

XIFASS

Health Initiatives For Safety and Stability

Enhancing Healthier and Safer Communities

2023
NEWSLETTER



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EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the latest edition of our Annual Newsletter! In our journey through the dynamic landscape of global health, staying informed and connected is crucial. This issue has updates aimed at empowering you with knowledge about HIFASS.

Despite the ongoing global and national challenges, we uncover stories of resilience, innovation, and progress. From groundbreaking research to community-driven initiatives, each contribution highlights the collective effort toward a healthier, more equitable world.

As you explore the contents of this newsletter, I urge you to ponder the impact of individual actions and the importance of collaboration. Whether you're a healthcare professional, advocate, or supporter, your involvement is pivotal in fostering positive change.

Our commitment to health remains steadfast as we strive to improve the well-being of individuals and communities alike. Through collaborative endeavors and unwavering dedication, we aim to provide accurate, up-to-date information and resources to empower individuals to lead healthier lives. Together, let's embark on this journey of enhancing population health in Africa and across the globe.

Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to our shared mission. Let us work together to create a future where health and well-being are accessible to all.

Warm regards,

Ukoha Oluchi Glory
Communication Assistant

HIFASS

HJF MEDICAL RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL, LTD GTE FUNDED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS



MPOX TEAM at Health Innovation Center,

Site Commanders and Site Team Leaders Meeting

The Nigerian Ministry of Defence Health Implementation Programme - United States Department of Defence Walter Reed Programme-Nigeria (NMOD HIP-USDOD WRP-N) convened its Site Commander/Site Team Leaders meeting from July 31 to August 1, 2023, at Reiz Continental Hotel in Abuja. This bi-annual gathering serves as a platform to review program activities and devise sustainable strategies for the effective implementation of initiatives.

The primary objective of the HJF-HIFASS collaboration is to provide care and treatment for personnel affected by HIV/AIDS, which has expanded to encompass the management of diseases of both military and public health significance. During the meeting, each site representative, including HIFASS, was allotted 10 minutes to present a summary of their activities conducted between September 2022 and June 2023.

Opening the Health Innovations Centre (HIC) in Abuja

On September 28, 2023, a significant milestone was achieved as HJF Medical Research International Ltd/Gte. (HJFMRI Ltd/Gte.) celebrated the grand opening of its new laboratories and office complex in Abuja, Nigeria. Named the Health Innovations Centre (HIC), this state-of-the-art facility is strategically located in the heart of the Federal Capital



HJF, HIFASS, and other guests at the event Abuja

Territory (FCT).

To mark the official opening of the facility, HJFMRI Ltd/Gte organized a ceremony that included a sign unveiling and ribbon-cutting event. Among the esteemed guests in attendance were Dr. Joseph Carvalho, the Chief Executive Officer and President of the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine Inc. (HJF), and Dr. Sandhya Vasan, the Vice President of HJF Global Infectious Diseases Research.

HIFASS renewed its contract with HJF Medical Research International, Ltd Gte funded projects and Programs on October 1, 2023. The aim of the agreement is for HIFASS to provide personnel management services in Nigeria to ensure continued services for HIV/AIDS care and treatment.



Cancer is the second leading cause of death worldwide, representing nearly 1 in 6 deaths globally. The total number of new cases in Nigeria in 2020 was 124,815, of which 51,398 occurred in males with prostate cancer as the commonest at 29.8% and 73,417 occurred in females with breast cancer being the commonest at 38.7%, followed by cancer of the cervix at 16.4% [<https://gco.iarc.fr/today/data/factsheets/populations/566-nigeria-factsheets.pdf>]

Cancer incidence is on the rise globally, but there are stark disparities between developed and developing nations like Nigeria. While incidence rates are highest in more developed regions, mortality rates are disproportionately higher in less developed countries due to challenges in early detection and access to treatment.

Recognition of the implications of this situation has led to global efforts to implement cancer control plans at national and state levels, aiming to decrease cancer incidence, morbidity, and death rates and to enhance the quality of life of people living with cancer. These cancer control plans target a delineated population through the systematic implementation of evidence-based interventions for prevention, early

detection, diagnosis, treatment, and palliative care.

Addressing these challenges requires comprehensive efforts to increase awareness, improve access to screening and treatment, and combat cultural misconceptions surrounding cancer in Nigeria.

In 2023, the global cancer community observed World Cancer Day on February 4, under the theme "Close the Care Gap," urging collective action. The objective of World Cancer Day is to raise awareness about cancer as a significant public health concern and to enhance efforts to improve access to quality care, screening, early detection, treatment, and palliative care. This year's theme represents the second installment of the "Close the Care Gap" campaign, focusing on recognizing the disparities in cancer care and implementing measures to advance toward resolving them.

Annually, HIFASS and its partners participate in activities organized by Project PINK BLUE to raise awareness and support cancer initiatives, including walks, races, rides, skates, cycling, marathons, fundraising, and free screening projects. This year HIFASS collaborated with the Pink/Blue Foundation for the Walk Against Cancer, advocating for improved access to quality care, including screening, early detection, treatment, and palliative care.

To explore more about World Cancer Day, visit: (www.worldcancerday.org).



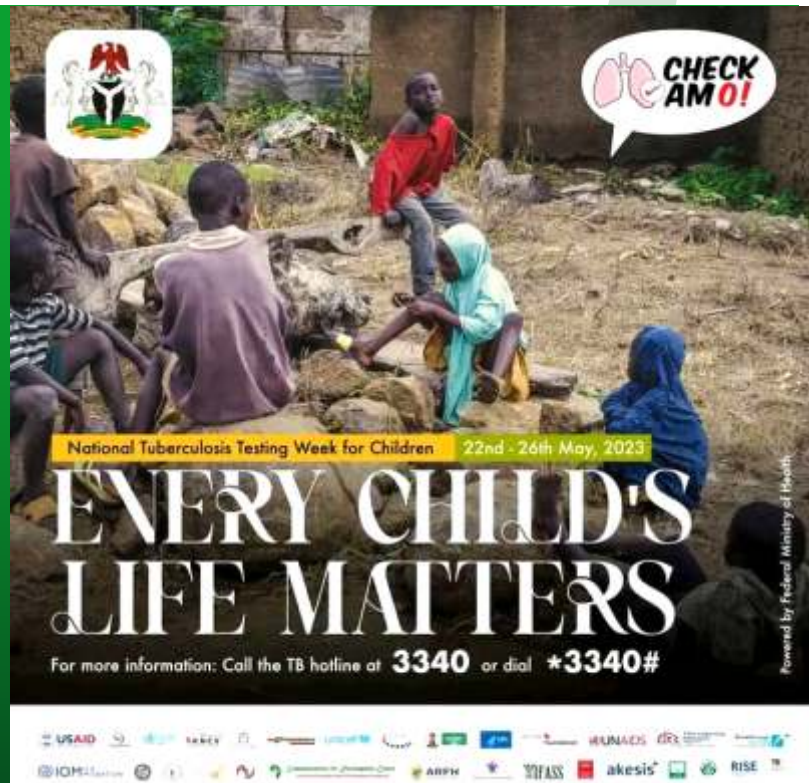
WORLD TB DAY 2023

YES!
WE CAN END TB

World Tuberculosis Day, observed annually on March 24th, serves to raise public awareness about the global tuberculosis epidemic and efforts aimed at its eradication. Despite progress, tuberculosis remains a significant health threat worldwide, claiming the lives of nearly one-and-a-half million individuals each year, with a disproportionate impact on developing nations.

During the 2023 World TB Day (WTB Day) celebrations, the National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Control Programme (NTBLCP) and its partners collaborated on various activities. These initiatives included a pre-WTB Day ministerial press briefing, sensitization campaigns targeting school students, road shows, community outreach programs, and ministerial press briefings, among others.

The theme for the 2023 World TB Day, "YES! We can!" with the Nigerian slogan "Get involved," aimed to inspire individuals, organizations, and the general public to actively participate in spreading awareness about TB prevention, free diagnosis, and treatment in Nigeria, while also advocating for an end to stigma and discrimination associated with the disease.

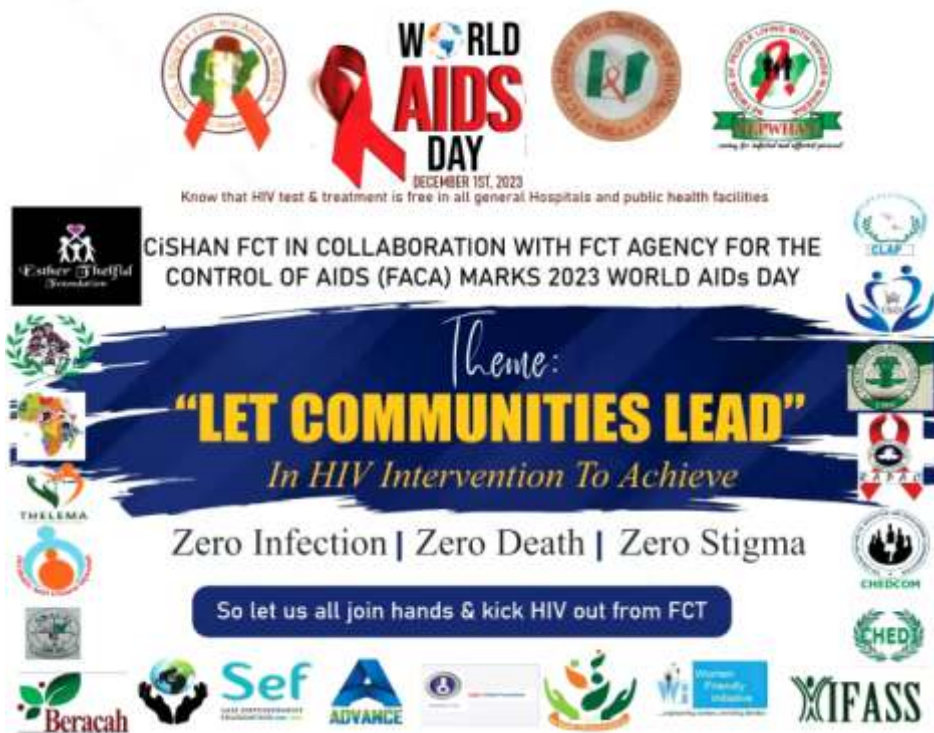


Pre-world Tb day press briefing; Hifass was part of the strategic planning and communication Committee

Throughout the 2023 World Tuberculosis (WTB) Day celebrations, HIFASS, alongside the National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Program (NTBLCP) and various partners, joined forces to organize and implement a series of activities. We actively participated in key events such as the pre-World TB Day press briefing, the road show, the ministerial press briefing, and the community outreach efforts.

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WORLD AIDS DAY 2023 EVENTS AND INITIATIVES



structural barriers to HIV prevention and care, including stigma, discrimination, and human rights violations.

3. Amplifying investments in research and innovation to develop novel prevention methods, treatments, and ultimately a cure for HIV/AIDS.
4. Strengthening health systems and advocating for universal health coverage to ensure equitable access to quality healthcare services for all.

On December 1st, 2023, HIFASS, in collaboration with the National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA), conducted free HIV Testing Services for participants within the NACA office and its environs. Participants received counseling and instruction on the use of male and female condoms before undergoing screening.

As December 1st approaches each year, the world collectively pauses to reflect on the strides made and the persistent challenges in the battle against HIV/AIDS. World AIDS Day serves as a poignant reminder of the millions affected by this virus and the ongoing efforts to eradicate the epidemic. In 2023, amidst global health crises and societal upheaval, the significance of this day resonated more deeply than ever before.

World AIDS Day (WAD), observed annually on December 1st, rallies support for global endeavors to prevent new infections, enhance HIV awareness and understanding, offer support to those affected by HIV/AIDS, and commemorate those lost to the disease. The global theme for the 2023 WAD was "Let Communities Lead," echoing the country's theme of "Communities: Leadership to end AIDS by 2030."

The focus of the 2023 commemoration was to bolster community systems and structures, ensuring they are fortified, resourced, and empowered to fulfill global commitments and achieve the 95-95-95 targets for ending AIDS by 2030, as outlined by the National Agency for Control of AIDS (NACA).

Key priorities for action include:

1. Expanding access to HIV testing, treatment, and prevention services, especially for marginalized and vulnerable populations.
2. Tackling social and

2023

December 1st

WORLD AIDS DAY



Remember, knowledge is power. Get tested, know your status, and stop the spread of HIV.

This World AIDS Day, empower yourself and your community by getting tested and spreading awareness about the importance of HIV testing and prevention.



HIFASS Communication Assistant Ukoha Oluchi Glory, overseeing the screening and testing process, confirmed that out of 105 participants screened for HIV, none tested reactive. This outcome reflects significant progress in raising awareness about the disease.

SNAPSHOT: 2023 Events Highlights



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HIFASS HQ CELEBRATES HIFASS' 16TH ANNIVERSARY

On October 17, 2023, Health Initiatives for Safety and Stability in Africa (HIFASS) celebrated its 16th anniversary at its headquarters. The event honored HIFASS' commitment to improving healthcare and community well-being across Africa since 2007. The celebration featured keynote speeches, a review of achievements, and future plans. Mrs Lawanson the Board Secretary highlighted the organization's growth and impact on public health. The anniversary underscored HIFASS' past successes and future aspirations in enhancing safety and stability in African communities.



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NEW BABY

HIFASS Communications Personnel, Ukoha Oluchi Glory and family welcomed their baby boy (Micah Christophe Netochukwu Ukoha) on 30th May 2023. Congratulations to her!



HJF MEDICAL RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL, LTD GTE

Expands Team with 17 New Staff for 2023 Funded Projects and Programs in Nigeria

HJF Medical Research International, Ltd Gte had an addition of 17 new staff members to support its various funded projects and programs throughout 2023. This expansion reflects the organization's commitment to advancing medical research and ensuring the effective implementation of its initiatives.



Name: Alabi Shadrack Ojo
Location: 68 NARH Yaba
Position: Bio Medical Engineer
Date of Resumption: 1st April, 2023



Name: Godday Ojore Aghedo
Location: Health Innovation Center, Abuja
Position: Data Manager
Date of Resumption: 1st August, 2023



Name: Chinenye Cynthia Akwolu
Location: Health Innovation Center, Abuja
Position: Medical Officer
Date of Resumption: 1st August, 2023



Name: Ibrahim Bello
Location: Health Innovation Center, Abuja
Position: Medical Lab Scientist
Date of Resumption: 1st August, 2023



Name: Sandra Ochaka Agbo
Location: Health Innovation Center, Abuja
Position: Study Nurse
Date of Resumption: 1st August, 2023



Name: Olayinka Rashidat Yusuf
Location: Health Innovation Center, Abuja
Position: Study Nurse
Date of Resumption: 1st August, 2023



Name: Adekunle Jubril Adetunji
Location: Health Innovation Center, Abuja
Position: Medical Lab Scientist
Date of Resumption: 1st August, 2023



Name: Simeone Yanmeer Tyotswam
Location: Health Innovation Center, Abuja
Position: Medical Officer
Date of Resumption: 14th August, 2023



Name: Michael Oluwasegun Adeshinya
Location: 68 NARH Yaba
Position: Study Nurse
Date of Resumption: 1st August, 2023



Name: Maryjoan Ifunanya Nwadibia
Location: 68 NARH Yaba
Position: Medical Lab Scientist
Date of Resumption: 1st August, 2023



Name: Ayotunde Adeola Akisanya
Location: 68 NARH Yaba
Position: Community Engagement Officer
Date of Resumption: 1st August, 2023



Name: Chiamaka Modesta Ibeanu
Location: 68 NARH Yaba
Position: Study Nurse
Date of Resumption: 1st October, 2023



Name: Ngozika Chidiamara Dickson
Location: NAF Hospital Port harcourt
Position: Program Admin Specialist
Date of Resumption: 1st October, 2023



Name: Alice Okpeh
Location: AFSH Kano
Position: Program Admin Specialist
Date of Resumption: 1st October, 2023



Name: Oluwalade Aderonkeji Precious
Location: Guards Bridge Medical Center, Abuja
Position: Program Admin Specialist
Date of Resumption: 1st November, 2023



Name: Funmi Omolara Akinlabi
Location: Health Innovatiion Center, Abuja
Position: Data Manager
Date of Resumption: 1st December, 2023

Name: Taiwo Olamide Adeleke
Location: 68 NARH Yaba
Position: Study Nurse
Date of Resumption: 1st October, 2023

Supporting HIV-positive widows and out-of-school children is crucial for fostering inclusivity and empowerment within the community. Here are some ways you can make a difference:

- **Contribute to the Hostel Project:** Help provide shelter for HIV-positive widows by contributing to the building project. A piece of land has been purchased, but your support is needed to fund the construction, which is estimated to cost 10,000,000.
- **Support Cataract Surgery for Widows:** Assist a widow in need by sponsoring cataract surgery annually at 200,000.
- **Provide Scholarships for Out-of-School Children:**
 - - **Primary Education:** Sponsor the education at the primary level for a year at 50,000 each.
 - - **Secondary Education:** Support the education at the secondary level for a year at 70,000 each.
 - - **Tertiary Education:** Sponsor the education at the tertiary level for a year at 200,000 each.
- **Empower Widows through Skill Acquisition:** Help empower widows by funding skill acquisition training or providing financial support at 150,000.
- Your contribution, no matter how small, can make a significant difference in the lives of HIV-positive widows and out-of-school children, offering them hope, support, and opportunities for a brighter future.



Emergency contacts for Corona and Lassa fever cases

- 1. Public Health Department, Health and Human Services Secretariat

FCT Emergency Operation Centre (EOC):

08109901599

FCT Call NO: 08031320330

08037882384

08033156560

08091229912

08056011582

08035954830

- 2. Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)

NCDC Toll-Free Number: 080097000010

SMS: 08099555577

WhatsApp: 07087110839

Email: info@ncdc.gov.ng

Kindly send us your donation payable by Cheque/Bank draft in favor of

“HIFASS ACCOUNT 4”

Zenith Bank Wuse Zone 3, Abuja.

Account No: 1015598708

Donations can be made in cash or in-kind visit www.hifass-hfi.org/donations for more details

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

1. Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine
2. United States Department of Defence Walter Reed Program-Nigeria (USDOD-WRPN)
3. Nigeria Ministry of Defence Health Implementation Program (NMOD HIP)
4. Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
 - National Agency for Control of Aids (NACA)
 - National Malaria Elimination Programme (NMEP)
 - National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Control Programme (NTBLCP)
5. Network of People Living with HIV and AIDS in Nigeria (NEPWHAN)
6. Civil Society Organizations working in HIV/AIDs in Nigeria (CISHAN)

We would also like to thank the entire staff working on all the HJF project sites, HQ staff, management and Board of Trustees HIFASS.



Health Initiatives for Safety and Stability in Africa

Headquarters: Phase 1, Plot 17, block C3, flat 6, APDC Capital Estate, Kaba District, Cadastral zone D12, Abuja, FCT.

