



Dr. Bernice Dahn MD, MPH
Minister of Health

Brief Profile

Dr. Dahn received degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1996 from the A.M. Dogliotti College of Medicine, University of Liberia and a Bachelor of Science in Zoology degree in 1987 from the T. J. Faulkner College of Science & Technology, University. She also earned a Master's of Public Health in 2005 from the School of Public Health & Community Medicine at the University of Washington. She has 19 years of experience as a public health physician, administrator, policy-maker and educator. This experience includes her previous assignment as Deputy Minister and Chief Medical Officer of the Republic of Liberia for approximately eight years with oversight of about 150million USD of projects. Her role has included leadership, supervision

and management of national and partner staff, donor and partner coordination and strategic and ambitious agenda setting. In this position, she spearheaded the establishment of a Postgraduate Medical Education for Physicians and Surgeons in Liberia, which started in 2013.

Previous to her role as Deputy Minister and Chief Medical Officer she served as the Reproductive Health Advisor for UNFPA for four years, Family Health Director at the Ministry of Health for three years and a year as the Director for Nutrition, at the Ministry of Health. Since 2005, she served as an Assistant Professor for Public Health at the A. M. Dogliotti College of Medicine, University of Liberia.



Dr. Francis N. Kateh MD, MPH, MHA,
Deputy Minister for Health Services/Chief Medical Officer R.L.

Brief Profile

Education

Dr. Francis Kateh earned a certificate in

2009 in Healthcare Leadership and Administrative Decision Making Course, Center for Domestic Preparedness (FEMA) - Aniston, AL and in 2008, (MPS/HSL) Master of Professional Studies in Homeland Security Leadership, University of Connecticut, Storrs, he has a (MHA) Master of Health Administration, Governors State University, University Park, IL in 2004 and did Internship at John F. Kennedy Memorial Medical Center in Monrovia. Deputy Minister Kateh got a degree Doctor of Medicine, MD, Spartan Health Sciences University, Vieux Fort, St. Lucia after he did undergraduate studies at MacMurray College, Jacksonville, IL. with a BSc. In Biology.

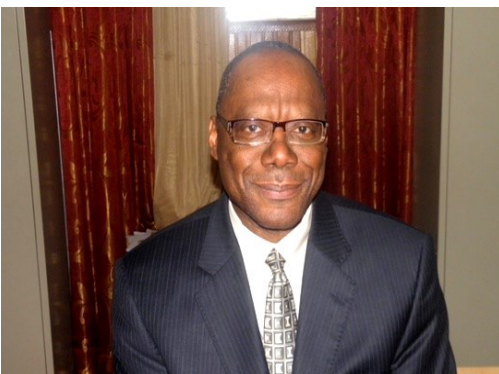
Work Experience

Armed with the necessary Dr. Kateh served as Deputy Incident Manager, Medical Response/Planning from 09/2014 to Present of the Incident Management System, National Ebola Response. He was appointed as Medical Director/ Chief Executive Officer of Jack-

son F. Doe Memorial Regional Referral Hospital in Tappita Nimba County in August of 2010. From May 2004 to August 2010, He served as Public Health Director at the Anson County Health Department, Wadesboro, North Carolina, USA. Dr. Then worked with the Pfeiffer University Graduate Program, Health Administration, Charlotte, NC where he became Adjunct Professor between May of 2008 and march of 2011. He also served as Chief Medical Officer of Ganta United Methodist Hospital, Gumpa City, Nimba County from February 1998 to May 2001. Dr. Francis Nah Kateh is currently Deputy Minister for Health Services and Chief Medical Officer of the Republic of Liberia.

Other Awards

Distinguished Young Alumni Award – 2001, MacMurray College Community Leadership Award- 2006, Spencer United Methodist Church, Charlotte, NC



Mr. Edward B. Tolbert, MBA, CPA
Deputy Minister for Administration

Brief Profile

Prior to his nomination by the president of Liberia and pending confirmation by the Liberian senate as Deputy Minister for Administration at the Ministry of Health (MOH), Mr. Edward B. Tolbert served as director of Government funds at the General Auditing commission (GAC), at which time he managed over 15 Audit Units and more forty Audits of Government ministries and agencies ; including the consoli-

dated funds Audit of the Government of Liberia for the fiscal year 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 and the financial audit of the MOH for the fiscal period ended July 30, 2012

As Director Government of Liberia Funds Audits, Mr. Tolbert had the highest responsibility in the Audit Service Division of the GAC as evidenced by the fact that he provide supervision for over 135 professional Auditors and was responsible to provide managerial and technical oversight for audits of over 35 government Ministries and Agencies, 15 counties as well as pool of donor funding that flowed through the country's financial management systems. Some of the units supervised by Mr. Tolbert included, Performance Audit Unit, County and Social Development Funds (SDF & CDF) Audits, Ministries, Donor Funds Audit, Public Debt Audit. The conduct of these Audit were highly crucial for post-war Liberia Considering their Scope and nature.

Formerly, Mr. Tolbert Studied and worked in corporate America for 30 Years (1982-2012). He Obtained a master of Business Administration degree in Accounting from the University of Nebraska and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics from the University of Liberia He is

a seasoned certified Public Accountant (CPA), Licensed to practice in Washington Dc, and is an active Member of the American institute of Certified Public (AICPA).

Mr. Tolbert has over 12 years work experience in Healthcare institution in Different Portfolios including the American Postal Worker Union (APWU) Health Plan where he served as finance Manager, The George Washington University Healthcare plan where he served as accounting Manager and the Greater Southeast Healthcare system (GSCH) where he last served as Director of Accounting during a period of 10 years.

Mr. Tolbert has over 14 years of experience in Healthcare managerial functions to include Auditing, Assurance & Attestation engagement, Financial management and advisory services. Performance area include financial statement Audits (in accordance with the OMB Circular A -123,133,136,CFO Act ,GAO FAM & GAGAS– Yellow Books), Regularity Audits (in accordance with the INTOSAI and AFROSAI-E Standards), reporting, Financial Analyses, Accounting, Budgeting, Accounting Policy, Reconciliations Audit Readiness and Business Process Improvements.



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Phase III Ebola Outbreak: A View from Needowein Community

- The second outbreak of EVD ended on May 9
- A new outbreak was declared on June 29, 2015 after a swab sample of a 17 year old boy tested positive.
- A total of six confirmed positive cases were reported
- Four of the cases survived in the ETU (two died the first and last cases).
- The current case fatality rate is 33%
- Over the outbreak, a total of 141 high risk contacts were listed and followed up in Margibi -124 and Montserrado—17
- Three of the contacts became symptomatic (Margibi-2, mont.-1)
- List of high risk contacts were securely sent to all ports of entry
- Suspected cases who tested negative from the outbreak and later discharged were followed up for 21 days
- There are no contacts presently under follow up
- Margibi , Mont. And Bong were declared response counties while the other 12 counties were alert counties

14 Health Staff end precautionary observation at Unification Town Clinic



A View of Unification Town Clinic in Margibi County

were re-integrated in their respective communities. The health workers completed their 21 days observation period when none of them showed signs and symptoms of the Ebola virus Disease. During the period of observation for signs and symptoms of the EVD the health workers were provided with food and other psychosocial support..

At a mini ceremony held in Unification Town, Margibi County which was witnessed by a cross section of people including MOH partners, families, friends and the general public. On behalf of the Unification Town Clinic (UTC) staff, the OIC expressed gratitude to government and partners for the level of support and encouragement during their period of observation. She later registered seriously the need for Government to renovate and upgrade the clinic's triage facility to create shelter for patients awaiting triage routine.

Fourteen health care workers who were under precautionary observations for treating a positive EVD case



Dr. Walter Gwenigale Honorably Retired with Distinction



Pres. Sirleaf Honors Dr. Gwenigale

Former Minister of Health, Dr. Walter T. Gwenigale, honorably retired from active duty after providing more than forty two years of invaluable and dedicated services to Liberia and humanity in the medical field.

Dr. Gwenigale was honored by President Sirleaf during a well-attended special Program on recently at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to recognize his outstanding accomplishments and long service to his country and people.

Legislators, Ministers and the Diplomatic Corps, Health Workers, family, friends and well wishers were in full attendance to demonstrate their gratitude and appreciation of his invaluable services to humanity.

Dr. Gwenigale was admitted into the Most Venerable Order of the Pioneers with the Grade of Knight Grand Commander, one of the nation's highest distinctions, by President Sirleaf who is Grand Master of the Orders of Distinction.

Madam Sirleaf praised Dr. Gwenigale, as a symbolic icon with a commitment and diligence to duty and public service that all must endeavor to emulate in upholding the public trust that has been bestowed upon us as a government.

She reiterated that "Dr. Gwenigale's life and service is "a masterful manifestation of a humble and exemplary life that comes on par with nothing short of unassuming excellence." She added, "Dr. Gwenigale will be remembered as one of my best-serving Cabinet Ministers that I could count on for sound judgment and profoundly good advice. Dr. Gwenigale is one

man who epitomizes the philosophy of doing for his country and not asking what his country can do for him. Imagine the nightmare in the heat of our conflict when various Liberian professionals, including doctors, were fleeing for their lives. Dr. Gwenigale remained to be of service to his country, saving lives at Phebe Hospital when he could have fled," President Sirleaf said.

It can be recall that during the Civil War days, unlike other professional Dr. Gwenigale placed an inclined patriotic pride in service and duty before family, which the president referred to as a mark of inherent selflessness and devotion to humanity. "We can all appreciate the daring risk he took serving and saving the lives of people, some of whom could put his life in danger," she stressed. "Our nation has an obligation to venerate our distinguished honoree who throughout more than a decade of civil strife defied the odds and served the country - focusing on practicing his noble profession by saving lives even after Liberia's post-war quasi-democratic political transition."

"We as a people must adore his nationalism and acceptance to work in Liberia's first post-conflict truly elected democratic administration. In his statesmanlike persona he has never shied away from the principles that have always guided his sense of judgment and belonging. Such principles have always been informed by fairness, hard work, free will, free expression, honesty and bluntness," she said Dr. Gwenigale dared to disagree with her, and was sometimes cantankerous and often meddlesome" which laughter and applause. "said the President.

President Sirleaf told the audience that during Dr. Gwenigale's last Cabinet meeting, where he seized the opportunity to say goodbye to his colleagues, he received a tumultuous standing ovation, attesting to the respect and admiration of his colleagues.

"I must say Dr. Gwenigale is not retiring for vacation but is returning to his roots where he has become known as a household farming name as one of the biggest farmers growing a variety of staples not only for sustenance but creating employment opportunities for fellow

Liberians who now have profitable livelihoods. You can now go on your farm and drink your palm wine," the President told her highly appreciated former Health Minister amid more applause.

In closing, President Sirleaf quoted the late U.S. Major General George S. Patton, who said: "If everybody is thinking alike, then somebody isn't thinking. Surely, that aptly suits your outspokenness," she concluded.

Dr. Gwenigale extended his honor and appreciation to the many health workers who worked with him during his career, lauding them for helping to make him successful. He said the distinction he received was also for them.

"Madam, I want to thank you for this great honor, but I want to receive it not just for myself but all the health workers and my staff who have worked with me, both at Phebe, and at the Health Ministry. I could not have done anything by myself except with the people that worked with me."

He paid homage to his departed parents and expressed appreciation to his family particularly his wife, Carmen. She raised and educated our children while I served in Liberia and for standing by me when I made those difficult decisions that affected them. Among the audience was Dr. Gwenigale's younger son, Raymond Gwenigale, Esquire and legal counsel at International Bank (Liberia) Limited. His siblings are Walter Gwenigale, Jr. and Mrs. Carmen Ogoli.

Dr. Gwenigale lauded the Lutheran Church of Liberia for educating him. He thanked President Sirleaf for her leadership during the most difficult time in Liberia's history, and for her resilience to remain steadfast, especially during the Ebola crisis.

On behalf of the Cabinet, Foreign Minister Augustine Ngafuan, said though they had drunk greatly from the fountain of knowledge of their veteran colleague, they will surely miss his presence during their meetings.

Presenting gifts on behalf of the cabinet was the Minister of Gender and Children, Madam Julia Duncan Cassell, who shared some of Dr. G's famous lines, among them his advice to them to sometimes say no to the President.

tion that we have the capacity to deal with this issue," he said.

"Today we are putting them out. Abide by the rules, you know the rules," he added.

"The Ebola situation we are under now is very dangerous. I want to tell my friends that we have to be very mindful of other things," said one of the survivors, Cassius Kollie, 24.

Dr. Adolphus Yei, County Health Officer of the Margibi County Health said it was a good day for the health team of Margibi County.

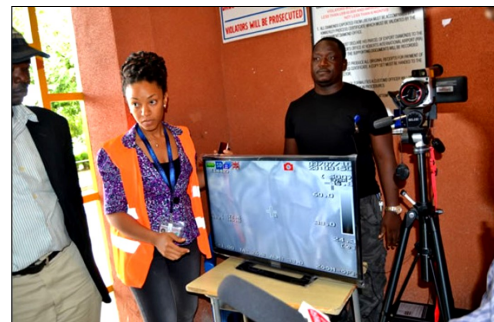
"I consider myself the happiest man in this group because to have people entering the ETU and recovering is a good thing...engaging these vigorous activities to break the chain of transmission and so that our people can survive has proven to be effective." The four Ebola survivors were immediately admitted into the membership of the Liberia Ebola Survivors Network, a group links and advocate for survivors, before being returned home with food rations, mattresses and beddings.

Ministry of Health institute new safety measures to Prevent Ebola



Dr. Francis Kateh Briefs Press on New Technology

The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Health has installed New Temperature Electronic Scanners at the Roberts International Airport, Liberia's Interna-



RIA Staff Demonstrates the advantages of Scanners

tional Airport.

The three Electronic scanners were provided by the Government of Japan to buttress gov-

ernment's efforts in containing the deadly Ebola virus at Liberia's Port of entry.

President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has expressed confidence that the recent outbreak of the Ebola virus disease outbreak in lower Margibi County will soon be put under control. "I am confident that the situation will be put under control," she asserted. The Liberian President made the statement at the Robert International Airport (RIA) where she inspected the three brand new electronic scan-



Pres. Sirleaf Takes a glance at the Thermal Scanners

measures and new mechanisms have been put in place," the Liberian Chief Executive assured.

In separate remarks, Liberia's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Francis Nah Kateh and the Head of the Incident Management System, Tolbert Nyenswah, said surveillance and contact tracing are in place at the various borders, but noted that government was doing everything possible to ensure that the virus in neighboring countries does not cross over into Liberia and urged Liberians to continue following safety measures.

ners installed there meant to detect elevated body temperature even at a distance of 10 meters away.

In remarks, the President Sirleaf told journalists that Liberia has the capacity to adequately put the current Ebola outbreak under control. This comment is made clear by the robust response made by the Incident Management System immediately to the situation when it was discovered. "Let the word go out, Liberia is containing the new outbreak as new

Also making remarks during the inspection tour, the Chairman of Board of RIA, Mr. Gbehzongar Milton Findley, said he was impressed with the level of progress made at the Airport and pointed out that measures are being put in place for those who leaving Liberia, leave with the right temperature; while those coming into Liberia come with the right temperature.

Community Health Division holds Three days retreat



Participants at the Community Health retreat

The Community Health Retreat was conceived by the Community Health Services Division and its partners and was held from May 27-29, 2015 in Gbarnga, Bong County. Over 100 participants from 50 organizations, governmental and non-governmental programs were in attendance, including Ministry of Health (MOH) departments and County Health Team representatives, UN agencies, bilateral and donor agencies, local NGOs, and international NGOs.

The retreat provided an open forum for robust discussion among diverse partners via key government and partner presentations and working group sessions. Ultimately, retreat participants achieved consensus on key issues and made recommendations regarding a national community health workforce program and other relevant policies and plans for the Ministry's consideration. By engaging stakeholders throughout the policy and program planning processes, the retreat enabled Liberia to envision and plan for a stronger community health program. Via this participatory process, before and during the retreat, the Community Health Road Map was updated to reflect MOH's health system restoration priorities. The update includes a six-month Action Plan focused on revising the existing Community Health Services

Strategy and Plan by the end of 2015 and preparing for the launch of the national community health workforce program in January 2016.

The retreat was successfully implemented with generous contributions from Last Mile Health and International Rescue Committee PACS project as well as the support of the Liberia Ministry of Health.

Four EVD Survivors Discharged from ETU



Four of the Survivors at the ELWA ETU

The remaining confirmed Ebola cases in the Third Wave were discharged from the ELWA Ebola treatment unit the week of July 20, 2015.

This means that there are no more confirmed cases of the disease in Liberia.

The four discharged were part of the Neddowein (Margibi County) cluster discovered in late June during a third wave outbreak of the disease

Two persons—a 17-year-old boy and a 20-year-old woman—have died since this new wave of the disease.

At a short ceremony marking the certification of the survivors, the head of Liberia's Ebola response, Tolbert Nyenswah said their release was not only a victory of the current wave of the disease but a vote of confidence in the country's infection prevention and control system.

"You look very healthy; we see you like young people coming from the football field," he told the four discharged patients.

"This is the capacity we have right now to save lives. When we speak of capacity that is what we are talking about. You can bring confirmed people here, cure them and discharge them. We have a strong team to save the lives of these people. The ETU (Ebola treatment unit) is not a death camp; you can come here and survive. This is what we can demonstrate even if Ebola comes back. This is a clear manifesta-