



Health Initiatives for Safety and Stability in Africa

Newsletter | March 2018

...enhancing healthier and safer communities

*Celebrating*  
**10**  
*years*  
of Excellence

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## 2017 MILESTONES

Application processed	- 2,889
Number of candidates interviewed	- 164
Number of positions interviewed	- 37
<b>Total number of employee in 2017</b>	<b>- 164</b>





# THE PRESIDENT'S *Message 2018*

I want to thank God on behalf of all of us and families for making it to 2018. 2017 was an eventful year for our organization because we were able to develop our first five-year strategic plan which is truly reflective of our aspirations and vision. And also, we got a No-Cost extension for our SINM-HAR project which will run until 2019. And above all, we turned 10 years old!

In the past 10 years, HIFASS in partnership with various indigenous and international organisations has engaged in different areas of healthcare and social services, governance, management, programming, advocacy, prevention, education, mentoring, capacity building, research in both military and civilian communities, using our activities to strengthen systems, build processes and sustainable strategies that can handle both present and emerging challenges ensuring they align with national goals.

The leadership of HIFASS is based on demonstration a passion for God's values of love selflessness respect and dignity for humanity as we continue to build an organization that can meet with international best standards and competes with any non-governmental organization in the world. HIFASS encourages and practices a broad-based all-inclusive horizontal style of management that de-emphasizes individual efforts and embraces team spirit, giving an opportunity for all its staff and stakeholders to operate freely within

a laid down framework and at the same time be free to achieve a personal goal.

The funding of HIFASS is majorly from US Government-PEPFAR, USAID, Henry Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine (HJF). The USDoD has developed technical and state of art equipment in all the sites across the country. Let me use this opportunity again to appreciate and commend the government and people of United States of America for the proactive leadership role they are playing on global, human and environmental developments, promoting peace and

of a global crisis like terrorism, economic recession, climate, food scarcity, governance, pandemics, and policy in the constituency, which continuously threatens the health of populations and the planet's survival. Therefore, it is crucial for all nations, politicians, health professionals, researchers, to come together to confront current and ever-emerging global challenges especially in the area of health, ensuring more access of the general populace without compromising best practices.

Hence our motto in HIFASS which is "passion & partnership" is very dear to us.

*We are totally committed to a collaborative vision and ever willing to acquire more skills, share information and communicate more effectively with our partners.*

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Our current projects are earmarked to end in less than two years. Funding is key to the sustainability of HIFASS without compromising our uniqueness and core values. Our expectation is that as you read through our activities, you will be inspired enough to partake and commit to the success of this global vision of enhancing healthier and safer communities.

Thanks and God bless.

**Dr. R L Oritsejafor**  
President, HIFASS

stability worldwide. Our cherished relationship with the US government has helped us tremendously to achieve more in different areas in the promotion of public health, strengthening of health systems and management of transitions when international partners like USDoD disengage with the goal of ensuring sustainability, quality, and ownership of programmes, thereby preventing the reversal of gains already achieved. The successes of international collaboration in addressing health issues worldwide cannot be underestimated especially in the face





## Editor's Note

BY LINDA OBI,  
COMMUNICATION OFFICER

Nigeria over the years has encountered numerous outbreaks ranging from Polio, Cerebrospinal Meningitis, Yellow Fever, Cholera, Hepatitis E, Ebola, Monkeypox to Lassa fever which the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) was created to coordinate the nation's surveillance and response to all outbreaks. In the previous years, the NCDC performed well in ensuring that these epidemics were managed and eradicated. Following the rise on the dreaded disease (Lassa fever) in some states of the Federation, it has claimed the lives of about 40 health workers in Ebonyi state in the past 13 years. Also, between January - December 2017, 733 suspected Lassa fever cases with 143 laboratory confirmed cases and 71 deaths were recorded in 97 LGAs and 29 States of the Federation. Unfortunately, the fatal hemorrhagic illness caused by Lassa virus is spread through rodents and also through person-to-person contact when a person comes into contact with the virus in the blood, tissue, secretions, or excretions of an individual infected with the Lassa virus.

It is sad to say that since the original discovery of Lassa fever in 1969 in the village of Lassa in Borno State, Nigeria, there have been countless outbreaks of various magnitude and severity across West Africa. Estimates of annual incidences of Lassa fever across this region reach as high as 300,000 infections and 5,000 deaths. However, due to scarce resources to diagnose the illness as well as inadequate surveillance, many cases remain unaccounted. Findings show that in January 2018, a total number of 107 suspected Lassa fever cases have been recorded in ten States (Edo, Ondo, Bauchi, Nasarawa, Ebonyi, Anambra, Benue, Kogi, Imo and Lagos States) with the total number of 61 confirmed cases and 16 deaths recorded.

The spread of this disease can be curtailed if a good personal hygiene and proper environmental sanitation is maintained, considering the fact that there are no vaccines for it yet. In combatting the menace, we are all advised to take effective measures by storing grain and other food stuff in sealed containers, regularly dispose garbage far from home, maintain clean households, and



most importantly, hand washing and sanitizing should be practiced frequently. However, if you experience any of these possible symptoms; Back Pain, Chest Pain, Abdominal Pain, Conjunctivitis, Cough, Diarrhea, Facial Swelling, Fever, Mucosal Bleeding, Proteinuria, Sore Throat, and Vomiting or you have persistent fever not responding to the normal/common treatment for malaria and typhoid, quickly report to the nearest Health facility.





## COMMUNITY OUTREACHES

### Outreach To IDP Camp Kuchingoro In Commemorating World TB Day With NTBLCP And Other Partners

Nigeria is ranked 4th among the 30 high TB burden countries globally and first in Africa. The country currently accounts for 12% of the global gap in TB case detection (WHO 2016 Global Tuberculosis Report) with only 15% (90,584) of the estimated TB cases (586,000) in the country notified in 2015. The gap in TB case finding is much higher among children with only 12% of the estimated TB cases among children (aged 0-14 years) notified in 2015.

The year 2017 was declared by Nigeria Federal Ministry of Health as the year of accelerating TB case finding in Nigeria and as part of efforts to achieve this, FMOH/NTBLCP organised an outreach and consensus building meeting with key stakeholders who are yet to be engaged in the TB control efforts with the aim of integrating TB into their routine activities. HIFASS on this note, leveraged on its partnership with NTBLCP in commemoration of the Day with other non-traditional TB partners, agencies and donors to

create awareness about TB and to seek commitments from stakeholders on TB to further increase their efforts in reducing the scourge in Kuchingoro FCT-Abuja on a five-day event (20th-24th March) which involved community outreach, handing over of chest clinic by Agbami partners, consensus building meeting, road show and ministerial press conference.

### HIFASS Supports Flood Victims In Benue State

HIFASS in collaboration with Initiative for Women's Health Development and Right Protection (WRAHI) on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 paid a visit to the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the temporal International market camp, Makurdi, in Benue State.

The purpose of the visit was to provide succor to the affected flood victims. HIFASS' top management staff, Lab Advisor, Col. Felix Adeoye (Rtd) and the SI Manager, Adekogbe Adebola led the delegation. The team met with the Camp

Commander Assistant J.J Amase who disclosed that poor sanitation was a major issue, as camp residents were dropping faeces all over the camp despite the availability of latrine facilities.

Speaking with the Camp Manager, Vincent Tsea, he appreciated HIFASS and WRAHI for their efforts in assisting the IDPs with relief materials such as bags rice and toiletries. The Chairman BENGONET, Rachel Ityonzughul also appreciated both teams noting that this flood case was the second of its kind in Benue state which in the past years has had little interventions in the other 22 camps within the State and have been solely managed by BEGONET. She was however overwhelmed by the presence of HIFASS and WRAHI.

### WAI And HIFASS Conducts A Free Medical Outreach In Sauka Village



HIFASS and WRAHI team with the IDP Camp Manager

White Ace Initiative (WAI) in a collaborative effort with HIFASS on 23rd September carried out free malaria testing and deworming for

coming to intervene in their community and called on the government for more support. Corroborating his views, Deputy Director, Laboratory HIFASS Col.

possible areas of high vulnerability. The activities usually center on sensitization, health talks on HIV, and its prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT), a demonstration of the correct use of male & female condom demonstration and counselling. Participants were also counselled on issues related to Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) that occurs as a result of opportunistic infections such as malaria, tuberculosis.

In his remarks, the HIFASS Prevention Manager, Dr. Pat Matemilola explained extensively how the disease HIV can be contracted through 4 major routes; blood transfusion, mother to child, use of contaminated needles and unprotected sex. He however advised against the use of expired condoms and on the ABC; Abstinence, Be Faithful and Condom use.

The Laboratory Advisor Col Felix Adeoye (rtd) confirmed a total no of 141 (One hundred and forty-one) persons were screened for HIV and 2 (two) were reactive, a positivity rate of 0.14%. This is an indication of awareness of the HIV disease.

Speaking with the Programme Coordinator, White Ace Initiative, Sophia White Essien reiterated that the medical outreach was aimed at sensitizing residents of the community about HIV virus on how it can be contracted, prevented or managed, finding out those living with the virus and providing support to them in a way or two as the world commemorates the 29th World AIDS Day. In appreciation, she thanked HIFASS for having incorporated her organization in marking the Day.

Some of the beneficiaries expressed



Testing under-5 children for malaria

300 under 5 children, pregnant women and men in Sauka village, Waru district, Abuja. It is a rural dwelling with no electricity from the National grid or pipe-borne/potable water. The only access road to the village is through the "stream", without a bridge, which the villagers use for all purposes; drinking, cooking, bathing and washing.

Over 52.3 % tested positive for P. Falciparum were referred to the clinical support group and about 60 children given deworming medication. In line with the recommendation of WHO on the use of mosquito nets, White Ace Initiative distributed 50 Long Lasting Insecticide-treated mosquito nets (LLINs) to pregnant women and children under 5 and infants with their mothers as well as back to school items (exercise books, pencils, eraser, etc). This was a preventive measure to reduce the risk of malaria infection.

Speaking with the village head Chief Bala D. Zaki, he noted that the community has been suffering from several ailments over the years of which one of the major causes can be attributed to lack of access to portable clean water. He, however, expressed his gratitude to HIFASS and WAI for

*should work in combating malaria by providing basic amenities such as primary health care, potable water, refuse collection bins, clearing of drainages and environmental sanitation for the prevention of malaria in Nigeria".*

A beneficiary, Grace Samuel says *"I am very happy and grateful to WAI and HIFASS for coming to our community to assist us with free medical test and treatment because over the years our people have suffered from various faeco-oral diseases and I pray you visit us more often".*

## World Aids Day 2017

In commemoration of the annual World AIDS Day event themed "Right to Health, making it happen", HIFASS in partnership with White Ace Initiative (WAI) on 1st December 2017 conducted a free medical outreach on HIV/AIDS testing as hundreds of Gishiri residents were beneficiaries of the programme.

Usually, in commemorating the Worlds AIDS Day, HIFASS annually organizes a community outreach on



joy over the gesture, Gishiri community Prince, Dan Fenu says *"We are glad about the turnout of our residents, their coordination is highly impressive and HIFASS have proven themselves to be the best in conducting an outreach in our community. I promise that those found positive would not be stigmatized and in addition, I thank HIFASS for their kind gesture"*.



HIFASS and WAI Team with nurses from PHC Gishiri, FCT-Abuja



Presentation of Tee-shirts and other medical items to Gishiri Community representative



Ongoing testing process



Prevention Manager, Dr. Patrick Matemilola giving a health talk



Some HIFASS staff





## HIFASS Develops 5-year Strategic Plan 2017-2021



Representatives from SUCCDEV, CAACA & some HIFASS Board of trustees

**H**ealth Initiative for Safety and Stability in Africa (HIFASS) on March 1st-3rd 2017, had her 5-year Strategic Plan development workshop with assistance from a consultant, Joshua Ida Samson and the Strategic Plan Committee which included board members, funding partners, the management team and entire staff of HIFASS. It was well coordinated as the planning committee provided technical and administrative support to the development of the plan.

Addressing the participants at the workshop during the launch of the organization's five-year Strategic Plan development in Abuja, President HIFASS, Dr. Roland L. Oritsejafor called for adequate manpower to strengthen Nigeria's healthcare system. "It is not the building, it is what happens in those walls that matters. However, Nigeria must get strategic

manpower and train them. That is why I talk about building systems that work".

*"We are giving services to all Nigerians, although we started with the military, presently, all Nigerians are benefiting from it and the organization has managed about 232 healthcare workers to strengthen service delivery across 48 program/clinical sites".* He said.

## Fy18 Workplan Development Workshop For HIFASS-LOPIN3 Project

In preparation for the fourth project year of HIFASS-LOPIN 3, a five-day workshop was held on 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017 at the Tinapa Lakeside Resort; Odukpani, to develop a Work-plan to facilitate the mitigation of the impact of HIV/AIDS on children and families in Cross River and Ebonyi States effectively. In attendance were HIFASS project and HQ staff, partners of the consortium and stakeholders from relevant ministries in both states.

At the end of the workshop, activities



Dr Ademola Adetunji, COP HIFASS-LOPIN 3 addressing the participants

for the FY18 project year were selected and reviewed, with input from the ministry partners who intend to blend the project activities with their state activities.

## Employee Medical Benefits Conference & Exhibition

On 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2017, Admin Director, Augustina Akugbe and Assistant Director Human Resources, Susan Opurum participated in a workshop organised by Redbridge Healthcare Group at NAF Conference Centre Abuja. The event was specifically aimed at equipping participating company representatives and HR practitioners with innovative skills for managing the medical and wellness benefits of their workforce. Also, Participants were expected to have a better guide towards their organisations in achieving a healthier work place, lower healthcare costs, improved quality of healthcare for staff, and an increased level of productivity in the organization. In attendance were Human Resource Managers, Admin Managers, and Medical Benefit Administrators from diverse organizations.



# CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS

## Training On New National OVC Tools

HIFASS organized a training in Ebony State on the 20th -22nd March 2017 on how to disseminate the reviewed national OVC tools. The participants were Program Managers, M&E Officers of State Ministries of Women Affairs and Social Development and M&E Officers of sub-grantees of the HIFASS-LOPIN 3. The purpose of training is to familiarize participants with the reviewed National M&E tools for OVC program, conduct hands-on session on completing the National OVC data collection and reporting forms and improve understanding of basic M&E terms, concepts and a better appreciation of data quality, demand & use and supportive supervision.

## Staff Re-orientation Exercise

On 5th & 12th, July 2017 a Two-day Orientation refresher training was conducted for all HQ staff. It was also a forum to reiterate the importance of basic policies, work stations, work ethics, office conducts and proper documentation/filing which is pertinent to all staff.

The President (HIFASS) Dr. Roland Oritsejafor, in his speech, urged staff to eschew strife but instead embrace love, forgiveness, unity, and humility. He further reiterated that staff maintains the 'horizontal form of communication' which he believes yields a good result, teamwork and better bonding relationship amongst co-workers. He encouraged all staff to be purpose driven and be expressive at all times because no man is an island.

Barr. Tuedon Uweja, MD HIFASS encouraged staff to continually be committed to their duties and be open-minded, however, seek out opportunities for the organization because the growth and development are dependent on the effort of every member of the team.

Presentations were made by several senior management staff covering Performance Standard (KPIs), HIFASS Operational Forms/manuals, Health and Safety, Professionalism & Work Ethics, 5 Years Strategic Plan (2017-2021), Resource Mobilisation Plan, Communication protocols, Learning & Development Plan.

## Training On "district Health Information System Version 2" (DHIS2)

On 24th-26th October 2017, HIFASS staff partook a training in "District Health Information System Version 2" at the eHealth4everyone office, Abuja. It was a three-day intensive training consisting of participants from different health parastatals and non-governmental organizations.

DHIS2 is said to be a free and open source software for collecting, reporting analysis and dissemination of health program data (Aggregate, events and individual level data). Also, it is a tool for information management that helps in managing data from community programs and



Participants at the training

events, data from LGA, State, and country.

Questionnaires were given to participant before and after the training in order to tailor the training to their specific needs.



Cross section of participants during the workshop

The training was specifically made to enable participants to understand DHIS 2 data entry and conduct DHIS 2 data analysis using visualizer and pivot tables as well as improve the monitoring and evaluation systems of their respective organizations.

## Training On Managing The Human Resource For Sustainable Results



Susan Oporum the Assistant Director, Human Resources attended a five-day training on Managing the Human Resource for Sustainable Results organized by Centre for Management Development on 11th – 15th September 2017. The training was focused on developing the knowledge and skills to face unforeseen challenges in the organization to develop and implement HR policies and know when to apply them. Participants were drawn from several sectors

including the Federal Civil Service Commission.

## Training On Social Impact Assessment And Sustainability Reporting Workshop

On 7th November 2017, Omatsola Oritsejafor Lawanson, Secretary Board of Trustee attended a training at the Lagos Business School which centered on ways to ascertain the ability to accurately describe to corporations, governments, donors and trustees the impact of their donations/grants in the target



Mrs Lawanson receiving certificate of attendance

community goes a long way in assisting them to take appropriate action. It also involved ensuring that organizations looking to make an impact in the society understand if they are helping the cause or not.

The workshop was impactful as participants were able to understand the link between social impact and business performance and how to integrate social impact into business strategy; would help HIFASS know how to capture and measure its social impact using metrics that meet international best practices and lastly, help HIFASS develop capacity for sustainability reporting in the light of managing performance.

## Staff Gets Trained On Proposal Writing, Fundraising And Grants Management

As part of capacity building and staff development, the Business Development team and other staff acquired a training on Resource Mobilization on 12th & 17th January 2018 in Abuja. The two-day training attended by 21 personnel was in 3 sessions which included proposal writing, fundraising and grants management.

The Managing-Director HIFASS, Tuedon Uweja in his opening remark stated: *"We have been building the process of managing funds however my expectations today is that at the end of the training we start developing good proposals, get new projects and be able to successfully manage existing funds."*

The training was delivered through power-point presentations, group discussions and questions. It was highly educative and interactive as participants understood that resource mobilization is an ongoing process to ensure the continuation of service provision to clients, to support organizations sustainability and to improve & scale-up goods & services her organization currently provides. *"We need to know how to effectively manage the existing grants that we have and also how to write proposals in order to win new grants"* Monday Peter (Accountant Assistant)

Participants were made to understand that proposal development, fundraising and grant management is the duty of all in an



Co-facilitator Prevention Manager, Dr Patrick Matemilola and other Participants during the training

organization and the performance of an organization today is dependent on the ability to generate new resources for the future.

At the end of the training, certificates of participation were awarded to participants who made it through the two-day training.





## LABORATORY ACTIVITIES

### Activation Of BD Facscount Analyser and Training On The Use And Maintenance In Military Hospital Benin, 302 Mrs Onitsha And I Brigade Med Centresokoto

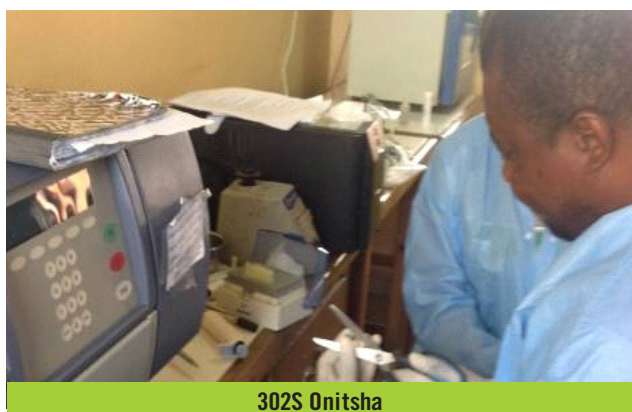
The BD FACSCCount™ system is a flow cytometry auto analyser used for the accurate, reliable and timely enumeration of CD4-T cells. Military Hospital, Benin, 302 MRS Onitsha and I Brigade Medical Centre Onitsha 302 medical Reception Station Onitsha were issued BD FACSCCount instrument in Feb 2017. The DG MODHIP, Brig Gen NAA Hussain approved and funded a 3-day activity for the activation of the



Brigade Medical Centre Sokoto



Military Hospital Benin



302S Onitsha

equipment and the training of the Laboratory personnel on the operation of the BD FACSCCount in each of the beneficiary sites. The activities were facilitated by Col Felix Adeoye (Rtd).

### Facilitation Of DOD WRPN-NMOD PMI States Malaria Microscopy QA Training

A refresher training and assessment course was organized by HIFASS for malaria microscopy QA officers from some of the President's Malaria Initiative



Cross section of participants



supported states at Defence Reference Laboratory, Mogadishu Barracks Abuja from 27th March - 11th April 2017. The participants were divided into five groups of 10 participants each and trained in five back to back 2-day sessions.



Facilitator endorsing answer of a participant



Batch 1



Batch 2



From 2nd right, Lab Advisor, HIFASS Col. Felix Adeoye(Rtd), DG HIP, Brig-Gen Nurudeen Hussain, and batch 3 participants at the training.



Batch 4



Batch 5

## Col Felix Adeoye(RTD) Conducted A Training/mentorship For The Nigerian Navy Reference Hospital Ojo Laboratory

The NMODHIP in her continual efforts to build the capacity of Laboratories organized a 5-day mentorship of the laboratory and training on the understanding of ISO 15189: 2012 Standard and use of SLIPTA checklist version 2015 on 5th June 2017. A total of 10 medical Laboratory Scientists/Support staff were in attendance.

The training facilitator Col. Felix Adeoye (Rtd) Laboratory Advisor, HIFASS commenced with the analysis of the non-conformities in the ASLM report and action plans formulated on corrective actions. Training on 3 Quality System Essentials (Documents and Records; Management review and Organization and Personnel) out of the 12 Quality system Essentials of the Quality Management System were conducted for the Medical Laboratory Scientists while a presentation on safety and Biocontainment (i.e management of Biomedical waste) was conducted for 17 Laboratory staff.





### NTBLCP Public Private Mix Action Plan Workshop

On 28<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> June 2017, Program Officer, Rita Sunday attended a three-day workshop at Barcelona Hotel, Abuja. The workshop was conducted to facilitate the development of a draft strategic plan for Public-Private Mix in line with the National Strategic Plan. Participants were representatives from government bodies, PFPs, NGOs, FBOs, clinical pharmacists, PPMVs, stand-alone laboratory operators and prisons.

The workshop commenced with an inaugural ceremony and opening remarks made by NTP leadership. The workshop was highly interactive and was delivered through presentations, brainstorming sessions, group work and discussions.

Highlights from the workshop include:

- Review planning process, Discuss current PPM activities and Draft PPM
- Draft PPM Strategic Objectives, Sub-objectives and Targets
- Action Plan Review and Discussion, Presentation for costing and next steps

### FHI 360 Nigeria hosts an Event: Building Resilient Communities in Changing Times

FHI 360 organized a day event on 'building resilient communities in changing times' on 3rd August 2017 in Transcorp Hilton, Abuja. The event featured several stakeholders, moderators and panelists across the nation, however, HIFASS was not left behind as the President of HIFASS, Dr Roland Oritsejafor the MD, Tuedon Uweja and some staff were present at the event. The event was aimed at exploring the successes and challenges of development in humanitarian designs and communication in Nigeria and how connectively as stakeholders can

support the country in building a greater resilience.

The topics treated were on 'building resilient health systems-successes and challenges 'and building resilient communities-role of education' educated participants as the panelists and moderators did justice to them. Similarly, various resilient stories were shared by winners of 'a day in the life-resilient Nigeria' on their experiences and challenges encountered in northeast Nigeria.

Participants were practitioners and donors who are leading global and national efforts in effective development programs and policies. These development partners and





stakeholders include Civil Society Organizations, Faith-Based Organizations, Government Parastatals and Ministries, Private Sector, Professional bodies associations and International Non-Governmental Organizations.

## CCPN Organises Springboard for Health Communication Professionals Forum

On 25th August 2017 at CCPN office, Utako-Abuja, Center for Communication Programs, Nigeria (CCPN) organized a one-day event which was attended by HIFASS Communication Officer Linda Obi. The Bi-annual event is aimed at sharing ways NGOs and other bodies can be able to acquire new modern designs which would improve their works in their respective designation as well inculcate and synergize effectively the use of health communication channels into their organisation. It is also a platform for individuals to gather information on better ways of reaching out to communities in a simple and communicable means.

The event featured three keynote speakers who treated the following topics; Innovative Approach to Communication; Human Centre Design, Case Study presentation on No Hoodie No Honey and Entertainment Education.

The Nigeria Springboard Consultant, Bukola Toriola, provided a snapshot of the success of Springboard activities over the years noting that Springboard is a community of practice that started in May 2014 during the Abuja inaugural event. The forum is said to be the 12th of its kind which professionals and students benefit from. Over the years, Springboard has gained over 7,600 members globally and in Nigeria has about 1,050 members which in its achievements, Springboard has engaged vibrantly in discussions on

the Springboard platforms with about 50.02% new users recorded in July and have been supported by HC3 and USAID.

Speaking further, she stated "Springboard is an online space for health communication professionals to social and behavior change communication knowledge, experience and resources which is a platform where members and experts connect and share ideas. It supports and nurtures regional communities of health



Group photograph of the Nigeria Springboard members

communication practitioners, scholars, and policymakers however members can share and tap into existing expertise and resources to develop their own capacity and discover or contribute innovative solutions".

## Meeting With Civil Society For HIV/AIDS In Nigeria (CiSHAN)

On 5th December 2017 HIFASS staff, Grants and Compliance Officer Kunle Folorunso attended a meeting organized by Civil Society for HIV/AIDS in Nigeria (CiSHAN) in Abuja. The meeting was basically to update members and discuss urgent troubling issues concerning the body and its members.

## 1st Quarter, 2018 Site Commanders/site Team Leaders' Meeting

On 17th & 18th January 2018, HIFASS attended the flag off opening ceremony of Ministry of Defense, Health Implementation Programme Walter Reed Program-Nigeria (MODHIP-DoD WRP-N) site Commanders/site team Leaders

meeting which was held at Top Rank hotel in Abuja. The meeting is said to be a biannual MODHIP-DoD WRP-N that enables commanders to present their briefs on-site activities such as achievements and challenges, programme review and future plans.

The management of HIFASS, site Commanders and site team Leaders for the 46 sites attended the 2-day meeting. Dignitaries present at the opening ceremony include Director-General, Ministry of Defence Health Implementation Programme, Brig-Gen Nurudeen Hussain, the Country Director, Department of Defense Walter Reed Program-Nigeria, Robbie Nelson, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defense, Mrs Nuratu Batagarawa, Director-General, National AIDS Control Agency (NACA), Sani Aliyu the past chairman EPIC, Maj-Gen TO Umar (rtd) and other senior serving and retired military officers.

The DG HIP, Brig-Gen Nurudeen Hussain, in his opening remark said Nigeria Ministry has put in place proactive measures to ensure that troops and their families attain optimum health.

In addition, he said from inception in 2005 with primary aim of curtailing living around the barracks, the programme had impacted on human capacity development, infrastructural and laboratory upgrade of 46 military health facilities, clinical research, and treatment of other diseases of military and public health significance and has led to clinical research and treatment of other diseases like malaria and tuberculosis and other emergencies.

Also, the programme has 29,901 People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) on antiretroviral treatment, out of which 85% are civilians. Leveraging on the existing robust healthcare and research platform of MODHIP-DoD WRP-N, the programme has supported the National Malaria Elimination Programme with the training of 350 Laboratory Scientists on Malaria Microscopy since 2012. It has also

supported the capacity building of military health personnel and civilians in Nigeria, Ghana, and Liberia to respond to local and regional epidemics.

The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Defense, Mrs Nuratu Batagarawa, commended the expertise displayed by staff in handling of the sophisticated equipment during her visit to the programme office at Mogadishu Barracks and pleased with the achievement recorded so far in the implementation of the programme.

She stated that "It is heart-warming to note that through the implementation of the programme, HIV/AIDS prevalence rate amongst military personnel has drastically reduced. I strongly believe that this meeting will further provide the necessary platform for site commanders/team leaders to share ideas and deepen their experiences for the provision of

effective and efficient healthcare services particularly to the troops and their families."

Speaking further, Director-General of National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA) Dr Sani Aliyu in his presentation on HIV Infection in Nigeria: Current Trends, Challenges and the Way Forward said the situation globally is that 36.7 million people affected with HIV at the age of 30-60, 2.1 million children and 1 million dies from HIV in 2016 in the world while in Nigeria on the average there are about 450 deaths of HIV related cases every day.

The Country Director, Department of Defense Walter Reed Program - Nigeria, Mr. Robbie Nelson said the organization is proud to partner with the Nigeria military over the last 12 years on the health programme. Adding that they have seen a great improvement especially on the lower

HIV prevalence rate in the Nigeria military and as such, have extended care and treatment to families in communities they serve and prevention of mother to child transmission to ensure that their children do not acquire HIV through pregnancy.

HIFASS rep, Col. Adeoye Felix (Rtd) made a presentation on HIFASS activities in the quarter and appreciated the DG for his unique unending opportunity provided to HIFASS and the transitional plan recommended by the Programme Steering Committee for the HIFASS staff on the sustainability and ownership agenda.



**DG HIP Brig-Gen Nurudeen Hussain, Perm. Sec. Ministry of Defence, Mrs. Nuratu Batagarawa, DG NACA, Dr. Sani Aliyu, Country Director WRP-N, Robbie Nelson at the event in Abuja.**



**Group photograph of attendees**



**Lab Advisor, Col. Felix Adeoye (Rtd) at the event**



**SI Manager, Adekogbe Adebola at the event**





## ADVOCACY VISITS

In a continuous effort towards achieving our set goals on healthcare delivery, provision of strategic manpower needs, resource mobilization and exploring new avenues for collaboration/partnership, courtesy visits were paid to several organizations throughout 2017.



HIFASS team at the Health Strategy & Delivery Foundation (HSDf) advocacy meeting officeduring an advocacy meeting



In the middle Dr Adebola Aina Lawanson National Coordinator, National Tuberculosis & Leprosy Control Programme (NTBLCP) and HIFASS team



HIFASS and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) team



HIFASS President and his team presenting the 5-year Strategic plan document to Dr. Sani Aliyu, DG National Agency for Control of Aids (NACA)





Advocacy visit to Management Sciences for Health (MSH)



Advocacy visit to Institute of Human Virology Nigeria (IHVN)



HIFASS team and WaterAid team in a courtesy visit paid to Nigeria Ministry of Defense (NMOD)



# HIFASS

# LOPIN 3

## LOCAL PARTNERS HEALTH IN NIGERIA ACTIVITIES

### 2-day Orientation On Nutritional Care And Support For PLHIV

**N**utrition and Referral unit of the HIFASS-LOPIN 3 project held orientation sessions on the 4th & 5th August, 2017 to support People Living with HIV (PLHIV) as well as caregivers, to enable them maintain and improve the nutrition status of PLHIVs so they can delay the progression from HIV to AIDS – related diseases.

The orientation was facilitated by the State Nutrition Officer and managed by the OVC Nutrition and Referral System Advisor of HIFASS-LOPIN 3. In attendance were 43 participants with these manuals adapted for use; Nutritional care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS

(WHO/FAO manual) and Nigeria : Complementary feeding and food demonstration manual (SPRING/USAID, Nigeria manual). Also,

methodologies used were; Presentation on nutrition, health and drug adherence, Counselling on nutrition and health and Food demonstration/practical

The exercise provided an opportunity for interaction amongst PLHIVs and other participants, which helped build the confidence of PLHIVs. They were glad to be able to make wholesome meals from food



The OVC Nutrition and Referral Systems Advisor checking a meal that was prepared

stuff that is readily available in their local environments.

### Empowerment Exercise For Vulnerable Households In Calabar South And Municipal Local Government Areas (LGAS).

On the 9th of October, 2017, vulnerable households in Calabar South and Municipal LGAs were invited for an empowerment orientation exercise, to prepare the



beneficiaries for the receipt of forty thousand naira each as seed grants to start petty trades, so they can support themselves and their families. They were given Financial Literacy Education to help them manage the



Cross section of beneficiaries and other participants

grants effectively.

In attendance were the Commissioner, Ministry of Women Affairs and other dignitaries, the staff of HIFASS-LOPIN 3, beneficiaries and their families.

## HIFASS-Lopin 3 Marks World Aids Day 2017

1st December is set aside yearly to mark the World AIDS Day all over the world, however, HIFASS-LOPIN 3 in Cross River State also participated in commemorating the day by supporting those living with HIV/AIDS and to honor those who have lost their lives as a result of the virus and create awareness for the general public.

A rally was held with a walk from Rabana Roundabout to Calabar Municipal Local Government Area (LGA) secretariat. In attendance were dignitaries from the State Agency for the Control of AIDS, other government parastatals, Non-Governmental Organizations



Some staff of HIFASS-LOPIN 3 and Civil Society Organizations at the LGA Secretariat

(NGOs), schools, health facilities, National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) and the general public.

In line with this, HIFASS-LOPIN 3 carried out HIV Testing and Counselling services at the LGA secretariat after the walk.

## HIFASS-Lopin 3 Donates Items To The Crossriver State Chapter Of Child Protection Network

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Child Abuse have become issues of great concern globally. In Cross River State, there have been a series of heart rending reports, some of which have resulted in mortality of the victims. To correct this, the HIV Prevention unit of the HIFASS-LOPIN 3 project assessed the secretariat donated by the Cross River State Ministry of Women Affairs (MOWA) to the state chapter of the Child Protection Network (CPN), and bought items to furnish it which included a desktop computer, stationery, curtains, a printer, tables and chairs, a refrigerator, Camp bed, mattress, modem and UPS, so that victims of Child Abuse and Gender-Based Violence can have a place of succor while they access social, legal and other services. The intervention will also help proper reporting, documentation and follow up of cases in the state.

The Managing Director of HIFASS, Mr. Tuedon Uweja led a team made up of the Chief of Party, Deputy Chief of Party, Director for Admin and Finance, Gender and HIV Prevention Advisor and other staff of HIFASS-LOPIN 3 to the Child Protection Network secretariat at the Ministry of Women Affairs for the official handover.

In attendance were the state

Commissioner for the Ministry of Women Affairs, Permanent Secretaries for Ministry of Women Affairs as well as the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Social Welfare, Deputy Chairman CPN, Director Child Development, MOWA and other dignitaries.

The Commissioner, MOWA appreciated HIFASS-LOPIN 3 for the support, pointing out that the project has supported the state in more ways than one. She stated that she sees this intervention as a seed which will germinate and yield support from more organizations. She handed the items over to the Deputy Chairman, CPN who received the items on behalf of her organization and expressed appreciation for the support. She promised that the secretariat would come alive and the items donated would be used judiciously.

## Empowerment Of Adolescent Girls And Young Women In Cross River And Ebonyi States

PEPFAR Statistics have shown that



One out of other items donated

74% of all new HIV infections among adolescents in Sub-Saharan Africa take place in girls, this has increased the need to focus on Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) in development initiatives. To this end, and in line with the HIFASS-LOPIN 3 organizational goal of improving the quality of life of Orphans, Vulnerable Children and their households the project has taken interest in

Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) whose poverty level could increase their vulnerability by luring them to participate in activities that can make them prone to contracting the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

Some AGYWs in this category were sponsored for skills acquisition in different Local Government Areas across both states (Cross River and Ebonyi state). Upon completion of the training which lasted from 30th October - 10th November 2017 had approximately 200 persons empowered with equipment and tools for business startups in line with training acquired for tailoring, hairdressing or confectionery.

The items donated for tailoring included; sewing machines, sewing kits, weaving machines and scissors. Hairdressing items included; generator sets, standing hair dryers, hand dryers, hair roller sets, hair wash basins while Confectionery items included: ovens, gas cylinders, fondant rolling sets, pastry rolling boards and nozzle sets.

With this intervention, these girls and young women would be able to start their own businesses, be self-sufficient, and refrain from activities that make them prone to HIV and be able to contribute positively to their local communities and the society at large



Orphaned beneficiary giving a vote of thanks in Calabar

## Grant Signing For FY18 (COP 17)

To officially begin activities for FY 18, HIFASS-LOPIN 3 renewed the grants for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) who work in the communities to carry out the objectives of the organization at the community level.

The Grant signing ceremonies were held on the 17th and 20th November 2017 in Cross River and Ebonyi States respectively.

In attendance were HIFASS-LOPIN 3 executives as well as executives of the respective CSOs.



A Government official giving a speech at the event in Ebonyi



Handover of the signed MOU to the ED of Oten Ita Foundation by the Chief of Party



Some beneficiaries in Ebonyi showing off their craft



Handover of the signed MOU to the ED of Initiatives for People's Good Health (IPGH) by the HIFASS-LOPIN 3 Chief of Party



## PHOTO SPEAKS



SOME HIFASS BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT THE 5 - YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN WORKSHOP



SOME STAFF WITH THE PRESIDENT ON HIS BIRTHDAY



ANUOLUWA IN A FAMILIARIZATION SESSION WITH A PARTICIPANT

### COURTESY VISIT TO 661 NIGERIAN AIRFORCE HOSPITAL, IKEJA LAGOS STATE



MRS LAWANSON HIFASS BOARD MEMBER (MIDDLE) AND SITE  
COMMANDER AIR COMMODORE BB OKUNOLA (LEFT)



VOLUNTEERS BEING TAUGHT HOW TO ADMINISTER MALARIA RDT



SOME STAFF WITH THE PRESIDENT ON HIS BIRTHDAY



MRS LAWANSON HIFASS BOARD MEMBER (MIDDLE) AND HIFASS STAFF



## SocialDiary

### MEET 2017 EMPLOYEE AWARDEES

#### PROFILES OF AWARDEES



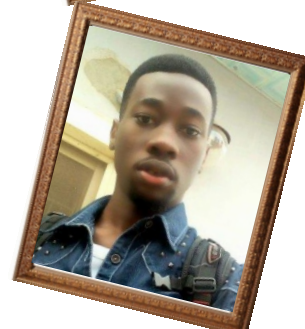
#### 2017 MOST PUNCTUAL EMPLOYEE

**Peter Monday**  
Account Assistant  
In recognition of your consistency and dependable and punctuality in reporting for duty. Monday, HIFASS recognises your exemplary behaviour and it is valued.



#### 2017 OUTSTANDING NEW EMPLOYEE

**Adaobi Linda Obi**  
Communication Officer  
In recognition of positive attitude towards work responsibilities and co-workers and notable contribution to your department and the entire organization. Linda is energetically engaged in her new position and provides exceptional efforts in assigned role.



#### 2017 MOST MULTI-TASKING EMPLOYEE

**Aduroja Oladele**  
IT/Procurement Officer  
In recognition of your willingness to work in a team setting within or outside your assigned department. Even as a youth corper, Dele did an outstanding job on any responsibility he was assigned, and even those he takes on unsolicited.



#### 2017 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR ACCOUNTANT

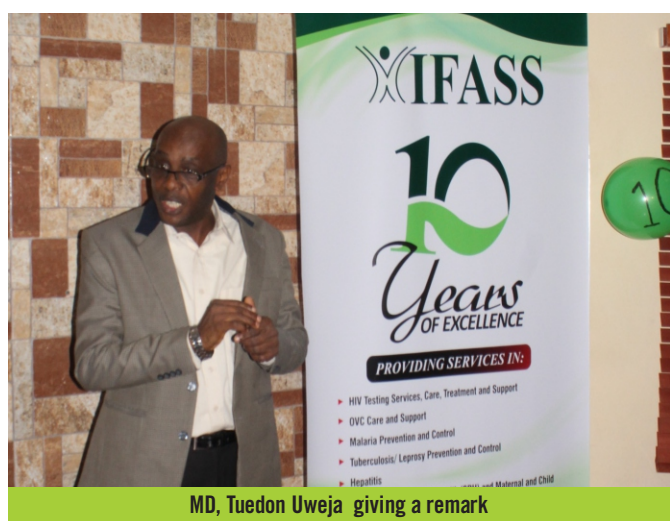
**Ugochi Igidiogu**  
In recognition of your commitment to quality in carrying out job responsibilities, completing assignments on time, and participating in additional responsibilities. Ugochi is an asset to the staff of her department and HIFASS as a whole.



17th October would forever be a remarkable day that birthed HIFASS. To mark the event was an afternoon with staff where some pioneer staff gave remarks and goodwill messages. It has been 10 years of excellence and we pray we continue to grow from strength to strength.



Photograph of some HQ staff



MD, Tuedon Uweja giving a remark



DD Clinicals, Gen Alto Sada Ismail giving a remark



Some site & HQ staff of HIFASS



Some Pioneer staff of HIFASS from the military sites

## Staff Promotion

**C**ongratulation to OVC Program Officer, Ojiakor Gilbert Okechukwu on the HIFASS LOPIN 3 project on his promotion to OVC Advisor.

Congratulation to Nwachukwu Elijah Onyebuchi on the HIFASS-LOPIN 3 project who was engaged on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 as the Transport and Logistic Officer and has been promoted to Senior Transport & Logistic Officer.

HIFASS congratulates the HR Manager, Susan Opurum on her promotion as Assistant Director, HR. She started working in HIFASS on 8th December, 2008 as an HR Officer.

## Weddings/ marriages

**O**n 29<sup>th</sup> April 2017, HIFASS Program Administrative Specialist/M&E Officer 461 NAFH Kaduna, Jamila Ezonboro tied the knot with her spouse Flt Lt. DB Kanhu in Kaduna State.



**Mr and Mrs DB Kanhu**

**O**n 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017, Mr Kingsley Amaechina M&E Officer/Data Entry Specialist at 161 NAFH Makurdi got married to Miss Blessing Uzoma in Benue State.



**Mr and Mrs Kingsley Amaechina**

**O**n 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017, Secretary Board of Trustees Omatsola Oritsejafor got hitched to her spouse Edward Lawanson in the Federal Marriage Registry Abuja.



**Mr and Mrs Lawanson**

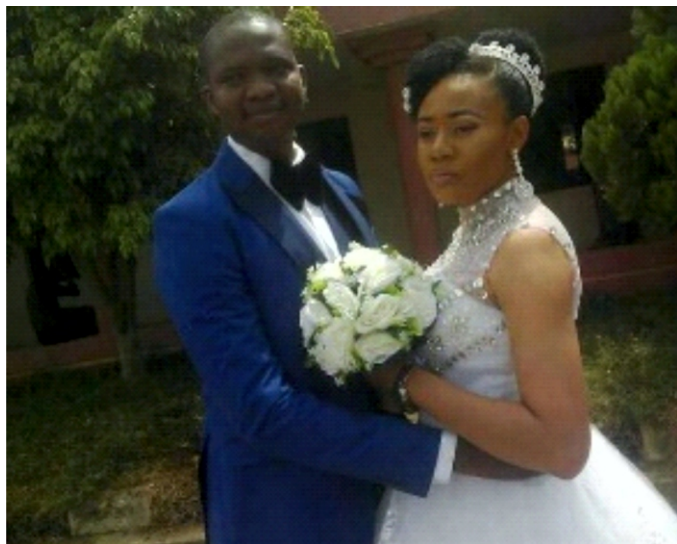
**O**n 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017, HIFASS' Internal Auditor Mr. Peter Owan Otu tied the knot with his spouse Akuchinyere C. Otu in Abuja.



**Mr and Mrs Otu**



On 28th October 2017, HIFASS Medical Officer II at MHPH Dr. Etiobhio Ehimen got married to Glory Asikile in Abuja.



**Mr and Mrs Etiobhio**

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2017, one of our partner organization celebrated the wedding of their staff Oluchi Nwogu the Capacity and Organizational Development Advisor for the HIFASS-LOPIN 3 project Ebonyi State. Oluchi Nwogu got married to Mr. Maurice Jiakponna in Isialangu community of Abia State.



**Mr and Mrs Jiakponna**

### **HIFASS**

***Congratulates the family of James Olukolade-Janitor on CRC Abuja site and Pelagie Djihokin on their union as husband and wife on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2017 in Lagos State.***



# IFASS Babies

The family of Pharm. Onankpa Peter, Programme Pharmacist at 161 NAF hospital, Makurdi, was blessed with a Son Praise Oche-David onankpa on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2018.



**Baby Praise**

HIFASS congratulates the family of Meggy Patrick Otubo- Program Administrative Specialist from 6 MRS BN Abak, Akwa Ibom State on the birth of their daughter Munachimso Michelle Otubo on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2017.



**Baby Muna**

The family of Mr and Mrs Christopher were blessed with a son Daniel Nwagwu on 22nd August, 2017. Priscilla Nwagwu is HIFASS Deputy Clinic Manager, MODHIP 82DH Enugu State.



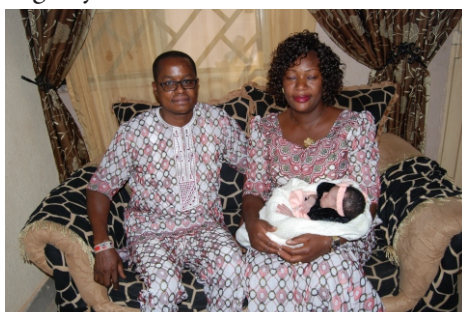
**Mr and Mrs Christopher with son**

The family of Mr Bernard Terseer Inyamikume, HIFASS lead counsellor 161 NAFH Makurdi was blessed with a baby boy on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2017.



**Mr and Mrs Bernard Terseer Inyamikume with son**

The Family of Dr Daniel O. Salawu of CTRC 44 NARHK on the 13th of Dec 2017 was blessed with a daughter named Princess Anjolaoluwa Omowumi Salawu on the 20th of December, 2018. To God be the glory.



**Dr and Mrs Daniel O. Salawu with daughter**

## CALL TO GLORY

25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 1966  
TO  
3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2018



It is with great sadness we announce the death of Adamu Ezra- Driver who passed on 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2018 and was laid to rest Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2018 at his home town Zongo Kataf, Kaduna State. He is survived by wife and two children.  
May His Soul Rest in Peace.



## *Make It Possible!!*

**H**IFASS would appreciate your sincere help and contributions as it can help educate more children, empower more households and help make more families healthy.

HOW!

- For only #2,000 on the average, educate a child in Primary School (1-5) for a term in a session in Nigeria.
- For only #5,000 on the average, educate a Primary 6 pupil for a term in a session in Nigeria.
- For only #5,000 on the average, educate a child in Junior Secondary School for a term in a session in Nigeria.
- For only #14,000 on the average, educate a child in Junior Secondary School for one year in Nigeria.
- Between #15,000 & #27,000 on the average, educate an older child in Senior Secondary for one year in Nigeria.
- For only #15,000 on the average, enrol a child for a vocation of 3-6 months in a technical school in Nigeria.
- For only #36,000 on the average, adopt a TB patient on treatment to access healthcare facility in Nigeria.



### ***"Your gift makes it Possible"***

Kindly send us your donation payable by cheque/Bank draft in favour of  
**"HIFASS OVC ACCOUNT"**

Skye Bank Plc  
Plot 270, Grand Square Building, CBD, Abuja.  
**Account #: 1771737929**

**Online Donations:** [www.hifass-hfi.org/donations](http://www.hifass-hfi.org/donations)

Donation can be made in cash or kind.  
For further details please see the address at the back cover

## HIFASS *acknowledges the role and support of the following funders/ partners:*

- Calabar Arch-Diocesan Action Committee on AIDS (CAACA)
- Cross River State Agency for the Control of AIDS (CRSACA)
- Cuso International
- Ebonyi State Agency for the Control of AIDS (EBSACA)
- Initiative for Women's Health Development and Right Protection (WRAHI)
- National Malaria Elimination Programme (NMEP)
- National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Control Programme (NTBLCP)
- Nigeria Ministry of Defence Health Implementation Program (NMOD HIP)
- People to People Health Foundation in Nigeria (PPHFN)
- Succour and Development Services Initiative (SUCCDEV)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- United States Department of Defence Walter Reed Program-Nigeria (USDOD-WRP-N)
- White Ace Initiatives (WAI)

## *We would also like to thank the following individuals for their contributions in this edition:*

- The Board of Trustees HIFASS
- Entire staff working on all projects
- Omonefe O. Erutor, Desk and Communications Officer HIFASS-LOPIN 3 Project
- Col. Felix Adeoye (Rtd), Laboratory Advisor, HIFASS

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