

PROJECT NEWSLETTER

February to November, 2022

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TY Danjuma Foundation through its Healthy Mother Healthy Child Project which started in 2018 is contributing to reducing

the prevalence of under-five and maternal mortality in Akwa Ibom State and ARRDEC was contracted to undertake this task.

To sustain the gains achieved since inception, and to replicate the successes while reaching out to more target beneficiaries who are pregnant women, in the year 2022,

Project Background

The Foundation extended the project to 3 L G A s of M k p a t E n i n , Abak and Ibesikpo Asutan. Results-focused activities implemented included: Sensitization meeting with Community gate keepers, Capacity Building Community-based Outreaches, Health Talk, Cluster Meetings, Meeting with Male Partners, and tracking and follow-up of positive clients.

Key Statistics

Available statistics indicate that maternal and child Mortality are still major causes of deaths among women of reproductive age 15-45 and under 5 children in Nigeria.

“ Over 40 million Nigerian Women aged 15-49 suffer disproportionately high Level of health issues Surrounding birth ...UNICEF,2021 ”

“ For every 1,000 live births in Nigeria, about five women die during pregnancy, childbirth, or within two months of childbirth. Also, more than 1 in 8 children in Nigeria die before their 5th birthday ...NDHS,2018. ”

“ Nigeria with maternal Mortality rate of 917 deaths per 100,000 live births is ranked 4th highest ...WHO,2019. ”

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED BETWEEN FEB. & NOV.,2022

To garner the supports of key stakeholders in the project communities, ARRDEC's Team conducted sensitization meetings, focussed group discussions across Abak, I b e s i k p o A s u t a n & M k p a t E n i n LGAs. The targeted stakeholders who attended the meetings included village heads, youth leaders, women etc.

6 sensitization meetings were held across Abak, Ibesikpo Asutan & Mkpate Enin LGAs



39



Persons

Comprising village heads, women leaders, PHCs staff, TBAs etc, were sensitized on the project.

12



“ Community Gate-keepers comprising village heads, youth leaders, women

assured their support to the project after holding sensitization meetings with them. ”




ARRDEC's Admin. Officer, Etim N. Etim (left) with a village Chief during sensitization visit at Abak LGA, on Feb 15, 2022



ARRDEC's Program Officer, Joshua Inim (middle) with PHC Staff at Mkpate Enin, during mapping, identification & sensitization visits at Primary Health Facility at Mkpate Enin LGA, on Feb 15, 2022

The pre-project assessment conducted in February, 2022 by ARRDEC revealed that health system strengthening was key to achieving the project objectives and goal. To address this, the following activities were carried out during the project implementation: capacity building for selected community volunteers, Refreshers Training for Primary Health Centres' workers (PHCWs) and quarterly cluster meetings of PHCWs, Traditional birth Attendants, and Mission Homes Operators

Refreshers Training for PHC Workers, held April, 2022

30 

PHC Workers demonstrated improved knowledge On ethics, code of conduct, best practices, Focused Antenatal Care (FANC), sign/symptoms of pre-eclampsia, management of pre-eclampsia

2-Day Capacity Building Training for TBAs, Community Volunteers, held March, 2022

21 

Persons comprising TBAs & Community Volunteers, were trained and who demonstrated improved knowledge on PMTCT, ANC and driving demands for up-take of ANC & PMTCT at PHCs

Cluster Meetings with PHC workers, TBAs, Mission Homes, etc., Held

2 

Cluster meetings were held each in Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs.

“Collaboration/synergy among 0 persons comprising traditional birth attendants, Mission Homes Operators and Primary Health workers was strengthened.”






CREATING DEMAND FOR UPTAKE OF ANC AND PMTCT SERVICES AT PHCs

“The pre-project assessment conducted by ARRDEC in Feb., 2022 revealed demand gaps at the Health facilities as pregnant women preferred the services of Traditional Birth Attendants to services Health Centres provide. The project employed a community based house-to-house Outreach strategy. This resulted in more uptake of ANC & PMTCT by pregnant women at the health facilities. Tracking & follow-up was also carried out on HIV positive pregnant women to ensure adherence to treatment.”

MOBILE OUTREACHES

9 Trained community volunteers conducted mobile outreached across Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan, between March and Nov., 2022.

These outreaches resulted in

831  Pregnant women persuaded & enrolled for Ante Natal Care at 9 PHCs	35  HIV+ Pregnant women identified & placed on Antiretroviral drugs at 9 PHCs	4  HIV exposed Babies received Antiretroviral drugs at 9 PHCs
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Tracking and Follow-up Visits to Identified HIV Positive Pregnant Women by Mentor Mothers:

6 Mentor mothers were engaged on the project. They carried out tracking and follow-up activity across Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs, between March and Nov., 2021.

These tracking & follow-up resulted in

35 
HIV+ Pregnant women retained on treatment at 9 PHCs

BEHAVIOUR CHANGE COMMUNICATION


“Behaviour change communication was used as an effective strategy for not only achieving the project goal but for sustaining project gains. Improved knowledge of the beneficiaries will result in their practicing good health seeking behaviours. Activities carried out under this strategy included Bi-monthly Health Talk and meetings with Male Partners.”

Quarterly Health Talk

3 
Health Were held each in Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs Betw. March & Nov., 2022

0 Persons comprising pregnant women, women of reproductive age, male partners etc., Participated.








Quarterly Meeting with Male Partners

2 
MenCare meetings Were held each in Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs Betw. March & Nov., 2022

0 Persons comprising male partners of the pregnant women and other men of reproductive age, Participated.



KEY PROJECT OUTCOMES BETWEEN FEB. AND NOV., 2022

ANTE NATAL CARE	831  Pregnant women persuaded and enrolled for Ante Natal Care at 9 PHCs across Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs	603  Pregnant women made 4 Ante Natal Care visits at 9 PHCs across Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs	314  Pregnant women made 5 and more Ante Natal Care visits at 9 PHCs across Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs	75  Babies successfully delivered across Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs
PMTCT	831  Pregnant women counselled & tested for HIV at 9 PHCs across Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs	35  HIV+ Pregnant women identified & placed on Antiretroviral drugs at 9 PHCs across Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs	4  HIV exposed Babies received Antiretroviral drugs at 9 PHCs across Mkpato Enin, Abak & Ibesikpo Asutan LGAs	