

**PROGRESS REPORT FOR CHRIS HANI BARAGWANATH COUNSELLING PROJECT - GAUTENG
APRIL TO SEPT 2009**

1. STATISTICS

Activity	April	May	June	July	August	September
No of admission	214	221	179	467	346	200
No of discharges	not recorded	not recorded	94	201	150	200
Follow-up	316	293	248	266	196	246
Referrals on admission	55	53	48	136	135	80
Referrals on follow-up	98	85	82	206	102	87
Deaths	9	5	4	3	27	7

2. ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

Objective	Achievements	Challenges
Psychosocial Intervention	<p>Our counsellors are trained to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quickly establish relationships with primary caregivers of sick children. - Ensure that they get contact details of the client and additional family members to reduce the risk of defaulting. - Reassure the caregivers of confidentiality as they are aware that some haven't disclosed their HIV status as well as the children's status to their families. - In addition to counselling, tracing defaulters and assisting individuals to disclose their HIV status to their families, the counsellors also refer clients to relevant resources in their communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Following up on defaulters can sometimes be difficult as caregivers provide counsellors with incorrect addresses. In most instances the reason for this is because the family does not know the HIV status of the child, and the mother is concerned their suspicions will be raised if they are visited by Cotlands. It is therefore important to stress confidentiality, but also to assist with disclosure.
Health Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caregivers of children that are started on antiretroviral (ARV) and TB treatment receive education about the treatment regimes and the diseases from the counsellors. This includes information about treatment side effects, and how to deal with them, and the disadvantages of defaulting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not all caregivers are interested in receiving training, which increases the risk of compliance problems.

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Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training takes place either in small groups or individual sessions. - CHBH has a primary school on the property so that hospitalised patients can continue with their education if well enough. For sometime it was unclear as to who was responsible to see that these children attended school, so the counsellors have offered to assist with this. On average, 12 children from the paediatric wards attend school every day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is time consuming to take the children to school as this uses up counselling time, but the counsellors realise that it is important for the children. - The school does not have funds to pay for a Grade R teacher so this position is vacant. . .
Sustainability (Capacity Building)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Harriet Shezi clinic has offered to include our counsellors in their skills development programme. - Counsellors attended a two day training on TB so that they have updated information to pass onto their clients. - The counsellors now write up daily reports which has improved monitoring and evaluation of services. - The referral system between HBC, CHBH and the Cotlands social workers has improved significantly since the introduction of joint monthly meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to give feedback, review referrals and develop work plans. - Children being discharged from the hospital are tracked by our community caregivers, and in the same way our home based care patients and children in residential care are monitored by our counsellors if they are admitted to hospital. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The patients in the wards do not get counselling services on the days the counsellors are on training - As we do not yet have office space at the hospital there is no where to securely store the daily reports, which does jeopardise confidentiality. At present all the reports have to be handed to the supervisor who locks them away in her ward. - As the counsellors have patients from outside Soweto they cannot be referred to Cotlands HBC workers. Although we do have a list of organisations we refer these families to there are gaps in service in some areas.