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Executive Officer
Rob Oerleman
Lions Australia

Community grants for oversea projects defibrillators for Timor Leste

Dear Sir,

Not sure whether you do this or not, but I have just returned from Timor Leste. As an associate and registered nurse of the Mary Mackillop East Timor Institute I went to Timor leste to get a first had look at the health and educational needs of the East Timorese. A visit to the local national hospital and community clinic came as a bit of an eye opener. The nursing staff informed me that they did not have a heartstarter or defibrillator. Currently patients suffering a cardiac arrest just die if CPR is not effective. International research and best practice recommends that a fibrillating heart should be shocked within 5minutes no later then 10min. Defibrillation is now considered basic life support and many first aid , workplaces and clubs in Australia are purchasing them as part of their first aid equipment.

Therefore I offered and the hospital accepted my offer to fundraise back in Australia for a Semi Automatic Defibrillator or AED. This machine talks the attendant through the emergency cardiac arrest . The machines cost \$2000, getting the voice over into the local language Tetum or Indonesian costs another \$2000 a trainer machine and manikin \$700 and spare batteries and pads another \$500 all up around \$5200. As I will be trainer and volunteer all travel accommodation and living expenses would be my responsibility and would not be part of the cost. So if your organisation or staff think this is a project which might be worth getting behind, I would be more then happy to discuss. All money would go the Sisters of St Joseph Mary Mckillop Institute Health - First Aid Project. The institute contact is Sister Josephine Mitchell on 96232847. All donations are tax deductible. The machine we are considering getting can be viewed at web site www.defibtech.com

Any assistance no matter how small would be greatly appreciated and acknowledged. Happy for this email to be passed on to other districts for consideration.

kind regards

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