

CENTRE FOR INTEGRATED HEALTH PROGRAMS



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: MID YEAR | FY23

***“It's not about the shoes, it's about the
right type and the right size of shoes...”***

Dr. Bolanle Oyeledun,

Candid Conversations with Bola. O Series, March 2023



CIHP BAGS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE AT CDC 2022 BIENNIAL PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REVIEW MEETING



CEO, CIHP, Dr. Bola Oyeledun receiving award at the event

Between 19th and 20th of October 2022, CIHP participated in a two-day CDC Biannual Program Performance Review meeting/2022 End of Project Cycle Symposium which brought together stakeholders and implementing partners from all 19 PEPFAR supported states.

The event which reviewed the HIV program progress in Nigeria, as supported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/the U.S President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) witnessed interactive discussions that had stakeholders and participants contribute meaningfully.

The event also marked the end of a five-year Project Cycle. For CIHP, the event was a close-out/dissemination of its Partnering Effectively to end AIDS through Results and Learning (PEARL) project.

During the event, CIHP was recognized with an award of Public Health Excellence for her innovative approach to HIV case finding and linkage to ART. Awards were also presented to Gombe and Lagos states (two of the four states) where CIHP implements.



Group photo of IP, CDC, and PEPFAR

While appreciating PEPFAR/CDC, CIHP looks forward to a continued partnership for a sustained effort of improving health outcomes and transforming lives in Nigeria.

"ORANGE THE WORLD": CIHP COLLABORATES WITH STAKEHOLDERS ACROSS SUPPORTED STATES TO RAISE AWARENESS ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

From 25th November to 10th December 2022, CIHP joined the rest of the world to commemorate the annual 16 days of activism aimed at raising awareness on ending violence against women and girls. With the theme, Unite! Activism to End violence against women and girls, activities held across our supported states (Lagos, Kaduna, Kogi and Gombe states) to drive home the message and further encourage residents to do away with harmful norms that perpetuate violence.



To address the rising cases of gender-based violence, CIHP held sensitization meetings with police officers in Lagos, with the aim of strengthening multi-sectoral collaboration among state actors towards ensuring positive outcomes for GBV survivors. In Kogi, there was awareness walk, in-school sensitization and advocacy visits to chiefs and heads of vigilante group, while Kaduna among other activities leveraged on a radio talk show at Hamada FM 93.1 in collaboration with supported community-based organizations and Sexual Assault Referral Centres.

With Hon. Hafsat Mohammed Baba - Commissioner, Ministry of Human Service and Social Development, Kaduna state as guest speaker, the radio conversations further strengthened calls ending gender-based violence.

In Gombe state, there were massive sensitization rallies across its entire clusters, with a spotlight on Bajoga, a community in Funakaye LGA with high incidence of GBV against women and girls. The rally held in collaboration with law enforcement agents, community leaders and Union of commercial motorbike riders.



Staff commemorating orange the world activity in world activity



#COOLGIRLS MOBILE APP: CIHP LAUDED FOR INNOVATIVENESS DURING ROUND TABLE SERIES

In line with our mandate to reduce the risk of HIV infection and transmission especially among Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW), CIHP hosted a round table series to unveil its innovative CoolGirls mobile app in spirit of the 16 days activism to end Violence against women and girls.

The event which held on the 10th December in Lagos, featured insightful discussions about our #coolgirls mobile app and its benefits to adolescent girls and young women.

Developed to empower AGYW on sexual and reproductive health issues for HIV prevention and treatment support, the Coolgirls program presents a non-judgmental safe space where they can Dream, Aspire, Evolve and Reboot through Mentorship, Engagement and Empowerment "DARE to be MEE"



Cool Girls Kaduna



Group photo of participants at the #CoolGirls round table series

With adolescent girls and young women across Lagos brought together, the event also had in attendance different stakeholders including representatives of National Agency for the Control of Aids (NACA) and the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC), who gave goodwill messages and commended CIHP for the laudable innovation and continued impact in the society at large.

The Coolgirls mobile app is an offshoot of CIHP's home-grown initiative #coolgirlssafe&connected series, which during the COVID 19 pandemic related movement restrictions remotely connected over 250 adolescent girls and young women within ages 15-24 in Lagos and Kaduna states, via a social media platform (Whatsapp group).

WORLD AIDS DAYS 2022: CIHP JOINS GLOBAL CALL ADDRESSING INEQUALITIES LIMITING PROGRESS ON ENDING AIDS

Towards a sustained effort at supporting people living with HIV and remembering those who have died from AIDS-related illnesses, every year on December 1, World AIDS Day is commemorated.

Last year's event witnessed CIHP join the global observance with activities in line with the year 2023 theme - "Equalize to End AIDS: Equal Access to Treatment & Prevention Services" across all its states of implementation.

In Lagos, CIHP joined the Lagos State Aids Control Agency (LSACA) team and other partners in an awareness walk, while also participating in a sexual reproductive health outreach at Jakande community, Alimosho Amuwo command and sensitization rally at General Hospital Mushin, where free HIV testing services were carried out. There was free distribution of condoms and lubricants with sensitization on usage to prevent further spread of the virus.



Group photo of participants with US CDC Country Director, Dr Mary Boyd

There was equally a representation of team at the WAD commemoration at US Consul General's residence in Lagos. In Gombe, alongside sensitizations which kicked-off at the Emir's palace, CIHP sponsored free HIV testing of pediatrics/adolescents. Similar activities were also carried out in Kaduna and Kogi.

The call is for a combined effort to boldly recognize and address the inequalities holding back progress in ending AIDS

CANDID CONVERSATIONS WITH BOLA.O: ARE WE EQUALLY YOKED?



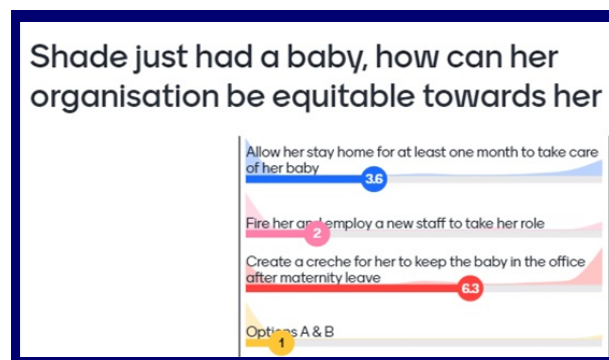
Panelists at the March 2023 Candid Conversations with Bola .O series

In commemoration of this year's International Women's Day, the Candid Conversation with Bola.O series held in March 2023, with a focus on practical ways the society can embrace equity for a more gender inclusive society. The conversations included sessions which encouraged women to take bold steps towards leadership, as well as taking part in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

During the conversations, the host, Dr. Bola Oyeledun highlighted the importance of equity in the society as well as the discriminatory experiences that women face in the society and how organizations should be equitable towards women. In her words:

"It's not about the shoes, it's about the right type of shoes and the right size of shoes"

The program included an interactive mentimeter survey which highlighted the perceptions of participants concerning gender norms at the work space. In addition, they also participated in a quiz session focused on women who have impacted and are still impacting the world regardless of their gender.



Result from mentimeter survey during the CCWBO event

Participants at the event also shared their experiences citing possible ways the society can adopt equitable policies and practices that would erode gender biases. In line with the International Women's Day theme, participants were encouraged to embrace equity.



Contribution from participants at the event



A cross section of panelists and participants embracing equity

Comments from
Candid Conversations
with Bola.O

Women need to show commitment
towards bridging the gender gap
- Sannom Hayab

Comments from
Candid Conversations
with Bola.O

Women already in the STEM space
can mentor those coming behind.
-Dr. Modupe Elendu

Peer to peer engagement of women
in STEM can overcome some of the
barriers particularly the initial fear of
"it is difficult or it is a man's job ". It
becomes easy to run with and
manage for the best.
- Collins Imarhiagbe

WORLD TUBERCULOSIS DAY 2023

Yes! We can end TB

On world TB day, CIHP collaborated with stakeholders in line with the theme, "Yes! We can End TB", to raise awareness on tuberculosis among the general public across its implementing states.

With activities such as awareness road walk, community sensitization outreaches and press briefings, conversations around preventing the virus were strengthened. During the event, TB screening and HIV testing services were provided to participants while those with active TB cases were linked facilities nearest to them for treatment.

As a way of further sensitizing communities, a live chat session held on CIHP official Facebook page with the TB Lead Dr. Audu Usman, to discuss the impact of TB on individuals and the world at large, as well as collective efforts needed to eradicate the disease.

In Lagos, Kogi and Gombe for instance, the world TB day event further strengthened collaboration and synergy between CIHP, state ministry of health and other stakeholders.



A group photo of participants in Lagos during the World TB Day commemoration

INTERNATIONAL ADOLESCENT WEEK 2023



A group photo of adolescents during the IAHW 2023 commemoration

On the 28th of March, CIHP hosted adolescents in Lagos to a one-day activity in celebration of the International Adolescent Week (IAHW 2023).

Participants at the event were treated to fun activities as well as interactive sessions which included discussions on sexual and reproductive health.

The theme of the IAHW event was 'With and For Adolescents: Building a Healthier and More Inclusive Future'

EDITORIAL

CEO
Dr. Bolanle Oyeledun

Editor:
Dr. Francis Ogirima

Writer & Graphics
Pamela Alna Olorunda

Content Contributors:
Pitan Opeyemi, Ezinne Akinola, Olajumoke E. Ojo,
Lois Aigbe

Photos: CIHP (Abuja, Lagos, Kaduna, Kogi, Gombe) teams.

PLEASE CONTACT US

Headquarters | Plot 1129 Kikuyu Close, Off Nairobi Street, Wuse II, Abuja.

Phone & E-mail | 09-2904563 | info@cihpng.org

Webpage: www.cihpng.org

On Social Media:



CENTRE FOR INTEGRATED HEALTH PROGRAMS



@CIHPNG



CENTRE FOR INTEGRATED HEALTH PROGRAMS