

Saving Lives

Delivering essential health supplies to Enugu State's health facilities



From the start of 2010, PATHS2 has been involved in delivering drugs, equipment and other commodities to address the critical shortage of supplies in all Enugu Government-run Health Facilities. In total, they have provided drugs and equipment worth about N300 million (£1.28 million).

Ebere Anyachukwu, DFID Senior Health Advisor

PATHS2 has announced the successful roll-out of the Drug Revolving Fund (DRF) to all 106 Health Facilities across Enugu State.



*L to R: **Ebere Anyachukwu**, DFID Senior Health Advisor, **Dorcas Edeani**, PATHS2 STL, **Dr. Uche Uzoichukwu**, Enugu state commissioner for health and **Mrs. Clara Sullivan Chime**, Wife of the Enugu State Executive Governor*

The State Team Leader, Dorcas Edeani stated that PATHS2 has been a lead partner with the Enugu State Government in a range of activities that are aimed at providing quality and affordable health services to the people of the state. Aside from PATHS2's lead role in the distribution of drugs and equipment, they have also been involved in the assessment of various structures and systems within the State's Health Sector to identify strengths, weaknesses and areas that require support, including Human Resources, Infrastructure and Health Financing.

They have also led Baseline Surveys in both health facilities and households.

As part of the Programme's work in Enugu State, PATHS2 initially monitored and evaluated the 106 Health Facilities over a period of 10 weeks in order to assess their status in terms of available commodities and equipment, their data collection processes and their staffing issues. Analysis of the data enabled PATHS2 to identify a number of key problems including poor and inconsistent record keeping, staff absenteeism, and

serious lack of drugs and other health commodities.

Chief Nursing Officer at Poly Sub District Hospital, Asata stated that the PATHS2 intervention through the supply of drugs, medical consumables and equipment had been of immense help to the facility and had enhanced service delivery at the hospital.

Speaking in Igbo language, Mrs. Ijeoma Akauwa, a nursing mother at Ozalla Health centres says, *"This Health centre is doing very well now. Their drugs are very good. I think they*



Mrs. Ijeoma Akauwa

have really improved, because this is my fourth child here and I know that they have improved from before."

Through the direct intervention of PATHS2, drugs, equipments and other health commodities are more readily available throughout Enugu State and the local staff are now better equipped to manage supplies in the long term and successfully tackle common and preventable healthcare issues. Such proactive endeavours will not only help Enugu, but Nigeria as a whole, towards delivering on the National Strategic Health Development Plan and Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5.

In addition, PATHS2 has also been addressing critical staffing issues through additional training and development of health staff. Between December 2009 and May 2010, a total of 798 staff within the



"Before PATHS2, people were not coming to the facility because we didn't have drugs and equipment. And because the health workers did not see patients, they all left their posts and went away. Now that PATHS2 has come, we now have more drugs, the patients are coming and the workers are around. We now have about three hundred patients per month, as against forty that we used to have in the past" - Mrs. Stella Ani, Officer in charge, Ozalla Health Centre, Enugu state.

Health Facilities have been trained by PATHS2 to enable them to track current supplies, report on the turnover and usage of the drugs and other commodities, and also request for new supplies when necessary.



Enugu state Health workers showing their support for the DRF roll out

PATHS2 oversaw the printing of the National Health Management Information System (NHMIS) Tools for distribution throughout the health facilities to help with data collection. They also assisted with the review and updating/



Health Information capturing tools printed by PATHS2 and distributed to health facilities in Enugu

development of policy documents and guidelines such as Public Private Partnership (PPP) policy in healthcare, DHS/DRF Operational Guidelines, Development of Knowledge Management Strategy and the State Strategic Health Development Plan (SSHDP).

Technical assistance was provided to strengthen the procurement and distribution processes for the purpose of improving the overall performance of the drug management system in the state.

ABOUT PATHS2

The Partnership for Transforming Health Systems Phase Two (PATHS2) is a six year development initiative that aims to ensure Nigeria achieves important health-related Millennium Development Goals.

Funded by UKaid, through the UK's Department of International Development, PATHS2 is working in partnership with the Government of Nigeria and other stakeholders, to improve the planning, financing and delivery of sustainable health services for those in most need.

Apart from working at a Federal level, PATHS2 is working in the five States of Enugu, Jigawa, Kano, Kaduna and Lagos.

PATHS2 follows the successful PATHS1, which ran from 2002 to 2008, and was also funded by UKaid.

CONTACT

Dorcas Edeani
State Team Leader
d.edeani@paths2.org
07067384885
www.paths2.org



Federal Ministry of Health

