Introducing OpenMRS: Building Local Capacity through FOSS + Health IT



DR. JULIUS AWAKAME - LESLIE HAWTHORN

Dr. Julius Awakame

- Origin: Ghanaian Psychiatrist based in the UK
- Status: Part-time PhD Health Informatics Student
 - University of Leeds
- PhD topic: Challenges & Opportunities of using mobile tele-psychiatry in SSA, focus on Ghana
- Method: OpenMRS/ODK based mobile platform







Leslie Hawthorn











III INDIANA UNIVERSITY

FROM TWO PARTNERS TO ONE COMMUNITY.

2004: INDIANA UNIVERSITY & PARTNERS IN HEALTH

VIRAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP:

HEALTH IT PLATFORMS CREATE GLOBAL SYNERGY.









...INDIVIDUAL RELATIONSHIPS.





LOCAL. NATIONAL. WORLDWIDE.

COLLABORATION KNOWS NO BOUNDS.



Global OpenMRS Implementations - 1 Ghana Mobile Tele-psychiatry (PhD) Project



- Ghana's Population = 24million
- Estimated number of mod./severe psych. Problems = 600,000
- Number of psychiatrists = 5
- Moves to breakup lunatic asylums = 3 large ones in Ghana
- OpenMRS will support Community Based Treatment & Rehab
- Http://www.wahifp.org/ghanatelepsychiatry.html

Global OpenMRS Deployments - 2

- National Medical Record System Rwanda.
- Crade-to-grave EHCR.
- First on such a scale in SSA.
- For a country being built from scratch.
- Removes perception OpenMRS is only for small small scale 'village' deployments.

Global OpenMRS Deployments - 3 OpenMRS Business Start-ups

- eHealth Systems In Santiago, Chile
- An OpenMRS-based start-up company providing:
 - Health IT consulting
 - Implementation services
- FOSS for medicine business model forum being considered soon in Ghana.
- Critical for success propagation of OpenMRS

Global OpenMRS Deployments - 4 Millennium Villages Project (s)

- Large multi-centre projects truly global
- More than 10 centres spread across the globe –
 Ghana, Nigeria, Malawi, Kenya etc.
- Usually in severely deprived regions.
- Adopt holistic approach to health including agriculture, education, health, business development etc

OpenMRS – What You Need To Begin - 1

- Clean the dust off that old PC Box.
- Join the OpenMRS Implementer/Developer Community
- Download the standalone version to try
- Learn to read the wikis.
- Attend the OpenMRS Conferences and workshops
- Attend OpenMRS University.

OpenMRS – What You Need To Begin - 2

- Empathy with those who are suffering.
- Desire to sacrifice to do something about the problems of the underprivileged.
- Strong motivation and be self-reliant even in an online community.
- Humility to ask for help when needed: OpenMRS has a sharp learning curve.
- Interest in computing and computer programming knowledge in general – Java, JavaScript, MySQL, HTML, XForms, HL7.

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THANK YOU

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danke



spasibi

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toda raba

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murakoze

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asante sana

ngiyabonga

ndatenda

謝謝大家

terima kasih