



Action Project Reference: 59-02

Organisation: Cure Kids

### Action Project Proposal:

# “Create a report reviewing how RHD Fiji's mission and programmes support the FNDP and UN SDGs?”

## Who Are Cure Kids?

In June 2014, a partnership project commenced with the aim of preventing and reducing the impact of rheumatic heart disease (RHD) in the Fiji Islands. Cure Kids is working collaboratively with the Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Auckland District Health Board, and the Centre for International Child Health at Murdoch Children’s Research Institute.

- Affects one in 50 children, yet is a preventable condition
- Fiji has one of the highest known rates in the world
- A leading cause of death for young people
- The second most common cause of death for pregnant women
- In partnership with AccorHotels, the Fiji Ministry of Health and world-leading RHD experts from Australia and NZ, Cure Kids is leading a national-level, research-based project, improving and building capacity across all aspects of RHD control and prevention

RHD is a serious heart condition that occurs following an attack of Acute Rheumatic Fever (ARF) which can occur after a strong immune response to a throat infection caused by a Group A Streptococcus (‘strep throat’ infection). If appropriate antibiotic treatment is not administered,

inflammation of the heart can cause scarring of the heart valves resulting in significant morbidity and possible death. In Fiji it is common for children to present to clinical services late – already with symptomatic RHD – which means they are often too late for adequate treatment.

RHD is a significant health problem in Fiji, with the Pacific region having one of the highest reported RHD incidences in the world. Echocardiography-confirmed RHD prevalence in Fijian children, aged 5-14 years, is 35.4 per 1,000 which equates to approximately one child in every classroom living with RHD.

In Fiji, at least 60 deaths a year are attributed to RHD.

### **Mission:**

The goal is to expand and strengthen the existing Fiji Rheumatic Heart Disease Control Programme to include developing new models of ARF/RHD care and prevention with the aim of reducing RHD related morbidity and mortality. Fundamental to Project outputs is an effective national co-ordination structure for the Fiji RHD Control Programme (Fiji MOH). Increasing capacity at this level will provide a governance model that can continue beyond the life of the Project.

### **Long Term Aims & Vision:**

Output 1: Register-based secondary prevention programme operational including quality improvement processes

Output 2: Best practice guidelines for clinical care for arf/rhd implemented and monitored against benchmarks

Output 3: A model for early detection of arf/rhd cases developed and implemented nationally

Output 4: Primary prevention guidelines developed and implemented including health promotion

### **Further Information:**

Cure Kids would like help writing a report reviewing their mission/goals/programmes to evaluate how they align and support the Fiji National Development Plan (FNDP) and the UN's

Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Cure Kids are involved in many projects and want to understand how these projects align with the FNDP. Increased clarity on how they contribute to national development will support RHD team when reporting to Ministry regarding their national policy and budget submissions, the creation of a Civil Service Organisation. Overall this will help them to ensure we are contributing effectively towards Fiji's development and future.

## Key Research & Discussion Areas:

### PLAN AND DELIVER ...

- Research and understand the RHD programme (via the website, social media and reports)
- Research the FNDP as well as the UN's SDGs.
- What are the key aims of RHD programme? How does the current program fit in with the mission aims and values of the FNDP, as well as the UN SDGs?
- How will you add value to this analysis? Suggesting improvements for the RHD program?
- Using examples of other programs e.g. Cure Kids New Zealand to see how effective their programs are, then apply this to Fiji?
- What key deadlines need to be met?
- In what format will you present and share the report?

### CONTENT

- How are you going to structure your report?
- What examples of similar reports can you find which help you identify the major content and design components?
- What key points from your report will you chose to highlight in your recorded presentation at the end of your internship?

### BARRIERS

- What are the main challenges/areas for improvement for this program?
  - Can you provide suggestions on how to address these?
  - What have other organisations/countries done to combat these?

- What are the main barriers to the development and delivery of a successful report?
  - What are the potential solutions to these problems?

## EVALUATION

- How will you make sure there's an element of longevity in this project?
- How will you access whether your project meets the aims and objectives of this AP?
- What tips could you give to future interns doing this project?
- Are there any further areas of research you could recommend to future interns/Cure Kids?

## Useful Links:

- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/curekidsfiji/>
- Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/curekidsfiji/>
- Website - <https://curekids.org.fj/rheumatic-heart-disease/>
- For more information about RHD - <http://rhdaction.org/>
- Organisation Profile - <https://thinkpacific.com/action-project-cure-kids/>
- Fiji Government - [Rheumatic Heart Disease](#)
- Report on [Fiji Guidelines for Acute Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease Diagnosis, Management and Prevention](#)
- Evaluating the RHD Disease control programme - <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/assets/Aid-Prog-docs/Evaluations/2019/Cure-Kids/Complete-Evaluation-of-the-Fiji-Islands-Rheumatic-Heart-Disease-Control.pdf>

## Further Questions

Are there any questions you would like to ask Cure Kids to assist in completing this project?

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