

## Annual report Foundation Friends of Bawku 2014

1. **The Board.** Ries Schouten, medical microbiologist, entered late 2014 the Board. The Board had five meetings. In addition the board members had several additional discussions. There were two general membership meeting. Meetings of the Ghana Platform were attended. The foundation is member of Partin(Private Initiative)
2. **Financial report.** Reference is made to the report of the treasurer.
3. **Communication.**
  - a. A new **website** has been developed and meets expectations. The address is: [www.vriendenvanbawku.nl](http://www.vriendenvanbawku.nl).
  - b. The **newsletter** was sent twice to supportive friends of Bawku
4. **Missions 2014.** Possible candidates for a mission can submit a request to the board. The board makes an inventory of all wishes and consults the management of the hospital. On the base of these consultations the board determines. The foundation will pay the tickets and shall contribute to the visas. The travel reports of the missions were presented on the website of the foundation. After returning a debriefing meeting was held with the board. Some volunteers expressed disappointing experiences. The following volunteers went to Bawku:
  - a. Januari: Harm Jan Kwikkel(gynecologist) and Herma van Vliet(Dentist)
  - b. January-February: Jan Kroeze(surgeon) and Carolien Vervoort(Theatre-nurse)
5. **Projects:**
  - a. **Finalizing New Operating Room.** In 2010 the new operating theatre was realised by the foundation. In 2012 the board and the management of PHB agreed about adjustments of the building to improve the functionality. Also loose tiles and not fitting doors were renewed. These issues are carried out. The board considered the OR-project as completed. The users have expressed their gratitude.
  - b. **The Maternity.** In 2011 the foundation started to develop plans for a new labour ward complex. The current delivery rooms are too few in number, too small and provide to less privacy. On the base of a program of requirements the Ghanaian Herbert Abeka provided a sketch plan. The original plan did not prove to be attainable because the unfavourable financial situation of the hospital. The FOB in cooperation with Wild Geese pledged an amount of € 75.000. Together with Bawku a new plan has to be worked out which provides new delivery rooms, a resuscitation room and in addition a renovation of the old maternity building.
  - c. **Dentistry.** The dental clinic is functioning well. Herma van Vliet managed to solve a large number of accommodation problems of dental department.
6. **Fundraising:** The number of sponsor activities was in 2014 less than before:
  - a. **The RABO**-bank has made a commitment of € 10.000 for the maternity.
  - b. **The SOS**-foundation(Support of Seniors) has also pledged € 10.000 for the maternity project
  - c. Employees of the Gelderse Vallei Hospital € 520 from their Christmas gift.
  - d. Three Obstetrics bed were provided by the foundation "Belangenbehartiging van het (zeer) Jonge Kind"(ca. € 4000)
7. **Jubilee 2014.** On October 25<sup>th</sup> the tenth anniversary of the foundation was celebrated. During an inspiring meeting by representative of the various disciplines a clear picture of all

activities of the foundation FOB was given. Christine Fenenga, medical anthropologist, gave a nice overview of the organisation of the national health care of Ghana was presented and the problems which are faced. The Management of the Bawku presented a video film about their experiences with the FOB. The meeting ended with an animated reception of formerly and present volunteers, as well as other interested people.

8. **The future.** The foundation FOB will continue its activities in Bawku. Although the level of prosperity in Ghana is rising the need of support in Health Care projects is indispensable. The hospital has difficulties to compete the private clinics, which leads to a diminishing amount of patients. Also the occupation of the medical staff is worrisome. The surgeon Dr Manu has left, but there is still no replacement. The administrator Rev. Samuel Kofey is no longer in office. His tasks are taken over by the John Abugri, general manager. The management appreciates our missions. While the older specialists are retiring from our foundation, new intake is necessary to continue our support.