



West Africa AIDS Foundation & International Health Care Centre

2022

ANNUAL REPORT



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Abbreviations & Acronyms

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ANC	Ante Natal Clinic
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy/ Treatment
ARV	Antiretroviral (drugs)
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CHN	Community Health Nurses
CHRAJ	Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice
CIC	Community Information Centres
DOTs	Directly Observed Services
DIC	Drop in Centre
DHD	District Health Directorate
EpiC	Epidemic Control
EPI	Expanded Program on Immunization
FHI 360	Family Health International
GF	Global Fund
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GHS	Ghana Health Service
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HM=HB	Healthy Mother Equals Healthy Baby
HPO	Health Promotion Officer
IHCC	International Health Care Centre
IP	Implementing Partner
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
JSI	John Snow, Inc.
KP	Key Population
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSM	Men who have sex with Men
NID	National Immunization Day
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission
PORSH	Priorities On Rights and Sexual Health
PR	Principal Recipient
PrEP	Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Post
PEP	Exposure Prophylaxis
RID	Regional Immunization Day
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
SR	Sub Recipient
TB	Tuberculosis
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WAAF	West Africa AIDS Foundation
WIYO	Worldwide International Youth Organization

2022 IN BRIEF BY CEO

Dear Reader,

I welcome you to enjoy reading this 2022 Annual report of the West Africa AIDS Foundation and International Health Care Center. As with many Non-Governmental organizations in developing countries where sustainable funding remains a challenge and efforts to harness sustainable innovation is difficult, 2022 again tested WAAF and IHCC's determination, character, and resilience. Today, however, I write with gratitude, proud of our accomplishments, grateful to our very hard-working staff and extremely confident in the year ahead. Through this report, you will not only read about the wonderful contributions WAAF and IHCC continue to make towards achieving the global goals of ending HIV and TB, addressing related conditions and fighting negative psychosocial consequences of these epidemics, but you will also discover how the organization, despite



challenges, is utilizing creativity, dedication, and commitment to not only keep afloat but expand its scope of services. The report further features memorable snapshots of our work and programs, and we are pleased to have been able to see the continuation of key projects namely the USAID Strengthening the Care Continuum Project, the New Funding Model 3 project, meeting targets and maintaining Epidemic Control project, Community TB case finding, whilst new projects, like IMPAACT4C19 and extended Health Mother equals Healthy Baby projects joined our portfolio. Our programmatic efforts have continued to make the needed impact on very critical issues around HIV and TB and we are forever grateful to our donors and stakeholders for the opportunity to be able to serve.

Outside of programmatic achievements, we have taken bold steps to uphold our reputation as two of the trusted organizations in the public health sector on issues related to HIV and TB by putting in place strong leadership comprised of young, innovative and technically competent individuals. WAAF and IHCC are proud to have established a core team of young professionals who joined the organizations as front-line workers and have over the years, built their capacity to, today, hold the positions of Program Manager and Monitoring and Evaluation Manager. These individuals have indeed proven that with hard work, dedication and full commitment, growth is possible, and I am extremely pleased with the practical technical value they keep bringing on board.

I would also like to thank our donors and stakeholders for their continuous support including the capacity building we have continued to enjoy, ensuring all our leaders at every level of WAAF and IHCC are empowered to fully leverage our various capabilities. We are highly optimistic that with sustained collective efforts, WAAF and IHCC will soon qualify for direct funding from major donors. WAAF and IHCC's success truly lies in the commitment, resilience, and hard work of each of our dedicated employees and we remain steadfast in our belief that we will continue to grow as leaders in ensuring Ghana reaches HIV and TB epidemic control whilst nurturing communities are free of stigma and discrimination.

I hope you enjoy the read.

Dr. Naa Ashiley Vanderpuye – Donton, CEO

Overview of Projects

Over the years, WAAF has implemented various intervention programs on HIV prevention, testing and treatment services for Key and vulnerable Populations through major and minor projects funded by several agencies including but not limited to the USAID, Global Fund, UNAIDS, Netherlands Embassy etc. These programs have helped to improve the knowledge and awareness of Key and General Populations on HIV prevention, provide access to free and voluntary HIV testing and promote linkage to treatment services leading to viral suppression and improved health outcomes. WAAF in the last ten to fifteen years has contributed immensely toward the achievement of national and global targets in addressing inequalities, improving service provision, and ending the AIDS Epidemic through the implementation of the following projects:



- Global Fund NFM I Community System Strengthening Project 2014 -2016
- USAID Strengthening the Care Continuum Project 2016 to Date
- Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpIC Project) 2020 to Date
- WAPCAS Global Fund New Funding Model III (NFM III) KP Project 2021 to Date
- UNAIDS WAAF led Community Led Monitoring Project 2021
- Coming Out Proud Project (Improving ART Adherence among MSM-LHIV)
- IMPAACT4TB Project 2020-2021
- IMPAACT4C19 Project February 2022 to Date
- Integrating IPV/GBV into HIV/TB Programming (June 2022 to Date)
- Community ARV DSD Project

WAAF, through several years of implementation, has contributed to the reduction of Stigma and Discrimination at health facilities and changed the attitudes of KPs towards accessing HIV Services in Ghana. WAAF through its stigma-free and non-discriminatory services has restored trust among KP Community members and encouraged them to access HIV services.

WAAF and its onsite clinic; the International Health Care Centre (IHCC) contribute to Ghana's demand creation efforts and linked over 2,000 KPs to ART services at the International Health Care Center and other Government health facilities.

Through the Coming Out Proud Project, WAAF established Peer to Peer Support Groups in the Eastern and Western Regions of Ghana.

WAAF has been a front-line advocate for policy formulation and change and continues to be a strong partner in the national response efforts.

MISSION

To help battle the spread of HIV and AIDS, TB as well as other diseases and mitigate their effect on communities by providing care and support to promote healthier individuals for a better future.

VISION

To be a key player in the global effort to develop and support individuals, communities, and nation.

CORE VALUES

Access to health care for all without discrimination

Inclusion of choice

Equal care for women and men

Zero tolerance for stigmatization

Confidentiality of client information

2022 Projects

USAID – Strengthening the Care Continuum Project

As part of efforts to achieve epidemic control in the Western region, WAAF continued to implement HIV activities on the care continuum project 2.0 for FY22 in Ellembele, Jomoro and Nzema East districts. In the fiscal year (October 2021 – September 2022), project activities focused more on targeted testing of high-risk men who have sex with men (MSM) and female sex workers (FSW), and finding positive cases through index testing, social network testing, risk network referral, and enhanced peer outreach approach to reach and test high-risk MSM, FSW, and the General Population. Positive cases detected were initiated onto ART and managed to stay in care while adhering to treatment regimens to achieve viral suppression.

Activities undertaken during the year include enhanced daily peer education, HIV testing services by community health nurses, Anti-retroviral therapy initiation of HIV+ MSM/FSW/GP by case managers/community health nurses, Retaining MSM/FSW/GP PLHIV enrolled in care, Back to care campaign, GBV screening, PrEP campaign and initiation, Monitoring and supportive supervision and Monthly review meetings.

Reach

Peer educators conduct enhanced daily education at implementing sites. They helped by providing the minimum service package, including education on HIV, STIs, GBV/IPV, risk assessment/risk screening, and the distribution of condoms and lubricants. WAAF focused on reaching high-risk MSM and FSW through social and risk network referrals, enhanced peer outreach approach, and GP through active case finding. In all, 4,962 people, comprised of 595 MSM, 555 FSW, and 3,812 GP, were reached across implementing sites. In Ellembele, 179 MSM, 164 FSW and 790 GP were reached. In Jomoro, 237 MSM, 248 FSW, and 1,623 GP were reached, and in Nzema East, 133 MSM, 143 FSW, and 1399 GP were reached.

Testing

A total of 3,845 people (402 MSM 448 FSW 2,995 GP) were tested across all three implementing sites. 156 people tested positive to HIV with a positivity yield of 4.1%.

HIVST Kits

235 self-test kits were distributed to clients. 89 of them were assisted in testing whilst 146 were unassisted. Two clients tested reactive and underwent confirmatory testing. After confirmation, they were linked to treatment.

345 people were educated and enrolled on PrEP in the last quarter. 183 FSW, 122 MSM, 12 high-risk men, and 28 high-risk women were enrolled on PrEP.

2022 Projects

USAID – Strengthening the Care Continuum Project

Back-to-care

At the end of the fiscal year, 230 clients were brought back to care. Modalities used for this activity were collaborations with health facilities in generating a list of treatment-interrupted clients. Follow-up visits were conducted with the help of Models of Hope.

Index testing as a strategy was employed in active case findings. WAAF offered index testing to 53 positive clients, 46 of whom linked us to their sexual partners and biological children, 93 contacts were elicited from those found HIV positive and 87 of those contacts were tested. However, two of them were known positive cases, while 20 new HIV positive cases were identified.

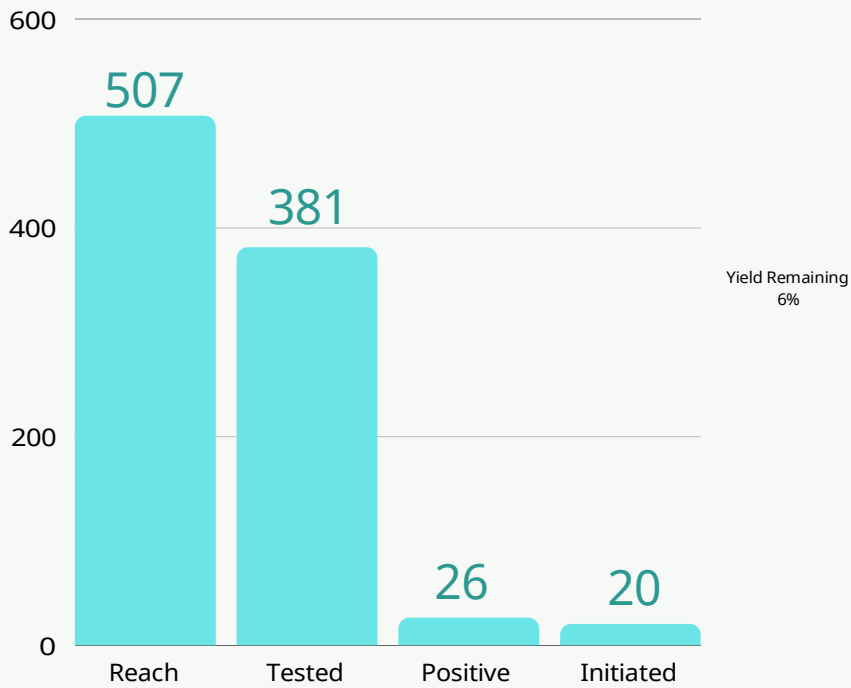
Initiation

ART initiation is a fundamental part of HIV service provision. We at WAAF put in our best effort to initiate positive clients onto ART. Initiating positive clients, retaining them in care and attaining viral suppression is the ultimate goal that will eventually lead to achieving epidemic control. WAAF employed different initiation strategies like nighttime ART initiation and field ART initiation supported by facility nurses. 156 HIV positive cases were found and 138 of them were enrolled initiated onto treatment representing 88.5% initiation rate. WAAF uses an improved case management approach where community health nurses who are also case managers provide testing. Consequently, rapport and trust are built at the testing point between Community Health Nurses (CHN) and clients receiving HTS. Those who test positive are automatically linked to the CNH who provide ART education and who follow up with clients, encouraging them to start ART and remain in care.

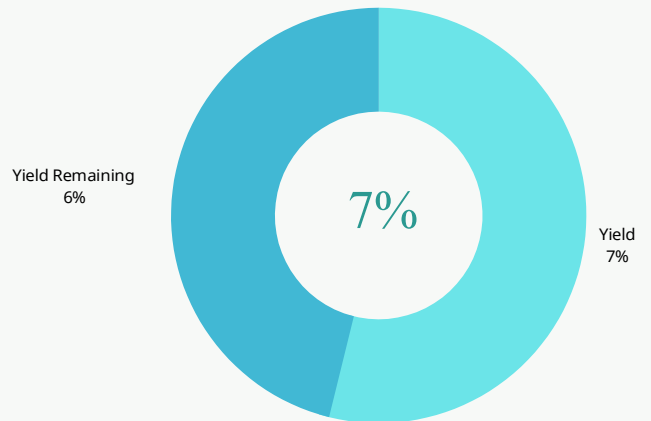
Viral load

Viral load samples were taken from HIV positive clients. A total of 106 clients had their viral load samples taken, 44 received their results, but 62 did not receive their results. This was due to the damage of the viral load machine at the regional level. However, clients were encouraged to continue to take their medications and have their viral load samples taken when they were due. A total of 35 clients who received their results were virally suppressed while nine were not virally suppressed.

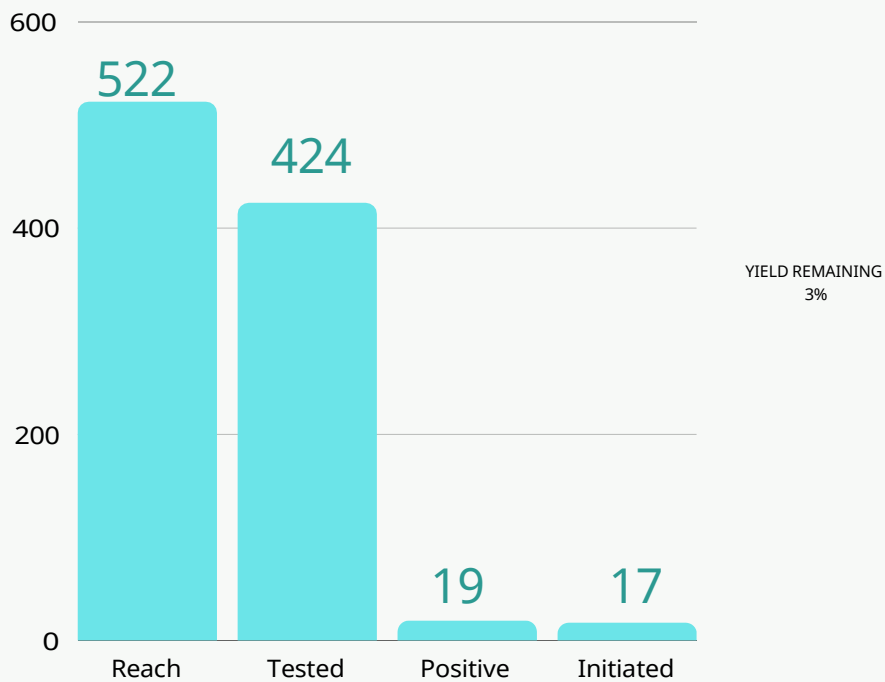
MSM



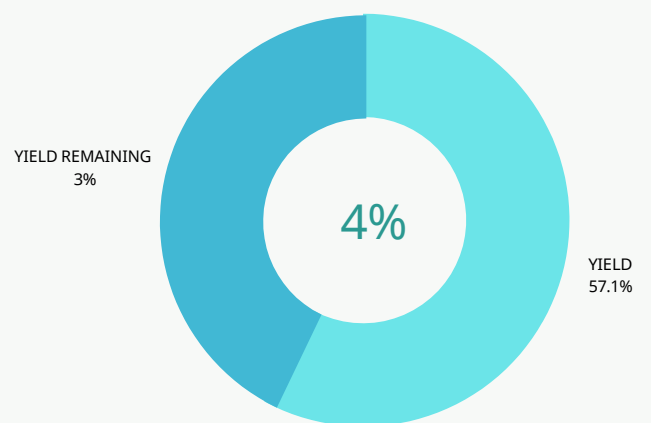
YIELD



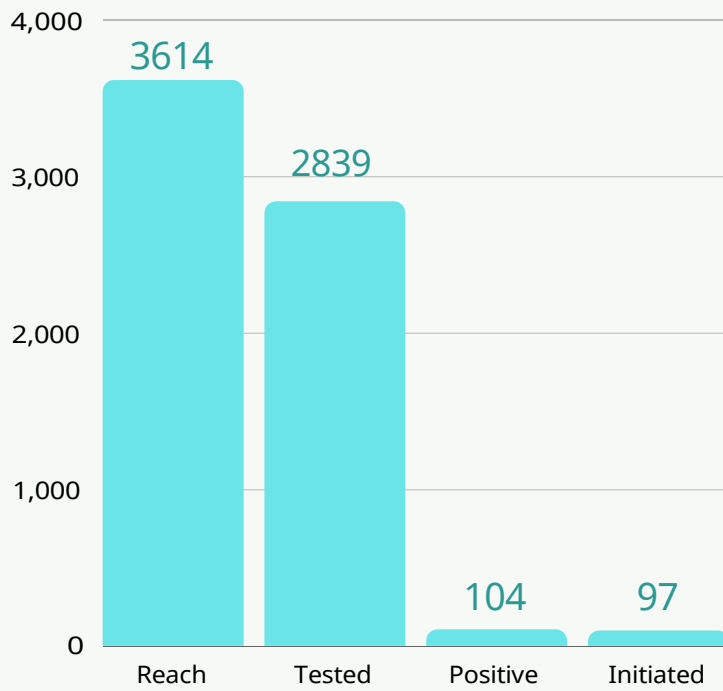
FSW



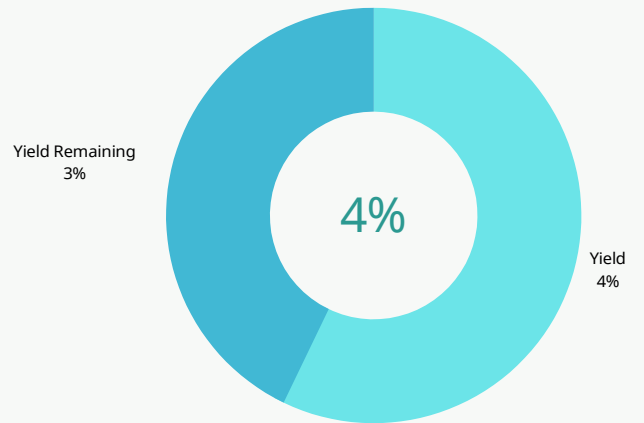
YIELD



GP



YIELD



MEETING TARGETS AND MAINTAINING EPIDEMIC CONTROL (EpiC)



Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) is a global project funded by the U.S President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the U.S Agency for International Development (USAID) which is dedicated to meeting targets and maintaining HIV epidemic control. WAAF is a sub recipient under the Principal Recipient; FHI 360. WAAF has implemented this project since 2019 with a five-year period of implementation from April 15, 2019 to April 14, 2024. The EpiC project is designed to break through persistent barriers to reaching HIV prevention and treatment goals as well as promoting self-reliant management of National HIV programs. The general overview of the program will deliver technical effective in scaling and sustaining HIV services and systems for long term epidemic control. EpiC has four objectives which focus on filling

existing HIV prevention, case finding filling treatment gaps and building long term sustainability to attain and maintain epidemic control. They include:

Objective 1: Attain and maintain HIV epidemic control among at-risk adult men, women, and priority populations (PP)s,

Objective 2: Attain and maintain HIV epidemic control among Key populations (KPs),

Objective 3: Improve program management including (Health Information Systems) and Human Resources for health HRH as well as financial systems to ensure attainment and maintenance of epidemic control.

Objective 4: Support the transition of prime funding and implementation to enable local partners to meet the PEPFAR goal of 70% of funding going to local partners by the year 2020.

Geared towards the implementation and attainment of the EpiC objectives, WAAF, together with second tier partners (WIYO and PORSH) channeled their attention and energy within the Ga East Municipal of the Greater Accra Region. Their activities were conducted through social media platforms like Snapchat, Facebook, Jodel, Instagram, etc and a few through referrals from people already within the network. Preeminently, WhatsApp and Snapchat were the channels through which most peers were reached because of their popularity among the community.

The Key populations reached were provided with extensive and comprehensive education on PrEP and HIVST. Interested persons got tested to know their HIV status using the distributed HIV Self-Test kits. Some also chose the option of being referred to WAAF's clinic (the International Health Care Centre (IHCC)), the offices of WIYO and PORSH or the Mobile Clinic at places of convenience for the peers.

In 2022, 593 HIVST kits were distributed and used by MSM (513 assisted and 80 unassisted). 255 MSM were first-time testers (226 assisted and 29 unassisted), 119 MSM tested reactive (109 assisted and 10 unassisted), 117 have been confirmed positive and 116 were linked to treatment.

Also, 305 HIVST kits were distributed and used by FSWs (196 assisted and 109 unassisted), out of which 272 were first-time testers (180 assisted and 92 unassisted), 9 tested reactive, and 8 have been confirmed and linked to ART. One of the FSW who tested reactive later tested negative during confirmatory testing at the IHCC facility.

For TG persons, 25 HIVST Kits were distributed. Out of this number, 22 used the test kits (21 assisted, 1 unassisted), 10 were first-timers and were all assisted. 8 TGs tested reactive and 5 were confirmed positive and linked to treatment. To still provide quality PrEP services to all KPs, IHCC and partners on the project continued to collaborate with WAAF to provide Event-Driven PrEP services to MSM who complained about having to take the daily pills.

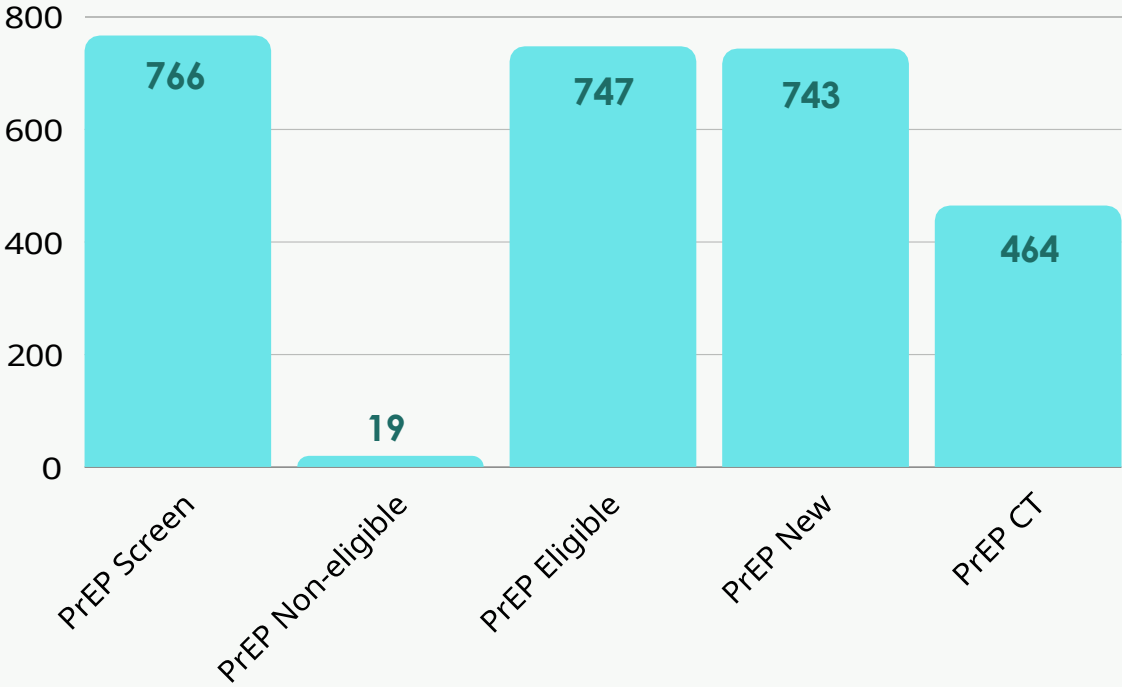
In IHCC's delivery of service, all KPs referred by volunteers and those who walk into access PrEP services are also screened by IHCC clinical personnel. KPs are encouraged to get PrEP. In 2022, 511 MSM were screened for PrEP out of which 499 MSM were eligible and 498 accepted and were initiated on PrEP. Unfortunately, 12 MSM were non-eligible since they had recent exposure to HIV and were initiated on Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP).

Additionally, 215 FSWs were screened for PrEP. 214 FSWs were eligible and 211 were initiated on PrEP. WIYO used a self-love campaign and distribution of condoms to reach out to more FSWs. One FSW was non-eligible since she had a recent exposure to HIV and was initiated on PEP.

For TG persons, 22 were screened for PrEP, all were eligible and initiated on PrEP.

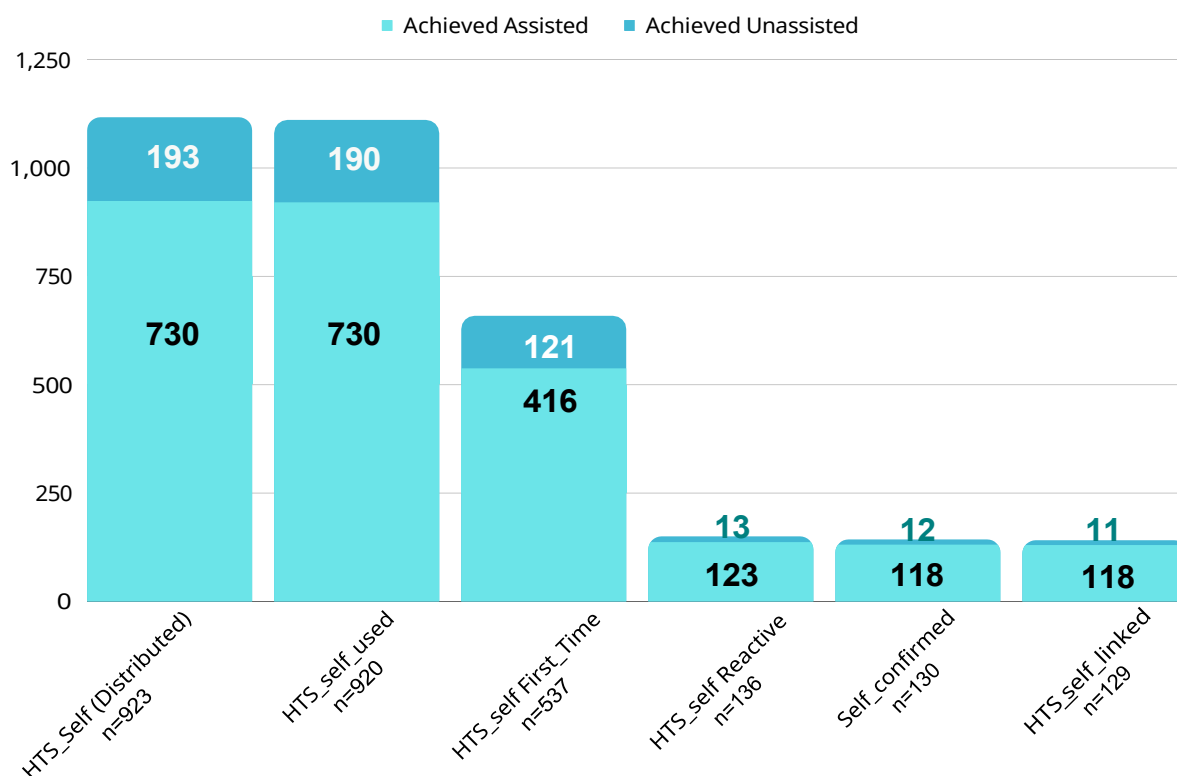


Figure 1.0 PrEP cascade among all Populations, FY22 October 2021 to September 2022



Description: In 2022, the EpIC project targets were exceeded. A total of 766 KPs were screened for PrEP. 747 were eligible, 743 were accepted and were initiated on PrEP. 4 were eligible but were not initiated because they said they were not ready. 19 KPs were non-eligible because they had recent exposure to HIV and were initiated on PEP. 464 KP were already on PrEP and refilled their prescription.

Figure 2.0: HIVST cascade among All, FY22 October 2021 to September 2022



HIVST kits used 99.7% First Time Testers 58% Screened Reactive 15% Confirmed Positive 95% Linked to ART 99.2%

Description: As shown in Figure 2.0, Cumulatively from October 2021 to September 2022, a total of 923 HIVST kits were distributed to all KPs and 920 HIVST kits were used. Also, 537 of the KPs were first time testers. 136 KPs were reactive. 130 KPs have been confirmed positive from which 129 of the KPs were linked to treatment.

Success story

Selorm, a 30-year-old MSM who expressed interest in hearing about PrEP, was screened, referred, and initiated on PrEP. He expressed extreme joy as he received his PrEP service. He said “in my lifetime of being MSM, I’ve seen and lost many friends to HIV/AIDS. It always saddened my heart to think this is how I might end up or lose more friends with the increased prevalence amongst community members. Hearing about PrEP I was so happy, I decided to make more enquiries and today I have received mine. This will really make a change in my sexual life as I am fully protected and insured with PrEP.” He then added due to the joy and education he received on PrEP, he would advocate as an agent of change, encouraging his peers in the community to do as he has done.

Scaling Up Quality HIV care cascade through community engagement and addressing human right related barriers (WAPCAS GF NFM III Project)

WAAF, in the second year of implementation on the WAPCAS Global Fund NFM III project, carried out various intervention activities in accordance with the Key Performance Indicators of the project. This project targets Key and vulnerable Populations mainly Men who have Sex with Men (MSM). Areas of implementation include Komenda Edina Eguafo Abirem Municipal, Cape Coast Metro, Awutu Senya East Municipal, Agona West Municipal, Assin Foso Municipal, Effutu Municipal, Awutu Senya and Upper Denkyira East Municipal. WAAF continued to conduct activities in the 8 assigned districts in the Central Region of Ghana with the support of 5 field officers. In the beginning of the year 2022, WAAF held planning meetings which discussed the start of the project year and issues arising from the previous year's implementation. Mitigation strategies were developed and agreed on to ensure better results in the 2022 implementation year. All 5 field officers with backstopping from the Project Coordinator and M&E Officer continued their supervisory roles in the field level to ensure the efficient execution of project activities in each district. These field officers are assisted by 69 field volunteers (37 Peer Educators, 12 Peer Paralegals, 12 Case Managers, 4 DIC Attendants and 4 DIC Support Nurses) to provide services to the target beneficiaries at the district level.

Through the efforts of the Peer Navigators, WAAF continued to provide prevention education on HIV and AIDS, STIs, PrEP, GBV, Condom and lubricant use. Education and other services including condom and lubricants distribution was done through three main approaches specifically one on one, small groups and social media. 83,614 Male condoms and 90,142 Water- based lubricants were distributed to MSM for free.

PrEP referrals were also provided in addition to HIV prevention education. Referrals were made by peer educators to any of the 3 PrEP referral facilities in the central region. 353 MSM were referred for PrEP services. A total of 251(196 referrals and 55 walk in) received PrEP services at the facilities. All 251 were screened for PrEP, 249 were eligible and were initiated on PrEP. During the year under review, WAAF carried out Differentiated HIV Testing Services for MSM across 8 Project Districts in the Central region. 8378 HIV tests were given to MSM, with

283 testing positive to HIV. Clients were referred for HIV testing services at the 9 health facilities, while the two DICs also served as referral points for HTS and STI management services. The DICs also served as a safe space and a place for infotainment for the MSM community. Hard to reach and discreet MSM were provided testing services through HIV Self Testing (HIVST). 153

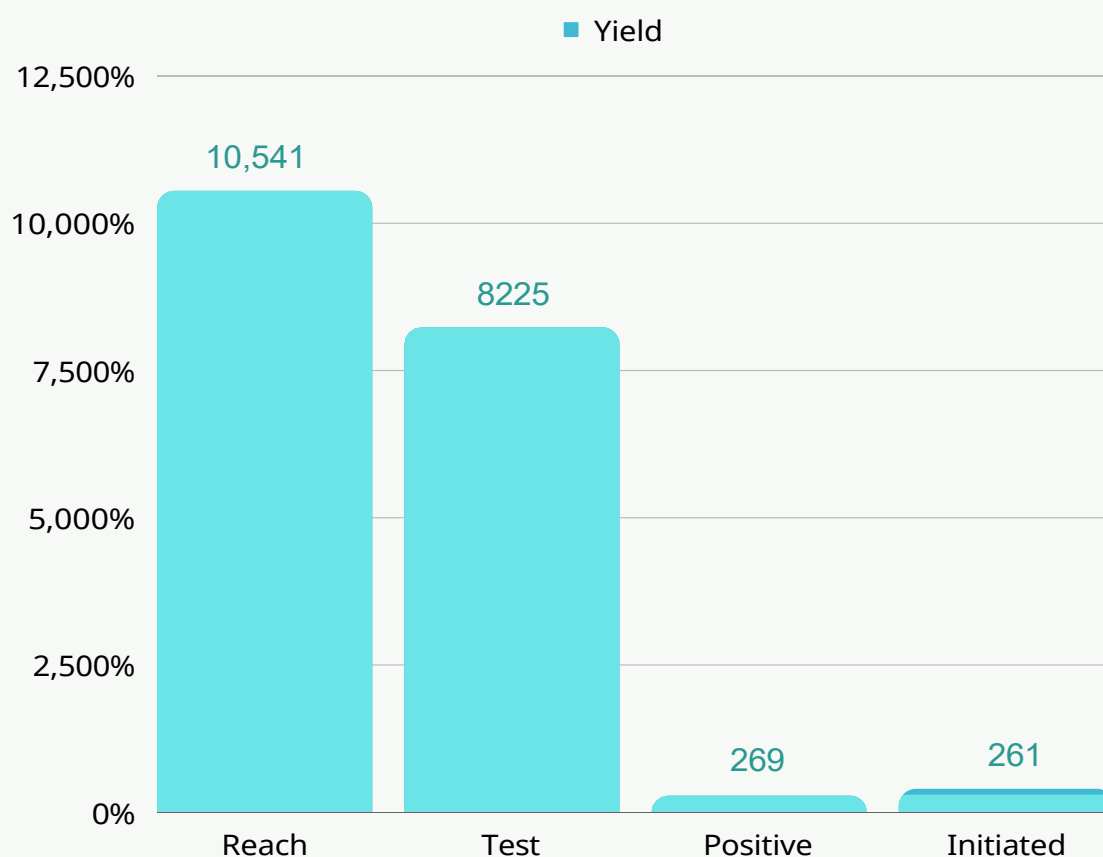
MSM were tested through HIVST with 14 testing reactive, being confirmed positive and initiated on treatment.

Case Managers continued to effectively manage HIV positive peers by providing psychosocial support and adherence counseling. Case managers also provide home visits and deliver ARVs to HIV positive peers. With the support from case managers, 275 HIV positive peers were successfully initiated on ART.

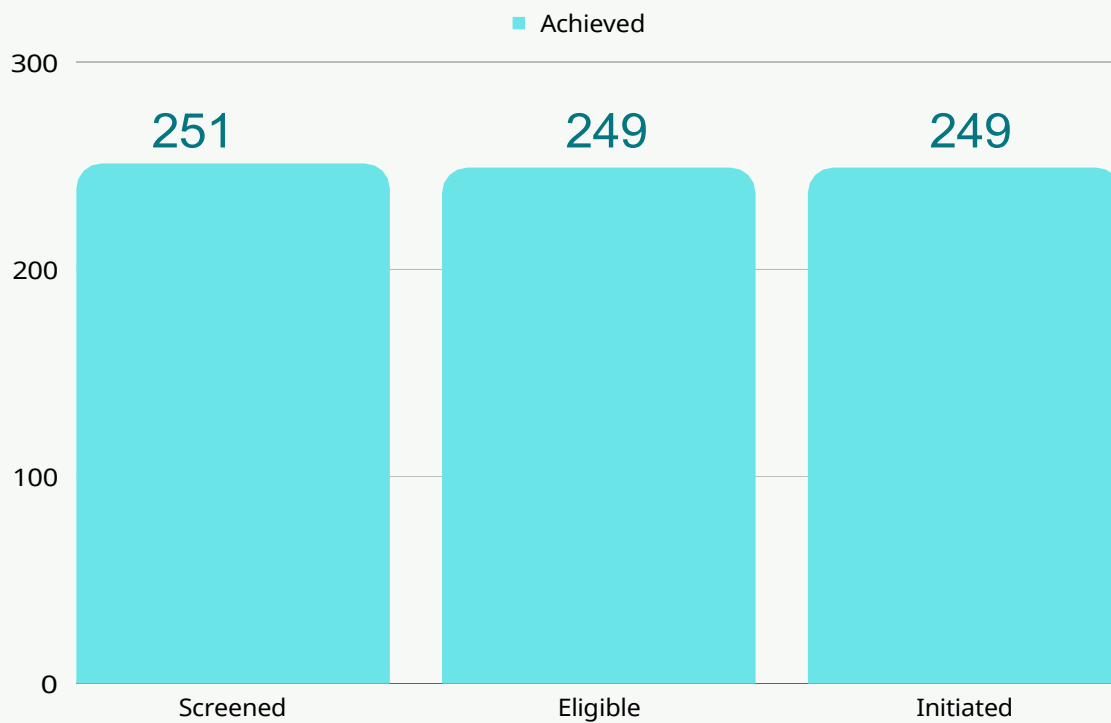
The WAAF team also supported 1041 peers with NHIS registration, renewals, and card replacements. Peer Paralegals provided education on Human Rights, SGBV, Stigma and Discrimination, the patients charter, and the Ghana AIDS Commission Act 938. Peers who were victims of human right abuses and violations were supported to seek redress. A total of 25 SGBV and Human Rights violations and abuse cases were recorded across all the 8 districts of implementation. All the cases were documented and have successfully been resolved.



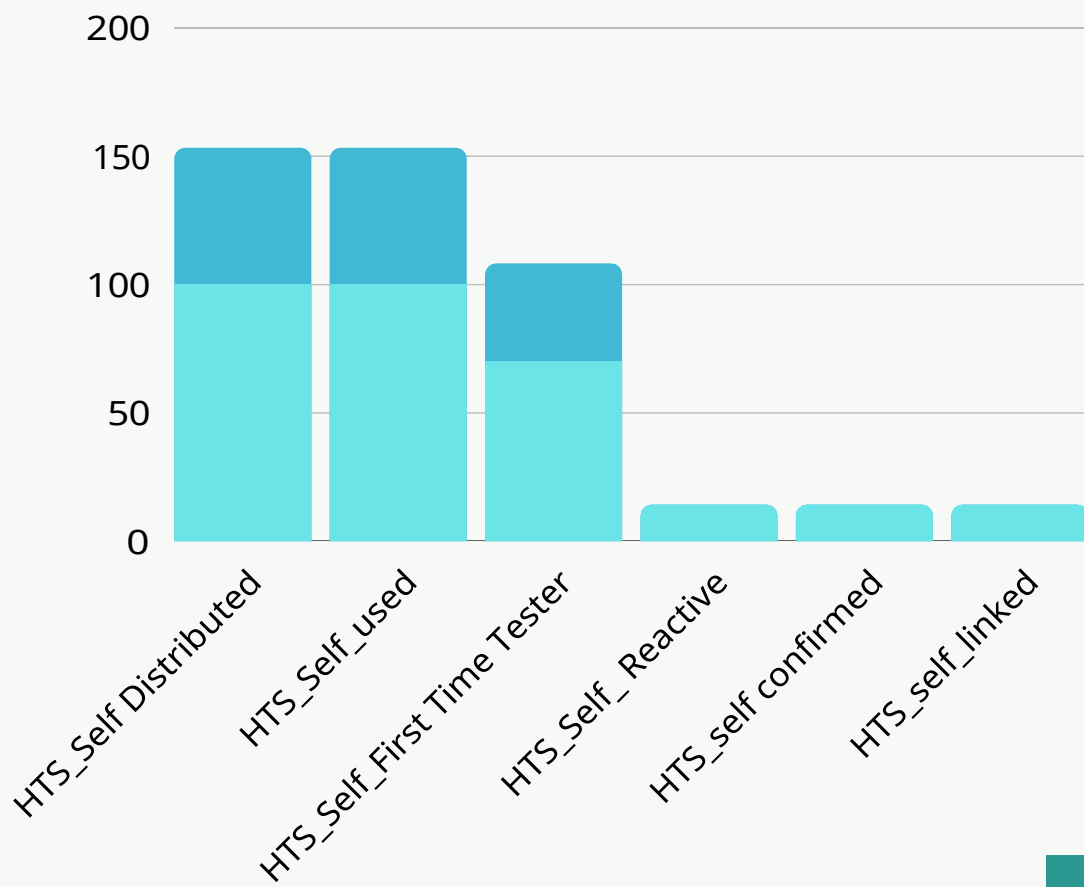
NFM III 2022 HIV CASCADE



NFM III PrEP Cascade



NFM III 2022 HIVST Cascade



IMPAACT4C19 Project

In 2022, WAAF in partnership with Joncaring Foundation (JCF) was awarded funds by the Treatment Action Group (TAG) to implement an advocacy project entitled: IMPAACT4C19; “Community Advocacy and Demand Creation for COVID-19 Diagnostics and Therapeutics.”

The project, which was implemented from February 2022 to November 2022, generally aimed at complementing Ghana’s COVID-19 efforts by ensuring access to COVID-19 testing and vaccination for marginalized groups including People Living with HIV/ TB. The project also realized that adequate patronage of COVID-19 vaccinations was needed to curb the spread of the disease. Therefore, the project Therefore, the project from its initial stages focused on the following objectives:

- To advocate for and facilitate the approval and operationalization of COVID-19 rapid testing offered by trained personnel at ART and TB units in 10 selected health facilities within the Greater Accra region by April 2022.
- To advocate for the availability of COVID-19 vaccines and the inclusion of COVID-19 testing and vaccination within existing guidelines of ART and TB units in 10 selected health facilities within the Greater Accra region by August 2022.
- To increase knowledge of COVID-19 and reduce myths and misconceptions especially around COVID-19 vaccination among PLHIV and people affected by TB in the Greater Accra region of Ghana by December 2022.



To achieve these project goals over the period, WAAF and JonCaring Foundation:

1. Conducted stakeholder engagements with (NACP/NTP/GHS) to solicit support and lobby to make COVID-19 Tests and vaccines available for use within the ART/TB units of 10 selected health facilities.
2. Conducted baseline and end line surveys to assess the knowledge and perceptions of PLHIV and PLTB on COVID-19.
3. Trained Health care providers at ART/TB units on rapid diagnostic testing of COVID-19 to ensure they provide testing services at their units.
4. Rolled out demand creation and COVID-19 advocacy campaigns by Jon Caring Foundation on Radio, Print media, Social-media, and one-on-one engagements with PLHIV/TB clients at service delivery points.
5. Conducted Rapid Diagnostic Testing and Vaccination of PLHIV/TB at various health facilities.

Achievements

By the end of the project period, advocacy on COVID-19 testing and vaccination was delivered to a total of 15,000 people through radio, social media, and in-person engagements at the ART/TB units. Also, 754 PLHIV/TB received their vaccination shots at the various units. Overall, the project demonstrated that advocating for COVID-19 led to an augmented demand for testing and vaccination by PLHIV/TB, as well as an increase in its supply by HCWs. This contributed to a significant improvement in the uptake of vaccination and testing services at the implementing facilities. Therefore, the project is confident that it will advance efforts in the fight against COVID-19 and improve HIV treatment outcomes.

Global Vax



With Funding from USAID through JSI, WAAF implements the Global vax project in the Western region to create awareness, offer and promote acceptance of the COVID-19 vaccine among target populations to control the spread of the COVID-19 virus in the three selected regions namely Western, Western North and Ahafo Regions. Objectives of the Global Vax Project include:

- To accelerate COVID-19 vaccinations to achieve set district COVID-19 vaccination targets.
- Increase uptake of the COVID-19 vaccines of the general population
- To increase uptake of COVID-19 vaccines by

at least 90% of minority groups of PLHIV, MSM, FSW, People with Disability (PWDs) and migrant populations.

- To build capacities of CSO partners, health workers involved in the project recognized community influencers and key stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of the COVID- 19 immunization intervention.

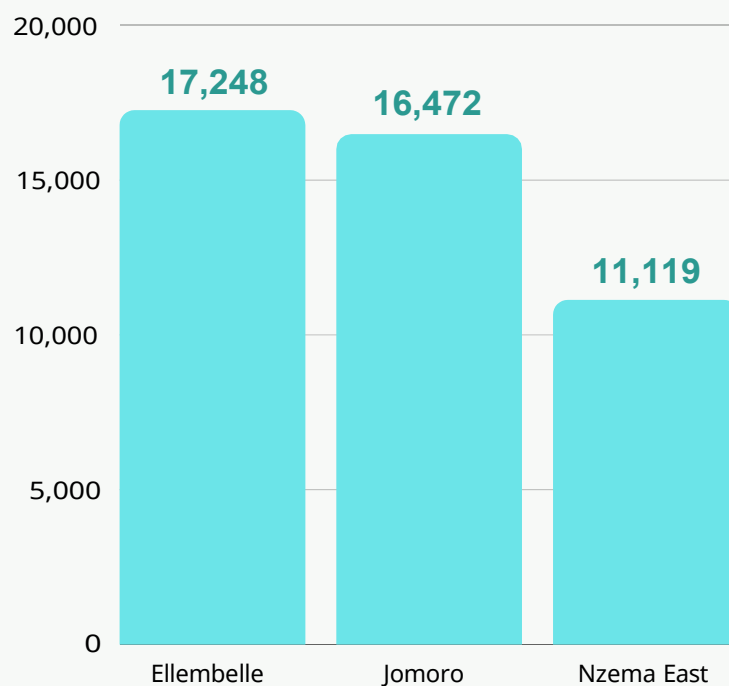
Under this project, WAAF operates in three Districts in the Western Region namely, Ellembelle, Jomoro and Nzema East Districts. During implementation, the following activities were undertaken. Stakeholder engagements were carried out where WAAF engaged District Health Directorates (DHDs), Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) and Health Promotion Officers, Community Information Centres (CICs), leaders of social groups ahead of implementation. This was followed by integration of workplans with key stakeholders. Then there was recruitment and training of volunteers, Myth Busters (leaders of social groups, community influencers). Community-led mobilization for COVID 19 vaccinations. Community Information Centers were also engaged to help intensify education to reduce myths and misinformation on COVID 19. Organized door-to-door campaigns led by community influencers who served as key information points to their community members.

Mobilizations were done routinely and during National Immunization Day (NID)/Regional Immunization Day (RID) in collaboration with the GHS vaccinators.

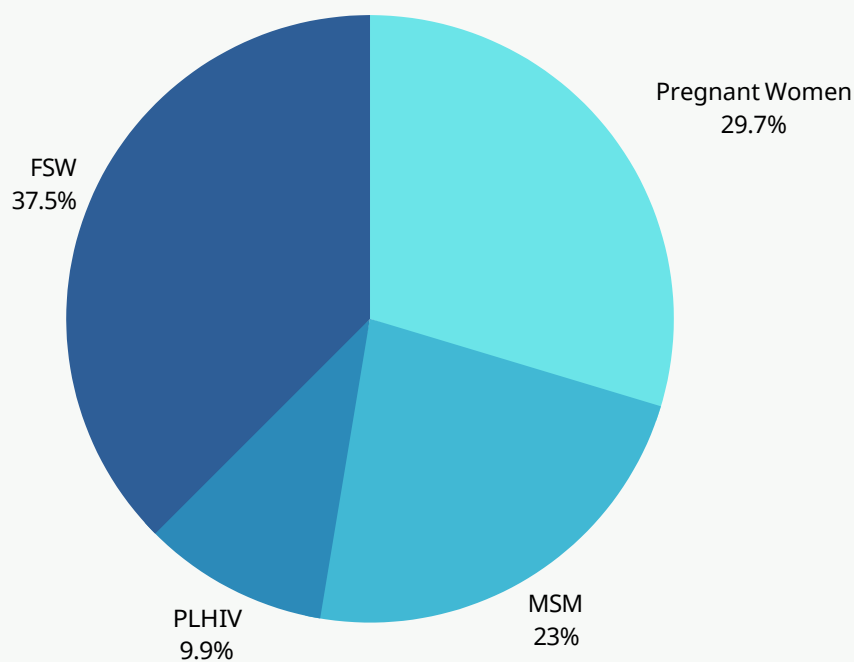
DATA/RESULTS

With the help of vaccinators from the GHS, the team has been able to mobilize and vaccinate the following number of people across the 3 implementing sites.

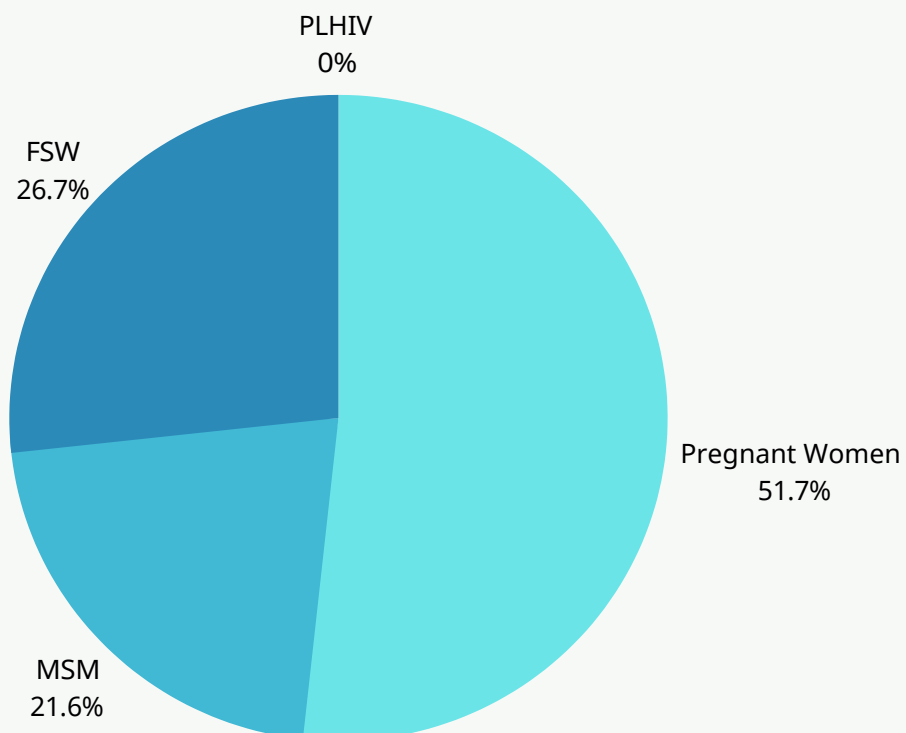
Number Fully Vaccinated



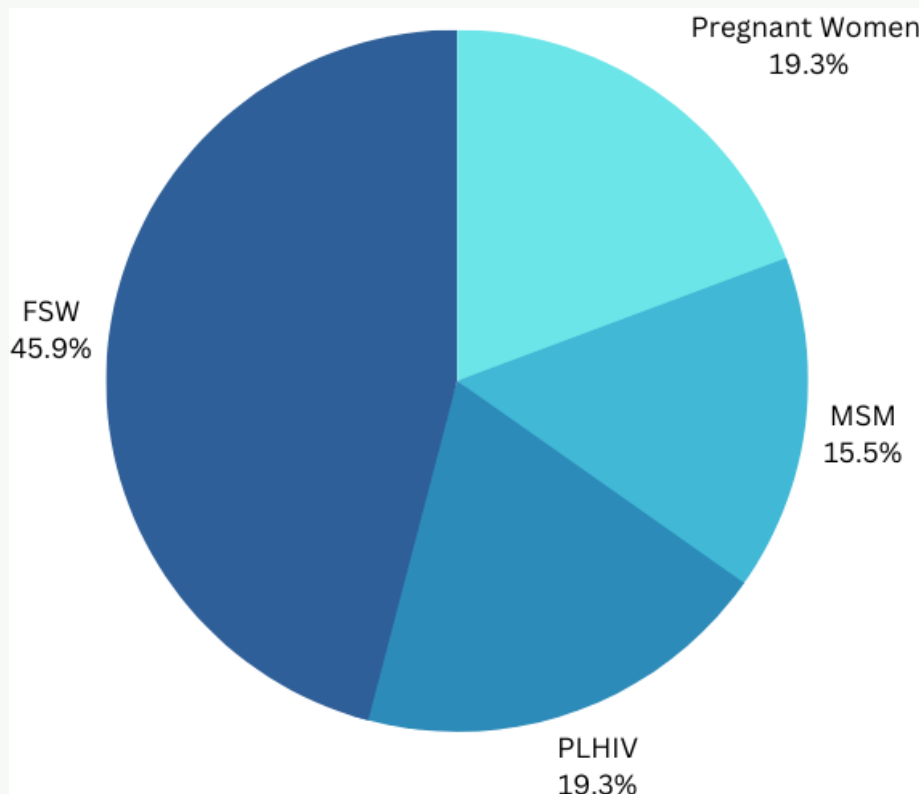
Jomoro



Nzema East



Ellembelle



INCORPORATING IPV/GBV IN HIV/TB PROGRAMMING UNDER THE CHAG/GF/NFM III CSS - C19RM



The West Africa AIDS Foundation (WAAF) was contracted by Christian Health Association of Ghana (CHAG) to support the delivery of strategic objective 7 of the HIV/TB Community Systems Strengthening Program which is to Improve Logistical Support to Safe Houses and Shelters for vulnerable persons with a focus on PLHIV/TB from 20th June 2022 to 31st December 2023.

Key activities to be undertaken under the objectives:

1. Support existing shelters with case management package (hospital bills, reintegration support, etc) and provide nutritional support for women victims/survivors of IPV/GBV and their children in need or at risk, especially for HIV/TB Clients.
2. Provide monthly communication and transportation reimbursement for volunteers working and supporting shelters and safe houses in Ghana
3. Procure and distribute agreed logistical support to shelters/safe houses and 10 Ghana Legal AID Offices

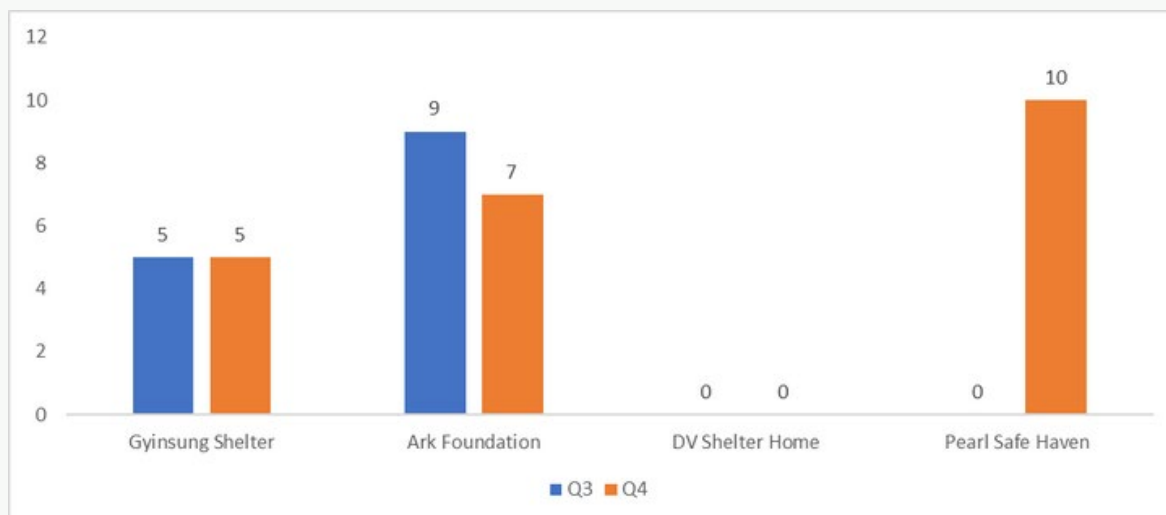
To ensure the fulfillment of objectives, WAAF undertook Shelter Facility Assessment visits to four shelter homes: Pearl Safe Haven, Gyinsung Shelter, Ark Foundation Shelter, and DV Shelter homes. During this period, WAAF facilitated the signing of Sub-Grant Agreements with the shelters, clearly outlining the targets, deliverables, and responsibilities of all parties involved. Among the four shelter homes, three signed Sub-Award Contracts with WAAF.

Also, WAAF successfully completed all procurement processes, acquired necessary logistics, and distributed them to the three shelter homes and the office of the Legal Aid Commission. Additionally, WAAF allocated funds to the shelters to provide support to victims identified during this period. The support offered to the victims encompassed a wide range of services, including medication, transportation expenses, legal assistance, education, and reintegration support. All victims received counseling services, and appropriate referrals were made to DOVVSU and other relevant institutions. Cases requiring legal and medical services were efficiently connected to the appropriate institutions, ensuring comprehensive care and support for the victims.

In addition to activities undertaken, WAAF actively participated in monitoring visits to the shelter homes, addressing any issues that arose regarding case referrals and home management. Throughout the year, a total of 36 cases were referred to the shelter homes, specifically at Ark Foundation and Gyinsung Shelter.

Among the total number of reported cases during the period, 8 cases, constituting 22% of the total, were children, while the remaining 28 cases (78%) were women who had unfortunately experienced instances of Physical Assault, Sexual Assault, and Gender-Based Violence Issues. The cases involving Children, were cases of defilement, physical abuse and neglect.

Project Achievements



As shown in the graph displayed above, Gyinsung Shelter admitted 5 cases in both the 3rd and 4th quarters. On the other hand, the Ark Foundation Shelter received a total of 16 cases, and Pearl Safe Haven admitted a total of 10 cases in the year. The other shelter home (DV Shelter home) was not operational.

Community TB Case Finding Project

Early TB case detection is very important in the commencement of treatment to prevent the spreading of TB infection in various communities.

West Africa AIDS Foundation with support from StopTB, CHAG, and the Sekondi Takoradi Metro Health Directorate and TB volunteers conducted TB screening outreaches within high-risk communities and crowded communities within the metropolis.

Using a door-to-door, one-on-one, small and large group approach, the WAAF team reached out to a large number of community members. Among the communities visited were Fijai, Amanful, Kokompe, Essikado, New Takoradi Ghetto, New Takoradi Upper Town, New Market, Market Circle, and Zenith area. Community members reached were provided with education on TB followed by TB screening using the National symptom-based TB screening Tool.

With the help of the TB focal person, the team also educated the masses on TB using the Community Information Centers and local radio stations.

Participants presumed to have TB had their samples taken and transported to the chest laboratory for lab test. Again, TB index cases had their contact traced and screened to prevent the spread of infection.



Planned Activity for the exercise were:

- Community TB Screening within selected communities in STMA
- Contact tracing of Index TB cases
- Sputum collection and Gene Xpert testing of all presumptive cases identified
- Linkage to care & treatment for detected TB cases

All activities were successfully executed.

At the end of first quarter 2023, the team was able to screen nine hundred and sixteen (916) community members out of which 36 were eligible for testing. All 36 eligible clients had had their samples collected and transported to the Effiakwanta Regional Hospital Chest laboratory and Kwesimintim Hospital Laboratory for gen xpert test.

Five (5) positive cases were recorded and four (4) were placed on treatment.

The team, however, encountered some challenges which included some community leaders making financial demands before organizing their community members for the screening activities.

COMMUNITY ARV DSD Pilot Project with CHAG

As part of the roll out of innovative differentiated service delivery where clients remain at the center, WAAF's onsite clinic; the International Health Care Centre (IHCC) in Haatso, was approached by the Christian Health Association Ghana (CHAG) to join the facilities piloting the community refill project. This project is spearheaded by CHAG, NACP and HIV coordinators. Under this project, clients who are living with HIV, are stable and virally suppressed on treatment can get their ARV refills at community level within selected pharmacies.

The project started with the selection of pharmacies which was followed by a week's training on ARVs, stigma and discrimination, confidentiality, and proper documentation when it comes to records keeping in HIV treatment. So far, IHCC works with 2 pharmacies; CS Allot and Tap Pharmacy all within the Ga East District.

Picking up ARV refill at community level allows for clients to not necessarily come to the health facility / clinic for a period of at least 3 months if there is absolutely no need for that. If, there is a need for facility level visit, the clinic where they are registered is always available to give them the services the clients may need. Clients, however, remain on scheduled facility level visit appointments for other services such as routine laboratory tests and periodic doctor-check-in appointments.

Since the inception of the project, 73 clients were given the eligibility form to sign and out of this, 59 of them have accepted to be enrolled. Out of this number, 35 clients who are well-established on ART and have attained viral load suppression have successfully been enrolled, assigned and given secondary sites (Pharmacies) their ARV refills. Unfortunately, 3 have defaulted. A few challenges or barriers to the successful enrollment to secondary sites have been:

1. Unavailability/ delay of viral - load results to help select eligible clients for the exercise.
2. A general fear and discomfort among clients to pick up their refill at community level.
3. Self-stigmatization with clients.
4. The fear of trust and confidentiality breach.
5. Distance to pharmacies is still not favorable for some clients hence defeating the purpose of the project.

WAAF / IHCC will continue to make strides on our DSD efforts while addressing bottle necks as they come along the way of implementation.

Star Ghana – Glad Star Matching Fund HM = HB Project



The Healthy Mother Equals Healthy Baby (HM=HB) project has been ongoing for over a decade with support from the GladStar ministry in the USA. This program has educated and supported pregnant and lactating women living with HIV who receive care at the International Health Care Centre (IHCC). In November 2022, the STAR Ghana matching fund joined the Gladstar ministry to collaboratively fund this project. This has enabled us to increase coverage of beneficiaries.

The program includes periodic meetings where, nurses, nutritionists, psychologists and other professionals give talks to lactating mothers and

pregnant women about nutritious, yet cost-effective eating habits for a healthy and inexpensive lifestyle. They are also taught the importance of keeping their surroundings clean to avoid environmentally borne illnesses for mother and child as well as educated on psychological topics pertaining to HIV, pregnancy and being HIV positive and pregnant. Pregnant women also enjoy the opportunity to learn from breastfeeding mothers in preparation towards safe delivery of their babies HIV free, healthy, and strong. These lessons continue all the way to the postpartum period, preparing them to provide proper care to their infants to ensure both mother and child stay healthy and strong. As part of these activities, Q and A sessions allow for participants to ask health workers questions and get answers to any concerns they might have. The beneficiaries also get the opportunity to share their ideas and problems and then deliberate on solutions to issues that are common to them. The Healthy Mother equals Healthy Baby monthly meetings are considered a form of support group opportunity since all the beneficiaries are persons living with HIV. Importantly, this meeting together provides a safe space where stigma of any kind is not tolerated. Each time beneficiaries meet, they are sent home with nutritious food items put together by a nutritionist and which consist of items like eggs, rice, oil, milo, milk, fruits and vegetables. These food items not only assist the direct beneficiaries but go a long way to support their other household members including children which helps reduce economic burdens almost all of them face.

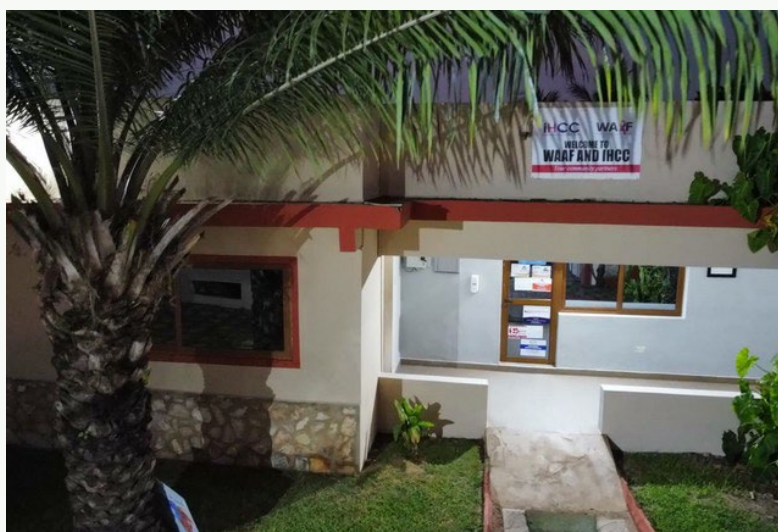
International Health Care Centre 2022



In preparation towards IHCC's 25th anniversary in 2023, management is excited to share with you our most significant work over 2022. As a community clinic, we continue to give all who walk through our doors to access services without stigma or discrimination. As a sister clinic working hand in hand with its NGO arm, WAAF, to complete the care cascade, we continue to see clinical cases ranging from emergencies, malaria, typhoid, hypertension, diabetes, etc. Due to our affiliation with WAAF, IHCC cannot tell its story without HIV as people continue to walk in to get HIV tests.

In order to provide Differentiated Service Delivery for all persons who visit or need our services at IHCC, various strategies are put in place, some of which include:

The use of the QuickRes platform which is an online platform that allows people to book appointments online for clinical services ranging from STI screening, HIVST, and pick up or delivery of PrEP medications as well as the ARVs. Services can also be booked in the clinic van at the clients' places of convenience. The use of the mobile clinic van is another strategy employed by the IHCC team to offer DSD services to the wide range of clients we serve.



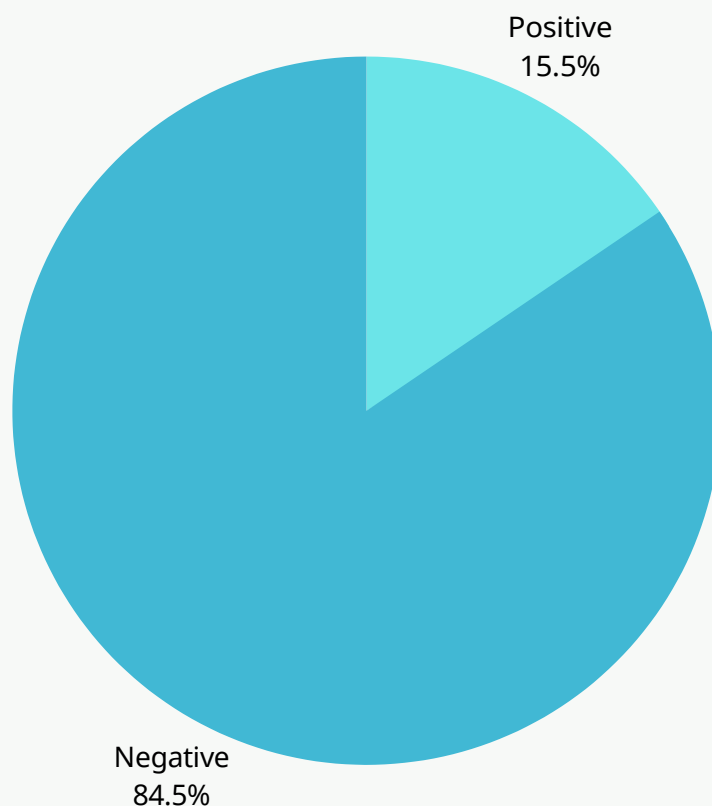
This van is used to provide services at convenient locations, dates and times. With approval from the National AIDS Control Program (NACP), our health workers carry out test and treat services which means HIV testing services, initiation on Anti-retroviral therapy if found positive and initiation on the PrEP if clients test negative to HIV; all in the mobile clinic van. These are WAAF and IHCC's efforts to



reduce the spread of HIV in our communities. In 2022, IHCC ceased all opportunities to eliminate barriers in retaining PLHIV in care. One such opportunity was to join CHAG in piloting the Community ARV refill project. This project allows PLHIV to pick up their ARVs in pharmacies closer to them. This is in the effort to reduce the barriers of transportation cost on clients and the long queues they usually meet at the clinic when they come for ARV pick- ups. ARVs are then made available in pharmacies closer to them.

During the year 2022 at IHCC,

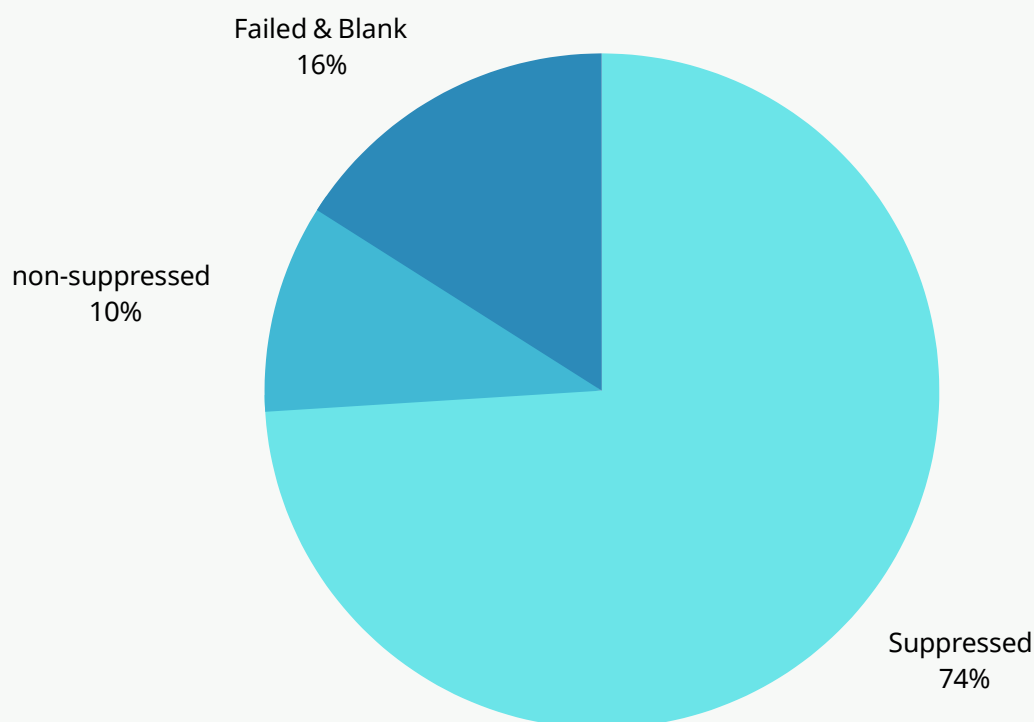
HIV Results



168 persons (62.07%) were linked to care and started treatment at IHCC during the year under review.

- Approximately 1,745 people underwent HIV testing as a result of community referrals, walk-ins, and diagnostic referrals.
- Of these 1,745 individuals, 271 (15.5%) had positive tests.
- 40 out of 271 individuals (14.76%) are old IHCC clients.
- In 2022, viral load services were accessible, leading to the collection of 953 viral load samples.

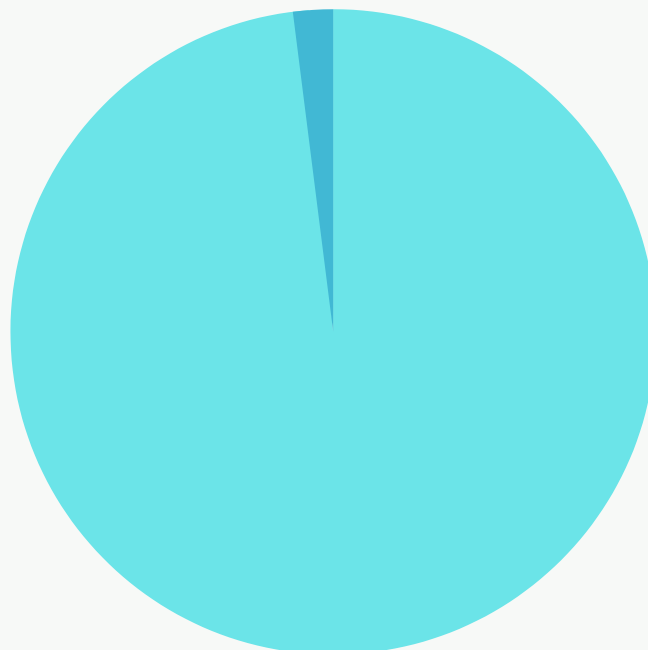
Viral Load



- Out of 953 PLHIV clients, 74% (n= 705) people have achieved viral suppression.
- 94 (10%) patients failed to achieve viral suppression.
- 154 (16%) came in as failed (n=39) and blank (n=115) results
- Daily TB screening at the facility involved more than 4,267 people.
- Tests on 40 suspected instances of tuberculosis revealed no positive results.
- In IHCC, 29 women are undergoing PMTCT, 11 being newly diagnosed clients and 18 were long-term IHCC clients who became pregnant in 2022.
- 766 people underwent a PrEP screening.
- Of 747 people, approximately 98% of those screened were started on PrEP.

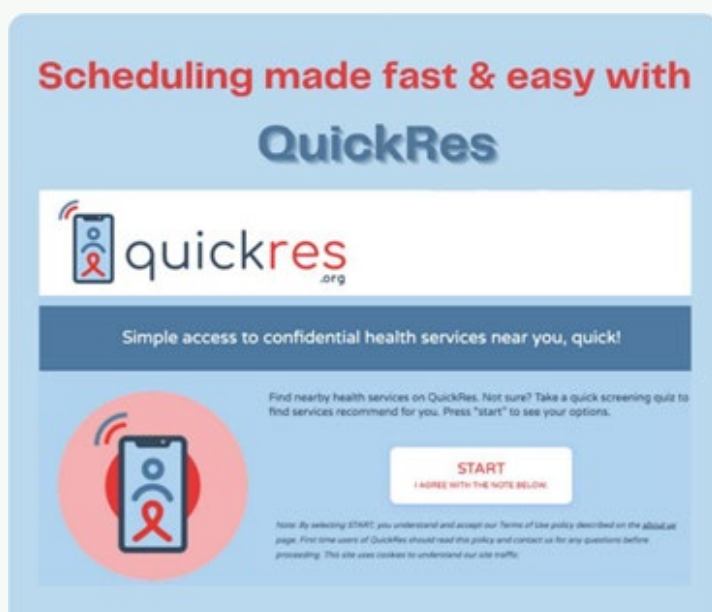
PrEP

not initiated
2%



Initiated
98%

WAAF & IHCC Expands into Tele medicine (QuickRes)



Although telehealth had its debut prior to COVID19, consequences of the pandemic such as lockdowns, physical distancing, and the extreme fear of acquiring the infection in the midst of others, led to telehealth suddenly emerging as a silver lining of the COVID-19 pandemic, improving access to care and facilitating a transition toward digital medicine. In line with these developments, the West Africa AIDS Foundation, its onsite clinic, tional Health Care Centre (IHCC) and 2 second tier organizations, PORSH and WIYO, under the implementation of the USAID/ KPIF funded, and FHI 360 managed project,

“Meeting Targets and maintaining epidemic control aka EpiC project” introduced QuickRes, an online booking system that allows clients to book appointments for various sexual health services. With financing from USAID and PEPFAR, FHI 360, created the Online Reservation and Case Management App (ORA) software, which is used by QuickRes (www.quickres.org). QuickRes is accessible in several locales and tongues. FHI 360, runs QuickRes. The West Africa AIDS Foundation (WAAF) and FHI 360 are regarded as the "controllers" of QuickRes in Ghana (<https://quickres.org/233>).

What does Quickres offer?

Get friendly, private sexual health care in Ghana with the help of the QuickRes platform, which makes it possible for any member of the public to look up and reserve appointments for a variety of health services. Scheduled appointments are communicated to the preferred service provider, in this case WAAF and IHCC, after which the service provider helps clients get to appointments and records the health services given to clients who show up for appointments. Customers can also schedule free delivery of HIVST test kits and PrEP pills through QuickRes.

To further support Quickres as part of differentiated service delivery, WAAF and its clinic IHCC, give the clients three options for accessing services.

1. Receive services at WAAF’s clinic the International Health Care Center
2. Receive services at the offices of our second-tier organizations.
3. Receive services through the mobile clinic at places of convenience for the clients.
4. WAAF & IHCC continue to be there to ensure no one is left behind.

WAAF Supports in Building The YOUTH+ App with UNFPA & YAG

The United Nations Development Program, UNDP Ghana office in consultation with the West Africa AIDS Foundation (WAAF) and the Young Health Advocates - Ghana (YHAG), joined an IT Developer who developed and designed a mobile application specifically for young persons living with HIV to enhance their accessibility to relevant health information to enhance care across the HIV cascade for this target group. The app was named Youth+ (Positive living) app. The idea for an HIV related app, specifically for this target group, was born from the realization by this age group that they lacked access to age specific information on HIV and hence, many a time, struggled to make informed decisions.



Dr. Vanderpuye -Donton, CEO of WAAF and a clinician with over 15 years of experience in HIV care and treatment, was contracted by UNDP-Ghana to provide content for the APP whilst Mr. Justice Akpadie, the IT Developer, was tasked with the design of all the APP's features and subsequently, provide support and maintenance. The Youth Plus app has a user-friendly interface and is carefully designed to provide young people between the ages of 13 – 30 years with relevant age specific HIV information as well as referrals for more expert care. Examples of features available on the APP are general information on the basics of HIV, preventing other conditions whilst living with HIV, a list of all ART sites in the country and their locations, peer-to-peer chats where users of the app can chat among themselves and provide support for one another. Mentors and experts are also accessible on the app with whom users can book appointments for virtual or physical meetings.

Integrated in the development of the APP was the assurance of security for its users. Access to the app is therefore secured by a registration and account creation process that is approved by an approver. Other properties like HIV statistics, ARV & Medication, education on COVID 19 and vaccination, abuse, and bullying, violence and discrimination, alcohol and drugs, diet and health, IQ test, Board games and other related resources meant to educate whilst entertaining users. The App can be found on the google play store for all android users and will soon also be available on the App store for iPhone users.

The goal is to have as many as possible from the target age group download and use the APP then eventually take over the management of its content which will enhance outcomes across the HIV cascade for this group.

We are very grateful to the government of Japan through JICA and UNDP for providing the resources to make this very important tool available.

We also thank Mr. Justice Akpadie for his great work in designing a very user-friendly APP and Dr. Vanderpuye -Donton for the great and relevant content. Click this link <https://www.youthplusapp.com/> to read more about the Youth+ app.

Key Events, Workshops, Trainings, Outreaches & Donations

Dr. Gawande & Team visit to WAAF



Based on WAAF and IHCC's impressive work on donor-supported projects such as the Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC project) and Differentiated Service Delivery (DSD) options being offered, WAAF and its clinic the International Health Care Centre (IHCC) had the privilege of hosting a high-powered delegation from USAID and the FHI 360 team. The team was led by Dr. Atul Gawande, the Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development. The brief visit

started with a national scope of HIV Self-Test (HIVST) and Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) uptake in Ghana by the Program Manager of the National AIDS Control Program, Dr. Stephen Ayisi Addo. The team was also interested in learning more about WAAF and its onsite clinic, the International Health Care Centre's history, and its work on past and present projects. They also sought to learn more about HIVST and PrEP uptake among key populations serviced by WAAF and IHCC's projects. PrEP Champions from WAAF's implementing partners Worldwide International Youth Organization (WIYO) and Priority on Rights and Sexual Health (PORSH) were present to testify to the benefits of Preexposure prophylaxis PrEP Nurses from IHCC shared their experiences on the project and demonstrated how services are rendered from the mobile clinic during community service delivery. The WAAF and IHCC team remain grateful to PEPFAR, USAID, FHI 360, and NACP for their generous support to WAAF, IHCC and the various projects.

USAID Ghana HIV/AIDS Team Lead, Health, Population, and Nutrition of USAID Visits WAAF-IHCC



On the 2nd of March 2022, WAAF had the opportunity of hosting Heather Robinson, the HIV/AIDS Team Lead, Health, Population, and Nutrition Office of USAID Ghana, as she paid a working visit to the WAAF office. It was such an honor to share our work and experiences with her. Conversations went from information on all our projects. Both past and present to provide more detailed information on the EpiC Project entitled: MEETING TARGETS AND MAINTAINING EPIDEMIC

CONTROL as this is a USAID funded one. On this project, WAAF works with its onsite clinic, the International Health Care Center (IHCC) as well as 2 second-tier organizations WIYO and PORSH. Madam Robinson shared how impressed USAID is with the overall performance of the EpiC which is being implemented in multiple countries. She was equally impressed with WAAF and IHCC's strategy in ensuring services range from prevention through treatment and ultimately viral load suppression. The highlight was the WAAF's mobile clinic which brings health services to people in their communities, and which recently got the approval to initiate ART for persons who test positive. Ms. Robinson's enthusiasm for us and our work has given us the motivation to carry on in the fight against HIV as we continue to utilize innovation, always ensuring our clients remain at the center.

USAID's Organizational Capacity Development for WAAF

In 2022, WAAF with support from the USAID through FHI 360, started the journey towards direct funding from USAID. This came with a lot of training and the proper documentation of project documents. This went on to sub-grant management since being a principal recipient came with management of sub recipients with projects that are implemented at the community level. The training covered Human Resources, proper Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) processes, and the updating of various administrative documentations like cost sharing principles, resource mobilization, and quality assurance processes.

SIMS Visit



A team from USAID paid a Site Improvement through Monitoring Systems (SIMS) visit to the West Africa AIDS Foundation and its onsite clinic; the International Health Care Centre (IHCC). The visit was to assess documentation and the facility's performance on PrEP service delivery to Key Populations on the Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EPIC) project funded by the USAID through FHI-360. The objectives of this SIMS visit were to:

1. To assess the HIV services that IHCC provides to key populations as well as the general public to improve the PEPFAR program.
2. Assess the availability of commodities, standard operating procedures, guidelines, policies, job aids and flow charts that enable high quality delivery of HIV services to our patrons.

At the end of the assessment, WAAF's clinic, the International Health Care Centre, scored 88% overall. One of the recommendations resulting from the visit was to improve documentation on feedback from clients and ensure the feedback is addressed. For example, the clinic is to explore ways by which clients can give feedback/complaints anonymously even when they are offsite. They also suggested a register to track feedback/complaints received as evidence that all complaints and suggestions from the clients were addressed with actions taken.

St. Catherine University Donates Medical Items to IHCC



Program Coordinators from the St. Catherine University, Minneapolis in the United States paid a working visit to the West Africa AIDS Foundation in Accra ahead of the arrival of their student who was scheduled to undertake her internship with WAAF. The visit was to inspect our facility to ensure a smooth internship experience for the student. The St. Catherine University was kind enough to donate some clinical items to support the work of our onsite clinic, the International Health Care Centre (IHCC). The New Birth Midwifery in Minnesota also made a cash donation to support IHCC's purchase of a new ultrasound machine. Anne Ness, during her internship with WAAF-IHCC, also donated a mini-ECG machine to help

monitor the heart rate of clients when they come to the clinic to access care. The management of the West Africa AIDS Foundation and the International Health Care Centre remain grateful to the St. Catherine University, New Birth Midwifery in Minneapolis, and Anne Ness for their generous support towards our work.

Methodist Women Donation



For several years, the Accra North Circuit Methodist women fellowship have made time annually to visit, spend time, pray for and make donations to clients of the International Health Care Centre. During these visits, they listen to the experiences of people living with HIV and how they cope with the condition amidst the many challenges. This interaction continues to give them insights into areas where they can better support clients during subsequent visits. Over the years, these donations have continuously helped in improving the nutritional needs of our clients. This year was no exception to these visits as the

Methodist women showed up in numbers colorfully to make merry with our clients while making their donations. They also thanked the IHCC staff for their continuous and consistent support in improving the lives of both PLHIV clients and non-PLHIV.

2022 World AIDS Day Celebrations

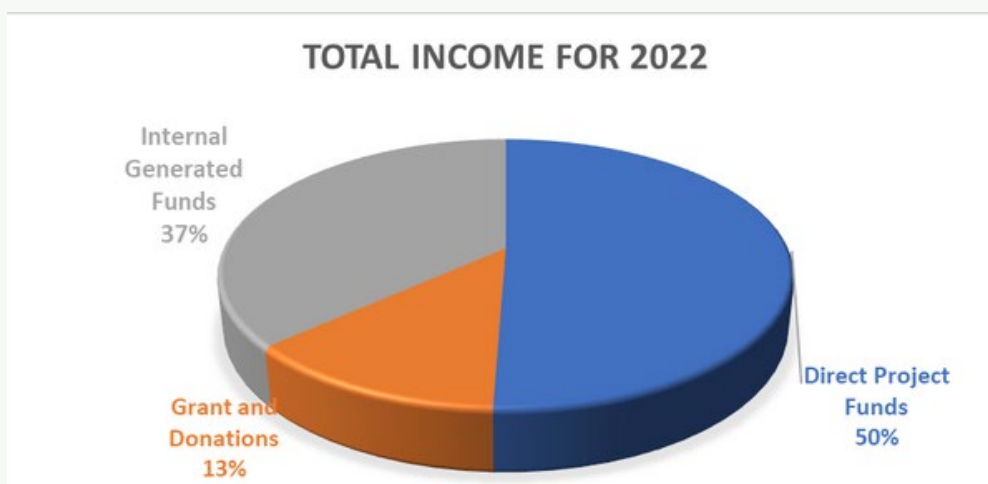


The team from the West Africa AIDS Foundation and the International Health Care Centre, as they have for many years, joined other organizations fighting the HIV pandemic, to commemorate the World AIDS Day Celebration. The celebration presents a unique opportunity for public and private partners to spread awareness about the status of the HIV pandemic and encourage more progress in global HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and care. On December 1, WAAF and IHCC head office staff joined the

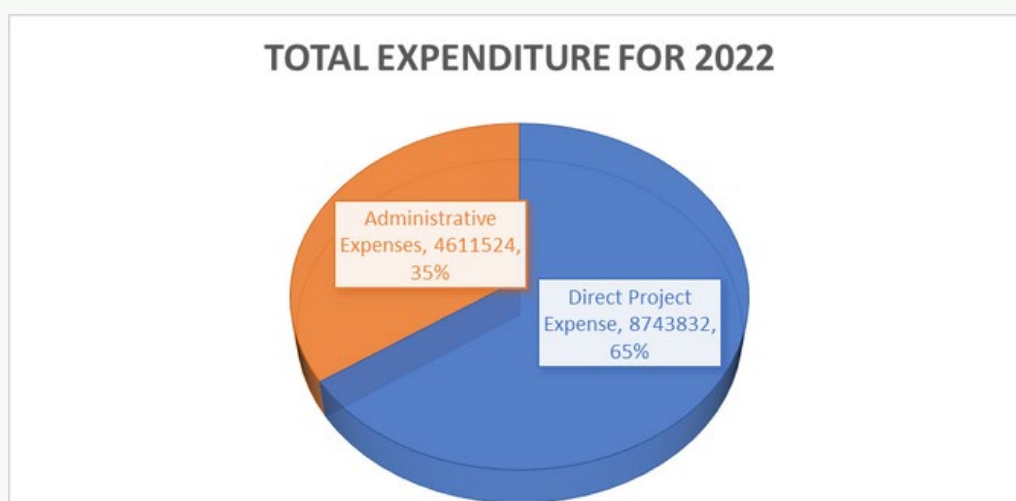
Ghana AIDS Commission and other partners at a National Durbar to celebrate World AIDS Day 2022. This took place at the Forecourt of the state house in Accra, Ghana. The WAAF IHCC team carried out HIV testing and counseling, blood pressure screening, condom and lubricant distribution as well as the exhibition of our work over the years with photos and videos to keep all persons present engaged when they walk by our stand. WAAF's branch offices in the Central region, Western region and Northern region were not left out as they also carried out similar activities in solidarity towards WAD celebrations on the regional level by partnering with the various District Health Directorates and the GAC technical support units (TSU) of the various regions in Ghana where our offices and projects are being implemented. These presented the opportunity for people to know their HIV status by testing and for people to access condoms, lubricants, IEC materials including demonstrations of the right way to wear a condom.

2022 FINANCIAL UPDATES

Income And Expenditure for 2022



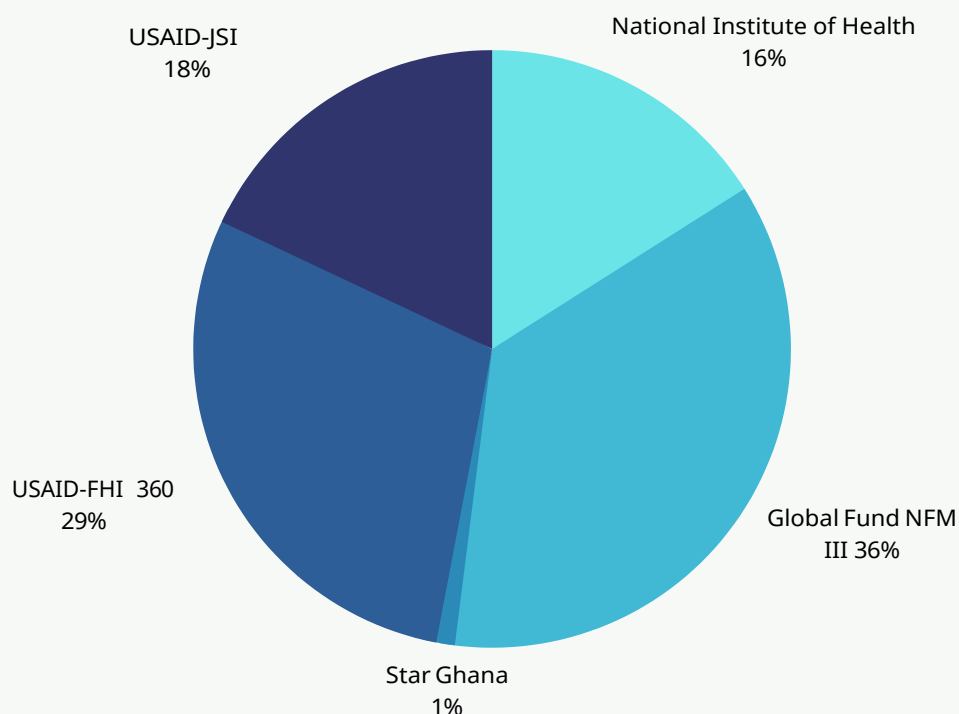
For the year 2022, WAAF and its internal income raising subsidiary, IHCC, realized a total income of GHS13.3 million. As depicted in the chart above, this comprised of 37% internal generating funds, 50% direct project funding from donors, and 13% coming from grants and donations for direct ground vulnerable beneficiaries.



As shown above, in the year 2022, the total expenditure for WAAF was GHS 13.3million. Out of this, 65% was expended on direct field and vulnerable beneficiaries and 35% was spent on operational and administrative support to the field activities.

2022 FINANCIAL UPDATES

Donors Contribution To Income for 2022



In the year 2022, WAAF was effective in mobilizing GHS 6.7 million from donors for direct and specific project activities. Out of this amount, WAPCAS Global Fund (GF) NFM III contributed 36%, USAID/JSI contributed 18%, EpiC project under FHI360 granted 29%, STAR GHANA contributed 1% and NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH contributed 16%.

Thoughts of our 2022 Interns, Volunteers & National Service Personnel



Hi! My name is Laura Hoeker and I interned full-time with WAAF-IHCC from January 2022 – April 2022. I came to WAAF from the University of North Carolina Wilmington where I was finishing my bachelor's degree in public health with a global health concentration. A year ago, coming to Ghana was nowhere in my plan. With COVID-19 persisting and borders barely re-opening, I was unsure if international travel was going to allow me to complete an internship of this scale. But it happened! Looking back on my time in Ghana, I can say with confidence that it has been the most positive and influential part of my education thus far. The staff at both WAAF &

IHCC welcomed me with open arms. From the very start, I was included and immersed in the daily activities. I love the way WAAF & IHCC coordinates their interns because it truly allowed me to pursue projects within my interest area while still being exposed to and involved in all the amazing work that they have underway. The main projects I conducted were a program evaluation of the UNAIDS, WAAF led CLM Pilot Project and a baseline study to gather descriptive characteristics of young persons living with HIV. These projects tested my skills in qualitative and quantitative data collection as well as in providing culturally competent recommendations that would suit the environment and population WAAF & IHCC work in. In addition to the above, my daily activities varied based on the outreach events, trainings, meetings, and other activities going on. I can talk about all of these at great length, but I want to leave you with three key lessons I took away from it all.

First, time is precious and how you spend your time ultimately affects others. I had never paid so much attention to timeliness, until I was in Ghana. As someone who has always operated with the American mindset that on time is late, the social and cultural construct of “Ghana Time” quickly became my biggest teacher in patience. Second, know your role and never be afraid to say no. While I didn't necessarily apply this to my own life at the time, it is a critical lesson in personal and professional growth that I have left with. Throughout my entire internship, I was eager to be involved in everything... some may say a little too eager. Multi-tasking takes on a whole new meaning at WAAF & IHCC, and while this is an important skill to have in a high-paced environment, it can also make you less efficient. Somedays, I would go to sleep questioning if I got anything done because I kept interrupting my own workflow to be involved in something that came up (and a lot of things tend to come up out of nowhere). The staff at WAAF & IHCC operate as a team and are always willing to drop what they're doing to assist a colleague. But in any team, it's important to know what your true responsibilities are and when to say no if it's out of your scope of knowledge, skillset, or you simply have too many other things to finish.

Lastly, if you are passionate about the work you are doing, it's not work and it's worth whatever sacrifices that come with it. Before interning at WAAF & IHCC, I had never been surrounded by a group of such passionate professionals. I made it a point during my internship to sit in the different offices and listen to what was going on. At times, the public health field can be frustrating and defeating. Observing how the staff navigated the struggle of politics and maintained focus on the community and functioned with humanity, was a key part of my learning experience.

I also want to say that, though I won't name them here, there are a group of powerful women behind WAAF & IHCC. Their energy and focus radiate off them and I truly believe it is what keeps things running. I look up to this group of mentors and hope that I will live out my profession with at least half as much passion as they do.

My time at WAAF & IHCC will forever hold a special place in my heart, and I know I'll be back. To the entire staff at WAAF & IHCC, thank you for EVERYTHING! You have had a bigger impact on me than I could ever put into words.

-Laura Hoeker

Bachelor's degree in public health with a Global Health concentration.

University of North Carolina Wilmington

List of Interns 2022

Laura Hoeker - North Carolina, USA

Giselle Gonzalas - California, USA

Jordan Smith - California, USA

Isabelle Nechvatal – North Carolina, USA

National Service Experience with WAAF



Any human being's development is dependent on working with organizations that share one's values and encourage personal growth. My growth began when I was posted to the West Africa AIDS Foundation, a non-governmental organization that offers services and support to those with HIV and AIDS. As a fresh Accounting graduate who was yet to have any practical job experience, WAAF gave me the opportunity to learn from experienced Accountants. I learnt how financial statements are prepared for the various Donors, Ensuring Statutory compliance and budgeting and making future projections. I gained social connections,

and professional experience through my national service with WAAF, all of which helped me further my career. While working with WAAF, I was able to interact with people from various backgrounds and learned about how HIV and AIDS have affected their lives. I also got the opportunity to participate in focus group discussions and review meetings. This encounter taught me a great deal about the difficulties and reality of living with HIV and AIDS and the significance of offering complete and all-encompassing support to individuals afflicted by the disease. Overall, my experience has been an enlightening one and one that has helped me in my career growth.

David Marley

Diploma in Accounting

University of Professional Studies Accra

List of 2022 NSS Personnel

1. David Marley – University of Professional Studies, Accra
2. Miriam Nai – University of Ghana
3. Jennifer Yirenkyi Ayirebi University of Ghana
4. Emmanuel Tutu – Koforidua Technical University

Prosper Anatsui Jnr.'s Volunteer Experience



In search of an organization where I could build capacity for my career, I chanced on the profile of WAAF/IHCC online in January 2022. I made thorough checks, communicated with past interns, and learned about their various experiences at the organization. Enthused about the awesome work WAAF/IHCC does, I decided to take the initiative to fill out the volunteer form and follow up in person days after filling the form.

I started volunteering at the clinic, whilst learning under amazing people at WAAF/IHCC. I enjoyed each day I worked at the clinic and went on lots of outreaches to engage key populations and provide essential health services. It has

been 14 months since I started volunteering at WAAF, and I can confidently say that my experience has been nothing short of awesome. During this time, I have transitioned through various roles, including Nurse Consultant on the Epic Project and Project Coordinator on the IMPAACT4C19 project.

My transition to these roles was made possible by the amazing team at WAAF/IHCC. The synergy among the team at WAAF/IHCC served as an initial motivation for me. The staff work together to ensure that their efforts are coordinated, and that the impact they make is felt in the community. This synergy has inspired me to push myself and to do more for the good of the community.

Through my experiences at WAAF/IHCC, I have gained valuable expertise that I believe has been key to my work. I have learned about the importance of teamwork, collaboration, and effective communication. I have also learned about the various challenges that individuals and communities face in the fight against HIV/AIDS and

In conclusion, volunteering at WAAF/IHCC has been an amazing experience for me. The organization has a welcoming and supportive environment that provides ample opportunities for personal and professional growth. I am grateful for the experience and the relationships I have built while volunteering at WAAF, and I look forward to remaining a part of this amazing community.

Prosper Anatsui

Public Health Nurse, University of Health & Allied Sciences

Photo Gallery



Get in touch with WAAF & IHCC

WAAF and IHCC enjoy servicing the people of Ghana; we continue to ensure our services are available to all and that absolutely no one is left behind. We also enjoy sharing our experiences as we continue our journey in the areas of health in Ghana focusing on HIV and TB. You can reach us and keep in touch with us via any of the under-listed contact details. We look forward to an exciting year in 2021 and you can follow our work on these same platforms.

PHYSICAL OFFICE ADDRESSES

WAAF Headquarters, Greater Accra

Address: Plot 650 Ecomog Road, Haatso, Greater Accra.

Opposite Benab Oil filling station. The closest station is Haatso Station.

Contact Numbers: +233 302 545 054 | +233 243 362 447

Please direct general inquiries to: info@waafweb.org

WAAF, Western Region Office

WAAF Takoradi Office GI18,

Adjoa Ghartey Street Near

Mexico Hotel

GPS Address: WS-201-7442

Contact number: 0249354576/ 0245021821/ 0243362447

Email: info@waafweb.org

WAAF Essiama Office

Essiama on top of the Ecobank Building opposite Dukes filling Station

GPS Address: WE-0206-7313

Contact number: 0553964934/ 0249354576/ 0243362447

Email: info@waafweb.org

WAAF, Northern Region Office Address:

Savelugu Municipal Health Assembly Contact

Number: 0243675303/ 0243362447

Email: info@waafweb.org

WAAF Central Regional Offices

- Kasoa Nyanyayo Road near Teacher's quarters
- Winneba – Apam Road Opp. Dukes Filling Station
- Cape Coast – Akyeano Near Cherubim and Searphim School
- Assin Fosu Town Around Melcom
- Dunkwa Field Office, Dunkwa Atechem Boass road

IHCC Contact

www.ihccghana.com

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