

## Chair's Report – December 2025

The focus of the last two years has been on ensuring the sustainability of ***Aidgambia TCHC***. To this end, we have increasingly moved the management and mentorship of the Bendon Bursary to the two Clinical Advisors to the Trustees (CATs) Chernor J Jallow and Lamin Njie. In the Chair's last detailed report presented to the 2024 AGM (June 2025) we celebrated the success of Bursarians and reviewed the work of the Charity from 2018-2025 i.e. the period following the end of the Tallinding Health Centre project (2013-2018). We also proposed that the way forward for the next FIVE years would be for the Trustees to step back and take on more of a guardianship role. Our priority would be to maintain financial security and to explore the idea of establishing links with external bodies to strengthen our credentials.

### **Bendon Bursary update.**

The Bendon Bursary goes from strength to strength, and the Trustees have kept in contact with Bursarians with the help of Chernor and Lamin out in The Gambia. The current position is that three of our current students are due to graduate in June 2026. Firstly, Nfamara SANYANG as a doctor who will have received £950 over the period 2021 - 26 along with recon hardware to the value of £650. And then Amie JARJU and Kaddijatou BADJI who each have received £300 cash and also recon hardware - total £650 to support their two years of nursing studies.

In September 2025 there were three new Bursarians who joined the five continuing students. To date the Secretary and Treasurer have kept a detailed xls spreadsheet record to monitor the activity and financial outlay. Trustees will discuss how to involve the CATs even more in the management and administration of the Bursary with a view to the Chair and Secretary talking with the two Cats in the new year when they visit The Gambia. The Trustees would like to congratulate all Bendon Bursary holders and wish them success in their studies.

### **Clinical Advisors to the Trustees (CATs)**

Chernor completed his Masters in June and returned from China; he is now working with the Trustees to establish links with the University of The Gambia (UTG). The Chair and Secretary hope to arrange an initial meeting in January 2026 when they visit.

Lamin is active in preparing the January 2026 Youth Health Cup annual football match (the 4<sup>th</sup>) between the two football academies we support. Lamin was selected to attend a one month professional Cardiology training course in China in June 2025. He now has the opportunity to attend a further course, Ecocardiology in China in March 2026. For this one though he has to self finance - tuition fees are covered but air fares and accommodation may be difficult to cover. Trustees will discuss at their December 2025 meeting.

### **Donations and easyfundraising**

easyfundraising supporters continue to raise valuable finance. The Treasurer will supply up- to-date figures at the December meeting but we are approaching £2,000 in cash raised.

In addition, regular donors (THANK YOU Celia) which provides an essential regular stream of funding especially as it is Giftaided. Thank you Margo for your recent significant donation and in addition we are in communication with a solicitor acting for the estate of Linda Gainsbury who named ***Aidgambia TCHC*** in her will. These donations along with the invaluable support of TK at Revive My Device Brockley enable the Charity to provide on-going seed corn funding and upgraded hardware that in turn transforms the studies of our Bendon Bursary students.

Marilyn McMenemy

Chair – ***aidgambia TCHC***