the community can protect itself from cholera, Lassa fever, COVID 19 and other infectious diseases.



Children and the WASHCOM with first water at Ekpelu, Ikwo LGA

Women's empowerment: a cooperative model



Rice processing at Item Amagu. Cassava/garri processing and palm oil production at Ohagelode.

Learning liquid soap production Elugwu Ettam



NGOZI joined the economic empowerment group in Uloanwu in 2020. Her business is frying akara, a popular fast food made from water yam. Her business has grown steadily. She has been able to meet the expenses of her family and has expanded her business to selling cooked food and drinks in addition to akara.

In 2021, the AMURT economic empowerment program added two new cooperative groups: Ohagelode in Ebonyi LGA, and Item Amagu in Ikwo LGA. Through the health centers, AMURT encounters many women who are the sole breadwinners in their families. Most are widows; others have husbands who are disabled. Local traditions continue to place widows at a big disadvantage. In the economic empowerment program, indigent women come together to cooperatively manage a revolving credit scheme. Interest free loans are made available to the women to start their own businesses. After two months, they start paying back 10 % monthly. After one year the loan is fully paid back. As the capital is returned, new members are empowered and added by the group every month. The women have succeeded in carefully managing the scheme and protecting their capital. It is to their credit alone that in 2021 the number of women benefited increased from 387 to 525.

Our sponsors and partners

SPONSORS	COUNTRY	PROGRAM
GMT-NIGERIA, LTD.	Lagos Nigeria	Main sponsor
Voice of a Child	California USA	Medical equipment, Emergency assistance
AMURT UK	London, UK	Emergency assistance, Medical Equipment, Solar Power
Dangote Foundation	Lagos Nigeria	Cement
Rotary International	Nigeria Italy Norway USA	Water & Sanitation, primary healthcare
Antola Foundation	New York USA	Medical Equipment
AMURT Italy	Parma Italy	Water & Sanitation, Emergency assistance
AMURT USA	Maryland USA	Technical support, Emergency assistance
AMURT Norway	Oslo, Norway	Emergency assistance
AMURTEL USA	Vermont, USA	Scholarships
+ PRIVATE DONORS		

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman	Ade Akinoogbalede
Secretary	Barrister Daniel Gyang
Finance Sec	Christopher Opogah
Member	Brian Dungor
Member	Dada Tor Bjoernsen

AMURT STAFF 2022

Director	Dada Tor Bjoernsen
Medical Director	Dr. John Omogo
Chief Operations Officer	Ogbonna Agha
Office Manager	Martha Nweke
HR Manager	Olarnewaju Ilesanmi
M&E Manager	Chike Anah
H.O.D. Laboratories	Sct. Daniel Ejiofor
WASH Manager	Peter Chukwu Elem
Construction Manager	Paul Haligah
Program Manager	Ibiam Iro Oji
Health Education	Chinwendu Anago-Amanze
Family Planning	Nora Nwankwor
Adolescent Health	Esther Oluchukwu
Referrals in-charge	Dr. Sunhine Chinwendu Anwu
Economic Empowerment	Afuluenu Onu
Head Midwife	Rita Obiakor
Head Driver	Peter Emmanuel

PROJECT AREAS IN-CHARGES

Abakliki LGA	Dr. Duru Steven
Ikwo LGA	Dr. Nnadi Ifeanyi
Ohaukwu LGA	Dr. Omogo John
Onitsha LGA	Dr. Ikechukwu Iwuchukwu
Ebonyi LGA	Dr. Esezogo Sylvester

CONTACT INFORMATION

Corporate Office:

42 Burma Road, Apapa, Lagos, Nigeria

Field Office:

26 Onwe Road Extension, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State, Nigeria

Postal address:

PO BOX 1382, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State, Nigeria

Email: dada@amurt.ng

Telephone: +234-81-3306-7130

Web-site: www.amurt.ng

Facebook Page: AMURT West Africa

YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=oOatqdpzYzI

AMURT Global Coordinating Office:

2502 Lindley Terrace, Rockville,
MD 20850 U.S.A.

