

Hospital and Clinics Communaute Baptiste du Congo Democratic Republic of Congo

The health institutions of CBCO seeks to meet, in a holistic way, the medical needs of the population in the areas where they are established. They do this through curative services, training medical professionals, maintaining rural health centers, and through an extensive community health service.

The health services of C BCO began in the 1890's with the arrival of the first medical missionaries. There are currently nine established related hospitals in the Bandundu and Bas Congo provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The hospital at IME Kimpesi, makes the 10th hospital, and is cited as an inter-mission institution.

The CBCO health service was one of the first medical services in the DRC, and continues to be a leader in health and medical care. Whereas missionary doctors serviced (and often directed) many of CBCO's hospitals in the past, all now have Congolese medical directors and Congolese staff. The hospital at Vanga is currently the only one with ex-patriot physicians (though there are no IM missionary physicians.) These hospitals function at 70% to 120% capacity 365 days of the year, and some are the only viable health service for the population in the area.

In addition to providing medical care to patients, CBCO was one of the first missions to begin training health personnel. A number of the CBCO hospitals have nursing schools. Graduates from these nursing schools often work in the CBCO hospitals and in the network of rural health centers in the CBCO health zones.

In the early 1900's, a Residency program for training Congolese physicians in Congo was established. The majority of the physicians coming from this program serve in CBCO's hospitals and in hospitals and health programs all over the DRC. The Vanga and Kikongo hospitals serve as primary sites for training these physicians.

The CBCO health services were also the first to start a community health program, still the most effective component in the promotion of healthy communities. This community health program began at Vanga in 1967, with intensive efforts to involve local village populations in efforts to improve their own health and living conditions. The local church was the community base for this program, and pastors, school teachers, and village leaders were involved from the beginning.

Missionary Dr. William Clemmer through the Sanru rural health project has been instrumental in supporting this community health program in the rebuilding necessary after the war years of 1998 – 2002.

The following hospitals are part of the CBCO community:

Hospital	# of Beds	#full time staff	Miles from Kinshasa
• Boko	52	21	160
• Moanza	72	19	187
• Kipataka Katika	32	18	125
• Kikongo	102	47	160
• Vanga	500	220	312
• Sala	45	22	375
• Sona Bata	112	63	40
• Nsona Mpangu	70	40	187
• Kimpesi			112
• Kintambo (Kinshasa)	25	14	