

Full-time, permanent services commenced in January 2019 under the national health system with two national nurses and basic provisions. The well-attended clinic serves more than 1,000 people in 17 communities in the Diang and Kasunko Chiefdoms. Both nurses speak the local language and relate closely to the women who can now birth in a clinic.



Pictured: Nurses, Adama Barrie and Tennah Manseray are providing free pre- and post-natal care, Under 5 services and Family Planning support.

S4LA is currently funding nurses' accommodation and a monthly budget for maintenance and essentials not provided by the government. The installation of a Dulas solar vaccine fridge, a clean water well and floorcoverings are priorities.



Advancing access to basic healthcare for communities in Sierra Leone
Reg. Charity CH 2722 * ABN 73 323743 642 * www.set4life.org.au

9 Centenary Close, Gympie, QLD 4570. Contact: info@set4life.org.au Phone 0488774950

SET4LIFE Australia was established in April, 2015 to support Yiben and the surrounding communities in a remote area of Sierra Leone, one of the poorest countries with among the lowest life expectancy and highest maternal and infant mortality in the world.

Our goal is to support access to services that will improve health outcomes for all, with a focus on maternal and reproductive care and children's health. Community goals, partnerships, capacity building and sustainability are the basis of the project.

In-country Manager, Minkailu Bantama (Mallam), works with community leaders to prioritise the needs and organise the work required. He oversees our contribution and ensures accountability for the use of funds.

Our work is completely voluntary and every dollar donated goes directly to support the provision of facilities and services.

SET4LIFE Australia is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ABN: 73323743642) and donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Sponsor us, fundraise or make a monthly donation.
Your generosity will improve and save lives.

Donate via our website with Paypal or by direct deposit to our Auswide Bank Account in Gympie.

SET4LIFE Australia
BSB 645-646 A/c 106419056

For more information, please visit our website:
www.set4life.org.au, email info@set4life.org.au
or phone 0488774950



HEALTHCARE for YIBEN



Kayiben (the village of Yiben, pronounced 'Ee-ben') lies south-east of Fadugu in the Koinadugu District of Sierra Leone, one of the poorest areas in the country. The village consists of approximately 40 traditional mud-brick houses and is surrounded by numerous smaller villages with a combined population of more than 1000.

The people of these communities are subsistence farmers relying entirely on the seasons and hard work to survive. They are disadvantaged by isolation and poverty and lack access to basic services. Their most urgent needs have always been for healthcare and education.

Thanks to the friendship and dedication of a local visionary Minkailu Bantama (Mallam), and funding from friends in the UK and Australia, the Yiben community built a school to bring education and opportunity to their children. The school serves a number of other villages and places Yiben as a 'hub' for the area.

With access to education achieved, healthcare became Yiben's priority. Now they have built a government-standard healthcare facility so they can access safe birthing facilities, maternal and child services, national health programs and basic treatments for common ailments.



A chief in his own community near Fadugu, Mallam has strived for education and healthcare for the people of this remote area since 2006. Working closely with Yiben's Chief Bangalie and Mammy Queen Serah, Mallam has brought their dreams of a school and health clinic to reality.

It's an inspiring story!



Top: The tiny schoolroom in 2011 with 30 children. Above: Their new school which opened in Sept 2012 now has 60 students and 4 teachers.



Above: The first stage of the Maternal and Child Health Post is complete. S4LA is continuing to help improve the facilities, extend the basic services and support community health.

SET4LIFE Australia

SET4LIFE Australia is a small fundraising group based in the regional Queensland city of Gympie. Our members began working with Mallam to support the development of the Yiben School in 2011. We were involved in the establishment of the UK-based charity Set4Life in 2013, and in 2015 our group established Set4Life Australia (S4LA) as a separate charity to increase our fund-raising capacity.

Set4Life UK continues to support the school while S4LA is committed to funding and facilitating health services.

With Mallam's management, the community's hard work and our funding, work began on their clinic in 2016. Three years later, the Yiben Maternal and Child Health Post is operational with two permanent government nurses embraced into the community and providing full-time services.

S4LA has also funded a large motor boat that provides river access much of the way from Fadugu for 6-7 months of the year.

Gympie's connection with Yiben began when hometown nurse and midwife, Amy Coates volunteered her skills in Sierra Leone in 2009. She worked there over several years in different areas of health development and her mum Jude, a Gympie teacher, visited twice. In 2011, with Mallam as guide, Jude spent a week in Yiben helping in the fledgling school. Inspired by the DIY ambitions of the village, and Mallam's capacity and compassion, Jude and friends began their fundraising. Amy now works for World Health Org. in Geneva and brings to the team her passion for health development and her wealth of connections and experience in Sierra Leone.

Below: S4LA members, Karen, Amy and Jude were welcomed by the community for the opening of the clinic building in Sept 2017.

