International Geneva Directory of Swiss Global Health Actors

Associazione per l'aiuto medico al Centro America | AMCA

http://www.amca.ch/

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

"Associazione per l'aiuto medico al Centro America" (AMCA) has been founded in August 1985 from 30 doctors, some trade unions and various third-world-focused associations. After 35 years, AMCA activities and partnerships has developed and increased. With its healthcare and social projects it promoted interventions directly targeted to support most fragile part of the population, especially women and children. AMCA's vision is to have a better world in which everyone could live in a safer, well established and rights-based existence, built on the concept of solidarity. Its mission is to be partner with institutions, community and people of the most fragile part of Central America, and to support aid and development projects, with the ultimate goal of improve quality of healthcare services and living conditions of those population. Values of AMCA are access to healthcare, quality of care, non-profit efforts, transparency and a special attention to local communities.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Pediatric hematology and oncology
- End of life and palliative care
- Maternal and newborn care
- Access to healthcare
- Local staff training

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

AMCA supports the development of public funded healthcare system through collaborative projects with institutions, private actors, associations and civil society organizations of democratic countries in Central America. They act and promote research in the medical field as well as the introduction of new technologies in target countries. Healthcare interventions have the overarching goal to improve socio-economic conditions of actors and target population of the projects. AMCA promotes parallel structure to hospitals to receive people, preferring projects with a long-term sustainability, working to let patients to stay at home with their families and to be followed by the nearest healthcare facility. This has been achieved also by in loco staff training in this field. With MdM Suisse, AMCA created a network for palliative care and neonatal emergencies in Berta Calderon and Managua hospital. Also in the last year has been renovating the pediatric oncology ward in Mascota de Managua hospital to radically improve healthcare access for children with cancer. Also the analysis department has been renovated.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

The General Assembly is the highest body and elects the Committee, where Marina Carobbio Guscetti and Patrizia Froesch are serving as co-presidents. In the committee there are also a technical director (Franco Cavalli), a trasurer (Andrea Sartori) and other 5 members. Activities of the board are supported by a Secretariat and secretary-general is currently Manuela Cattaneo Chicus. At the end of 2018, there are 982 members and 3857 supporters. 50 people were volunteering both in Switzerland and in Nicaragua.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

Fund raising in 2018 has reached more than CHF 370.000 of non-linked revenues and CHF 400.000 of bound donations.

PUBLICATIONS

Report, bulletins and newsletters are available at http://www.amca.ch/cosa-facciamo/#pubblicazioni

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