



CASE STUDY

Once-abandoned Ketu Mascara Health Centre becomes hub of quality care

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Service provider Mrs Bioku providing family planning counselling service to Mrs Juliet Akhawuni during a postnatal visit to Ketu Mascara PHC

Ketu Mascara Primary Health Centre (PHC) is located in the Agboyi Ketu Local Council Development Area in Lagos State. Ten years ago, the PHC was grossly run-down, lacked basic equipment, had irregular power supply and was abandoned by

the residents. Studies show that clients in Nigeria, reasonably, associate effective health care delivery with proper facilities, equipment and staffing.

Service provider Folu Bioku, who had worked at the PHC 10 years ago, said: “No one wanted to visit this health facility at the time. The floors were slippery and the entire property was waterlogged. We used a lantern or candle to take deliveries at night.”

In 2012, the UK aid-funded PATHS2 programme renovated the PHC, supplied basic equipment, and installed a generator and inverter. Mrs Bioku, who was posted back to the PHC two years ago, expressed her delight. “Now we use proper lighting for delivery services. Even our child welfare clinic got a facelift,” she said.

Additionally, Mrs Bioku received training in advanced life-saving skills and integrated management of childhood illnesses.

Thanks to the constant power supply, the PHC began providing round-the-clock service in March 2013. Delivery services improved by almost 300 per cent, from 19 to 69, between March and June of 2012 and 2013 respectively. The number of women getting antenatal care services improved by over 75 per cent, from 303 to 532 between March and June of 2012 and 2013, respectively.

Juliet Akhawuni is one of several clients who returned to get services at the health centre. “The hospital environment and quality of care is a lot improved,” she said.

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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 from the Department for 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 most in need. In addition to its work at the federal level, the PATHS2 programme is implemented in the five states of Enugu, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, and Lagos. PATHS2 follows the successful PATHS programme, which was implemented from 2002 to 2008.

PATHS2 is managed by Abt Associates, in association with Options, Mannion Daniels, and the Axios Foundation.

