

REPORT OF THE PIMACH PROJECT PLANNING MEETING WITH MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS IN KADUNA STATE



PIMACH PROJECT Planning 2023-2027:



Partnering Effectively to Strengthen the Primary Health Care system for an Improved Maternal and Child Health in Kaduna state, Nigeria. (PIMACH Project).

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1.0.Introduction

Every day, Nigeria loses 2,300 under five-year-old children and 145 women of child bearing age, according to the 2018 Nigeria Demography Health Survey (NDHS) and World Health Organization (WHO), the Maternal Mortality Ratio MMR of Nigeria is estimated at **512 (per 100,000 live births)** and **814 (per 100,000 live births)** respectively, and, the lifetime risk of a Nigerian woman dying during pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum or post-abortion is 1 in 22. Northern Nigeria has the highest child mortality rate and the highest fertility rate, using hard to reach communities in Kaduna State as project location, these communities recorded that pregnant Women attendance to antenatal care at facility level was less than 43.8%, while more than 59% of women delivers at home, with inadequate referral system, financial implication, poor facility and lack of medical supplies; Coupled with the increased Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) in 2020 brought about by COVID 19. Kaduna State, boasts of a Primary Health Facility in every ward, with poor access, infrastructure and limited utilization of service by pregnant women. At least one in every three (1 in 3) children under the age of five in Nigeria is stunted, this is according to a recent Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey; while, Kaduna state has also been ranked second in the northwest region with the highest number of maternal deaths and, the worst stunting rates caused by malnutrition among under-five children in the country, at 47%. With Non affordability and/or availability of Ready to use therapeutic food to reduce malnutrition in children in fragile communities across the LGAs. **Source:** UNICEF 2018/Worldbank 2018/(NDHS 2018/Kaduna State RMNCAH+N Scorecard, 2018 and MNCH 2018, Nigeria Ministry of health 2018/UNICEF 2018/ Reproductive Rights, Advocacy, Safe Spaces & Empowerment – Rapid Assessment Report, 2015/ WHO 2015/NUHRI/MICS 2017).

2.0. Welcome Address and self-introduction;

The meeting commenced at 10:23 am, in attendance were 8 females and 9 males (17 Attendees). Mr. Light A. Michael the Strategic Development Manager (SDM) of the Freehearts Africa Reach Out Foundation (FAROF), opened the Planning workshop by welcoming representatives from Center for Integrated Health Programs (CIHP), government Partners such as the state Primary Health Care Board and, other development partners. Each participants introduced themselves before the discussion started.



Mr. Light A. Michael (SDM of FAROF)

3.0. Summary presentation and Q&A session

3.1. Presentation on 2022 project (SPHEC-MCH) impact

Presented by Eunice Idan Dauda (Monitoring Evaluation and Learning officer) of FAROF and Mr. Light A. Michael the Strategic Development Manager (SDM) who welcomed all the participants. After his address of welcome, Mr. Light announced the agenda and handed over to Eunice Idan who made a presentation on the Project Impact of the 2022 **project titles:** Strengthening Primary Health Care system for an improved Maternal and Child health (SPHEC-MCH) in Kaduna state, Nigeria.

The **SPHEC-MCH** Impact was presented and accompanied by videos of impact stories shared by the project beneficiaries which can be accessed/found on <https://farof.org/success-stories/>. During her presentation the following major points were summarized:

The project has made an impact in the lives of women in the eight targeted communities:

- ❑ A record of about 70% increase in antenatal visit attendance by expectant mothers has been recorded through this intervention. This was possible through: distribution of delivery kits and Maltina during ANC, where, vulnerable women who cannot afford the delivery kits were placed at top priority for the distribution of delivery kits. (**Supporting Partners TYDF and NBplc**)
- ❑ Women from remote communities have been able to access the facility for delivery via the ETS, where recent record shows that about 45% increase in facility delivery due to the availability of the ETS at PHC Rafinguza and, 30% increase in Television PHC. Where a total of 85 women benefitted from the ETS from the month of May 2022 to December
- ❑ Improved skills of 25 healthcare workers to provided quality maternal and child health service delivery, by strengthening their capacity on Emergency Maternal and Neonatal Care (EMONC),
- ❑ Below are some impact stories shared by some of the beneficiaries of the SPHEC-MCH project.
- ❑ All Stories are documented as a short impact story “video clip” found on <https://farof.org/success-stories/> and our social media platform with consent from beneficiaries.



Amb. Eunice E Adams (Health Director of FAROF)

3.2 Q&A session 1

The audience welcomed the project Team with the achievement and, commended the progress of the work carried out so far. Key conclusions of the discussion with questions from partners and response from FAROF Team were:

Questions from Participants: How was the data for the increase in ANC attendance arrived at?

Response from FAROF: Details can be found in the full SPECH-MCH 2022 report, which was shared with the Board on the 5th January 2023, although it will be reshared while ensuring all participants of this meeting are copied alongside.

Comment from SPHCB: Haj Nafisat Musa (Reproductive health/FPC) of the Kaduna state Primary Health care board stated that the availability of ETS in the community continue to provide an ease of access for women to the PHC for delivery, which will continue to increase skill birth delivery in the Kaduna state, where over 60 % of women deliver at home. the Board will like to use FAROF's intervention to make a case to the state government. Therefore, requested that data of women accessing the PHC for delivery via the ETS should be shared with the Board on a monthly basis and an adequate recording system put in place for available ETSs at each PHCs.

Response from FAROF: ETS book was given to the facility for effective data recording.

Question: How would the board justify to the state government that the distribution of delivery kits and Maltina drinks can increase ANC attendance, we would like FAROF to share their impact stories on ANC attendance increase through the distribution of delivery kits & Maltina, with a

sustainability Plan, because government is looking out for sustainability, while there is still an increase child birth at homes, rather at the facility level.

Response from FAROF: initially FAROF initially engaged volunteers for the distribution and suggestions came from the facility managers on the distribution. There have been some challenges on the best methods to use for the distribution. Despite increase in ANC attendance due to the intervention with no significant increase in delivery at facility level. There is a need for more partners to support Kaduna state Primary Health care system, after series of assessment conducted by the FAROF Team, finding of results include the attitude of the health workers and the unhygienic state of the delivery rooms were contributing factors to why women do not deliver at the facility. FAROF SPECH-MCH impact stories can be accessed through the Foundations **YouTube** Channel [@freehearts Africa Reach Out Foundation](#). Or through the Foundation's **Instagram** page [@freeheartsafrica](#)

4.0 Presentation on PIMACH Project

Mr. Light Michael, presented the PIMACH Project slides, during his presentation the following major points were discussed:

The overview of the PIMACH project was read and the objectives were discussed as follows:

The Overall Goal: Is To Improve Accessibility, Utilization, Availability And Affordability Of Quality Maternal And Child Health Services In Kaduna State By The End Of 2027

Specific Objective (By the end of 2027):

1. To pull at least 500 community stakeholders including religious, traditional and influential leaders, men and husbands and Facility managers to work together towards improving access to integrated MNCH services, such as antenatal care ANC, immunization, Child Nutrition, contraceptive use and Facility childbirth in Kaduna state
2. To improve under 5-year Malnutrition and the Prevention of malnutrition in pregnant and breastfeeding mothers through the consumption of therapeutic food/Micronutrient powders and/or fortification of complementary foods for at least 200 under-five children with evidence of Severe malnutrition in seven (7) underserved communities;
3. To renovate 12 Primary Health care located in hard to reach and underserved communities of Kaduna state, with standard medical delivery working tools for a good health labour room.
4. To train at least 100 frontline health workers to effectively provide safe, sensitive, high quality maternal and child health services and create a platform for all health workers trained to share experience and address challenges in Kaduna state.
5. To refer/link/escort at least 10,000 pregnant women and newborn across targeted Local Government Areas LGAs to take up Antenatal care service, PMTCT service, Childbirth and, timely immunization for under 2years at the facility level, while strengthening the referral system for an improved access to the nearest health facility in Kaduna state.
6. To Increase the attendance of women by 85% “at least 10, 000 expectant mothers” to Antenatal care and child birth by skilled attendants at the facility level in fifteen (15) Communities of Kaduna state.

In the cause of implementing the project FAROF is still trying to pull more partners through sharing of detailed reports to scale up to a larger community. A sustainability plan will be put in place through partnership. The partners that will commence working with FAROF are:

- The Kaduna State Primary Healthcare Board.
- The Nigerian Breweries plc.
- CIHP
- Kimberly Clark Corporation
- Lutam Farms

The roles of partners:

- Kimberly Clark Corporation Will Provide Support Through Provision Of Pampas, Pads, wipes as an incentive to promote immunization and ANC attendance
- The Nigerian Breweries will provide Nutritional Drinks (Maltina To Address Malnutrition And To Increase ANC Attendance)
- Lutam Farms will be engaged in the production of RUTF using staple foods for sustainability working closely with the State nutrition Officer.
- The Kaduna State Primary Healthcare Board will provide trainers for trainings on RUTF,
- CIHP will support PMCT services with HIV test kits.
- Kaduna State Primary Health Care Board Will Support: Trainings Of Health Workers; RUTF, SAM screening, administration of RUTF to SAM under-5 malnourished Children; Provide Linkage And Access to All PHCs In The State; Support Project With Training Space; Provide Project Monitoring; and, other form of supports

Comments from Partners: Haj Nafisat Musa, commended the project initiative and that the goal of the project is in line with the mandate of the Kaduna State Primary Healthcare Board and so it is achievable in the provision of affordable, quality and accessible health service. Traditional rulers, facility managers, men and husband will be pulled together to achieve this goal.

It was added, that the state already has an existing functional community structure which include community and religious leaders. The community engagement focal person will work closely with FAROF and serve as a link between FAROF and the community from the local government Area to the ward level and FAROF will work with the already existing structure in line with the objective to implement her activities within the targeted communities.

The discussion were focused on each Objectives and their supportive plans towards it achievement:

- **To pull at least 500 community stakeholders including religious, traditional and influential leaders, men and husbands and Facility managers to work together towards improving access to integrated MNCH services, such as antenatal care ANC, immunization, Child Nutrition, contraceptive use and Facility childbirth in Kaduna state**

After the presentation made by Mr. Light Michael, the SPHCB assigns Mrs. Adetoun Akor to serve as the Focal persons for **Advocacy** under the PIMACH project and to assist FAROF to link her advocacy activities with the state existing platform.

- **To improve under 5-year-old nutrition, pregnant and breastfeeding mothers through the consumption of therapeutic foods, nutrient powders and fortification of complementary foods. At least 500 malnourished children in 5 underserved communities.**

The discussion began with a question from Mr. Light Michael (FAROF -SDM), which stated that in order to address the challenge of RUTF, what is the state doing so far and how can FAROF come in?

Comment from Kaduna State Nutrition Officer: The government is no longer into the importation of RUTF, there is a production center but only in Lagos and Kano. There is no production company yet in Kaduna which is creating a challenge. And stated that it will be a great achievement if through this PIMACH project the production of RUTF can be achieved in Kaduna state. The state is also more focused on prevention but, unfortunately there are still larger proportion of malnourished children in the state, so this initiative is coming-in at the right time and will bring larger recovery and impact to children, pregnant and breast-feeding mothers in the state.

Response from FAROF: For sustainability, staple foods will be used to produce the RUTF. Lutam Farm, who is a Partner to support project in the production of RUTF in Kaduna state and training of women on growing bio-fortified grains for production of ready to use complimentary food RUCF, while promoting small and medium scale enterprise instead of promoting the importation of RUTF. The women will be provided with bio-fortified grains seeds for planting during project implementation, FAROF is also seeking more partners to support this initiative.

Comment from SPHCB: The Nutrition Officer shall be designated/appointed to serve as the focal person to work with FAROF on achieving the goals addressing malnutrition under the project.



Mr. George A. Ango (ASNO)

- **To renovate 12 Primary Health care located in hard to reach and underserved communities of Kaduna state, with standard medical delivery working tools for a good health labour room.**

Summary presentation from FAROF: From the assessment conducted by FAROF in 2022, where some of the reasons given by women to why women do not deliver at the facility level are: poorly equipped delivery rooms, poor sanitary system at delivery rooms/ unhygienic condition of the labor rooms, attitude of health workers and negligence.

To address the challenge and improve facility child birth, the selected labor rooms will be rehabilitated and they will be provided with birthing stools as suggested by the honourable commissioner of health to create a conducive atmosphere for the women to deliver.

As part of the implementation strategies, in addition to the identified PHCs that required renovations, FAROF will work with the state Primary health care Board to identify more Primary health care centers for birthing rooms renovation. There is going to be an MOU for every equipment that will be donated to the facility to ensure proper maintenance.

Comment from SPHCB: The officials of the state primary healthcare board has pledge to visit some of the facilities to assess the delivery rooms for the state support. The state is also establishing

neonatal corners in all the maternity wards of the PHCs and trainings will be conducted for the staff through the partnership of this PIMACH project.



Haj Nefisat Musa Isa(RH/FPC)

- **To train at least 100 frontline health workers to effectively provide safe, sensitive, high quality maternal and child health services and create a platform for all health workers trained to share experience and address challenges in Kaduna state.**

Summary Presentation: The trainings will include frontline health workers including traditional birth attendants who are already part of the community volunteers. Mentor mothers will be trained to promote awareness on PMTCT services and they will be provided with TBA delivery kit packs. Through this project FAROF seek to create a digital platform for all health workers in the state to share idea, experience and challenges. The platform comprising of all the healthcare workers, including the master trainers and the consultants for further learnings, lessons and challenges”

Comment from SPHCB: Haj Nafisat Musa commend the idea of the digital platform for all health workers in the state, and stated that there isn’t such as present, where all Health workers can communicate and operate using one platform, the Board will gladly front this initiative idea and they look forward to it. The PIMACH project will be gladly linked to leverage on it. While, For EMONC training only healthcare workers from hard-to-reach communities will be trained.

- **To refer/link/escort at least 10,000 pregnant women and newborn across targeted Local Government Areas LGAs to take up Antenatal care service, PMTCT service, Childbirth and, timely immunization for under 2years at the facility level, while strengthening the referral system for an improved access to the nearest health facility in Kaduna state.**

Summary Presentation from FAROF: to attain greater project impact, the PIMACH project will strengthen referral system by working with TBAs, Government health agencies and other public-private business partners.

We will identify and engage TBAs and/Or Women (Health Workers) Living With HIV Who Provide Peer Support To Other HIV-positive Women As Mentor Mothers To Identity, Screen And Enroll HIV Positive Mothers To The Nearest PHC To Give Birth, Where Their Babies Can Be Immediately Put On Prophylaxis Across 15 Communities. In Partnership With Center For **Integrated Health Program CIHP**

Comment from SPHCB: She added that the state board already has a platform for the mentor mothers who are currently linked with the Facility and, will endeavor to link the PIMACH project to it and with the mothers.

- **To Increase the attendance of women by 85% “at least 10, 000 expectant mothers” to Antenatal care and child birth by skilled attendants at the facility level in fifteen (15) Communities of Kaduna state.**

Summary Presentation by FAROF: All the activities will be shared with the primary healthcare board and shall be implemented through the collaboration with Kimberly Clark corporation, Nigeria Breweries, CIHP and the State Health Agencies, while seeking to pull more Partners during implementation.

Comment from SPHCB: Most of the activities planned to be implemented under the PIMACH intervention are already captured as part of the Kaduna states MNCH work plan and will be aligned accordingly.

5.0. Final discussion and next steps

5.1 Discussion results

- The audience broadly endorsed the approach of channeling resources through government systems as well as the proposed collaboration between public-private organizations such as NBplc, Kimberly Clark corporation and others.
- The need to link the initiative to related ongoing or future MNCH initiatives was also emphasized with strong effort of collaboration towards the attainment of its goals and objectives.

- Another contribution stressed the importance of MNCH related capacity building in general and at the grassroots and state level in particular. In that regard, comprehensive tools are needed to empower frontline health workers, including TBAs in ensuring safer child birth
- The high maintenance costs of labour rooms and infrastructures in the PHCs were mentioned as an optimal importance.
- The need to improve the management of PHCs in order to maintain or increase the delivery services they provide is a very important sustainability issue for the PIMACH project.
- capacity building for healthcare workers should be top priority to minimize the negative attitude of healthcare workers and improve interpersonal relationship between the healthcare workers and the clients to improve the quality of service rendered at the primary healthcare facility level.

5.2 Next steps/Way Forward

Regarding the future management of the project, the following preliminary structure was endorsed for working purposes

Steps

- The Primary Health care board will work closely with FAROF to visit the primary healthcare centers to identify facilities whose labor rooms are eligible for renovation.
- The officials of the state primary healthcare board pledged to visit some of the facilities to assess the delivery rooms for the state support.
- The community engagement person of the primary Healthcare board (Mrs. Adetoun Akor) will serve as the focal person for FAROF, she will serve as a link between FAROF and the community from the Local Government to the Ward level.
- FAROF is to set up a meeting with the nutrition focal person (Mr. Adams George) for the nutrition/Malnutrition activities to be implemented and for continuous strengthening of the nutritional arms of the PIMACH Project.
- The project's work plan should be shared with the Primary Healthcare Board for alignment with the Board's activities for the year.
- FAROF to continue to share reports on the challenges with the ETS with recommendations.
- The primary healthcare board will conduct a high-level discussion concerning the ETS and give FAROF feedback on or before March 2023.
- PIMACH Project Data and achievements should be shared with the Board on a monthly or quarterly basis.
- The PIMACH team will organize follow up meetings with stakeholders such as the CIHP, Nigeria breweries, Nutrition officer (ASNO), SCEFP and representatives from other identified partners

6.0 Any Other Business (AOB)

Remark from FAROF: The Emergency Transport System ETS (Autorickshaw Ambulance) that was given to PHC Nasarawa and PHC Farakwai during the pilot of the 2021 SPHEC-MCH project is in urgent need for repairs, due to the fact that the PHCs concerned are unable to stay on the memorandum of understand MoU signed between partners in the area of maintenance and, as such FAROF and her Partners have decided not to incur extra cost on themselves for maintenance, but suggested that the LGA are to take responsibility in the full maintenance of the ETS.

Reports which have shown that the ETS in the two facilities (PHC Farakwai and PHC Nasarawa) are currently not in use, and will not be accepted by FAROF and her Partners. FAROF was in the process of meeting manufacturing companies such as Simba and Dantiye for the refurbishment of the ETS, but it was halted after various consultation, where it was realized that it wasn't the responsibility of FAROF or her partner to maintain the ETS for the Community and, believed that FAROF and her Partners are currently not having value for money on the ETS given to the concerned PHCs. FAROF has decided that the PHCs should take responsibility in putting the ETS in good condition, with a second option of FAROF putting it in order with reallocation plan of taking it to another state, for instance Kano state by July 2023. As such, we strongly suggest that the ETS be fix by the LGA as agreed and stated on the signed MoU.

Meanwhile, other PHCs are making good use of the ETS given to them, particularly PHC Rafingusa and the Team of FAROF and TY Danjuma Foundation are Happy with the outcome and report being received. The ETS at PHC Television should be moved to a harder to reach PHC within the LGA.

Comment from the SPHCB: the board suggested for some time to be given to them, to enable them have higher level discussion and, ensure FAROF positive feedback before March 2023. It was also suggested that FAROF continue to share ETS reports with the Board with recommendations.

Annex 1: Agenda

PIMACH PROJECT PLANNING MEETING

AGENDA

1st February 2023 (Time: 10am prompt)

VENUE: STATE PRIMARY HEALTHCARE BOARD REPRODUCTIVE COORDINATOR'S OFFICE.

Time	Discussion
10am	Welcome remark and self introduction
10:10-10:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2022 SPECH-MCH project impact
	Question & answer
11am-11:45am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the PIMACH Project Overview<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PIMACH Project goal and Objective• Scope of work• Timeline• PHCB roles and other partners
	Question and Answer and Deliberations with partners
11:50am	AOB
12noon	Closing Remark

Annex 2: Participant Picture



FREEHEARTS AFRICA REACH OUT FOUNDATION (FAROF)



PIMACH PROJECT PLANNING MEETING



ATTENDANCE

DATE: 1st February, 2023

S/N	NAMES	DESIGNATION	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER	SIGN
1	Adams George Anyo	Asno	KSPHCB	stainless62000@gmail.com	0802373855	[Signature]
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Annex 4: Partners list

