

Courtesy Visit to the Director General, NACA



APIN's leadership team paid a courtesy visit to the Director General of the National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA), Dr. Gambo Aliyu, and key officials at the agency.

During the meeting, we discussed our contribution to the national response to AIDS over the years, where we are now and plans for the future.

APIN 2021 Site Leadership Meeting



Our two-day Site Leadership meeting brought together our key partners and stakeholders from all our implementing states to discuss our challenges, share lessons learnt, celebrate our mid-year

achievements and brainstorm to develop strategies for ensuring and building on our successes in the remaining months of the program year.

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HIV Treatment Surge Launch in Oyo State



In partnership with the Oyo State Ministry of Health and the U.S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Nigeria, we launched the HIV Treatment Surge initiative in Oyo State. The Secretary to the Oyo State Government, Mrs. Olubamiwo Adeosun, inaugurated the ART Surge Steering Committee to lead the execution of the strategy in the state. Also in attendance were the U.S Consul General in Nigeria, Claire Pierangelo and the CDC Nigeria Country Director, Dr. Mary Boyd.

HIV Treatment Surge Launch in Ondo State



The Sunshine state was not left out of efforts to scale up HIV prevention and treatment services. The Secretary to the Ondo State Government, Princess Catherine Oladunni Odu, launched the HIV Treatment Surge strategy on behalf of the Executive Governor. The launch event heralded a series of efforts aimed at putting a total of **14,035** new People Living with HIV in the state on Antiretroviral therapy by September 2021.

APIN Ondo State and Ondo SACA Advocacy to NDLEA, Ondo State

APIN's Ondo State office and the Program Manager of the Ondo State Agency for the Control of AIDS (ODSACA), Dr. Dayo Adegbulu paid a joint advocacy visit to the Acting Commander of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Mr. Cally Alumona, to sensitize the agency on the need to work together to reach Injectable Drug Users (IDUs) with quality HIV prevention, treatment and care services.

18,734

New persons tested for HIV in **Plateau State**, representing **60%** of the total number of people tested by APIN and its partners from April to May, 2021.

Mrs. Titilayo Igbuwe of SSH, Okitipupa, Ondo State emerges Best in Case Management

Thanks to the continuous capacity building activities delivered by APIN's Strategic Information team, Mrs. Titilayo Igbuwe, Lay Counselor and Member of the Case Management Team at State Specialist Hospital, Okitipupa, Ondo State, was awarded the Best in Case Management Documentation out of the 48 health facilities supported by APIN in the state. She was selected by a team led by Dr. Magnus Odido, Case Management Team POC at APIN HQ.

Index Testing Strategy Training Holds in Ekiti State



APIN Ekiti State held a two-batch training on Index Testing Strategies for 33 staff from four Global Fund-transitioned sites in Ekiti State.

The training will increase the capacity of the participants to identify, track and test persons who have been exposed to or are at risk of an HIV infection through an already-confirmed index client, thus tracing the source of the infection and enrolling all positives into Anti-Retroviral Therapy to achieve viral suppression.

APIN at the 2021 APHPN Conference



The 37th Conference of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) themed "Strategies for Resilience and Recovery from Public Health Emergencies" held in Abuja from 14 - 18 June, 2021.

APIN hosted a plenary session on Public Health Programming during a Pandemic where we talked about our history, accomplishments and our experience strengthening health service delivery in the COVID-19 pandemic through the ITF and CDC-funded ANC-Fever project. Our team also shared more about our work through oral and e-poster presentations.

Flag-Off of Cryotherapy Services at the Benue Centre of Excellence One Stop Shop



The Benue State Centre of Excellence Key Population One Stop Shop has commenced Cryotherapy Services for the treatment of anogenital warts. The ribbon was cut by Dr. Gabriel Anefu, the State AIDS Program Coordinator at the Benue State AIDS and STI Control Program (SASCP), Dr. Kelechi Ngwoke, the Head of Office at APIN Benue and other representatives of the Benue State Agency for the Control of AIDS (SACA). The ribbon-cutting event, which was also attended by community-based organizations, healthcare providers, key population community members and patients doubled as a sensitization meeting to address concerns and questions regarding the process, benefits and usage of Cryotherapy.

CDC DQA Visit to Ondo State

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Nigeria team were in Ondo State to conduct a Data Quality Assurance (DQA) exercise. They visited three health facilities in the state and provided useful feedback to help improve data quality and strengthen data management processes at the facility level.

13,137

People Living with HIV (PLHIV) are currently receiving Anti-Retroviral Therapy in Ondo State as at 21 June, 2021

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Cervical Cancer Scale-Up Training in Ekiti State

Inadequate treatment services, equipment and skilled personnel contribute to the high burden of cervical cancer in developing countries, including Nigeria.

As part of our goal to improve the quality of care to women living with HIV, APIN's Ekiti State office conducted a three-day scale-up training on Cervical Cancer for selected healthcare personnel from Federal Teaching Hospital, Ido and State Specialist Hospital, Ikole.

The training covered sample collection for HPV tests, performing visual inspections of the cervix and treatment of cervical pre-cancerous lesions.



TBCLICQ! Wraps up in Plateau State

The pilot of the TB Clinic-Lab Interphase Continuous Quality Improvement (TBCLICQ!) project in five facilities of Plateau State has ended.

The project used continuous quality improvement methodologies to identify and incrementally address gaps in the TB care cascade. It was successful in Plateau State and has led to notable changes at the facility and state levels. As a result, the Plateau APIN TBCLICQ! team will play a major role, sharing their experiences and supporting the next scale-up phase of the project in Benue State.

Joint OTZ Meeting in Jos, Plateau State

The Operation Triple Zero (OTZ) programme in Jos, Plateau state brought together adolescents living with HIV from two of its biggest sites, Jos University Teaching Hospital (JUTH) and Faith Alive Foundation. The adolescents participated in fun, educative activities including a football match and an interactive talk session that covered risky behaviours, making right choices, myths & facts about STIs, contraception and pregnancy. The meeting was hosted by Dr. Esther Yiltok, Consultant Paediatrician and Adolescent ART Focal Person at JUTH and facilitated by Dr. Tinuade Oyebo, Obstetrics and Gynaecology Consultant at JUTH.

Participants shared real life experiences and caregivers who were present at the meeting also lent their voices and added depth to the discussions.



Advocacy Visit and Site Activation in Wase LGA, Plateau State

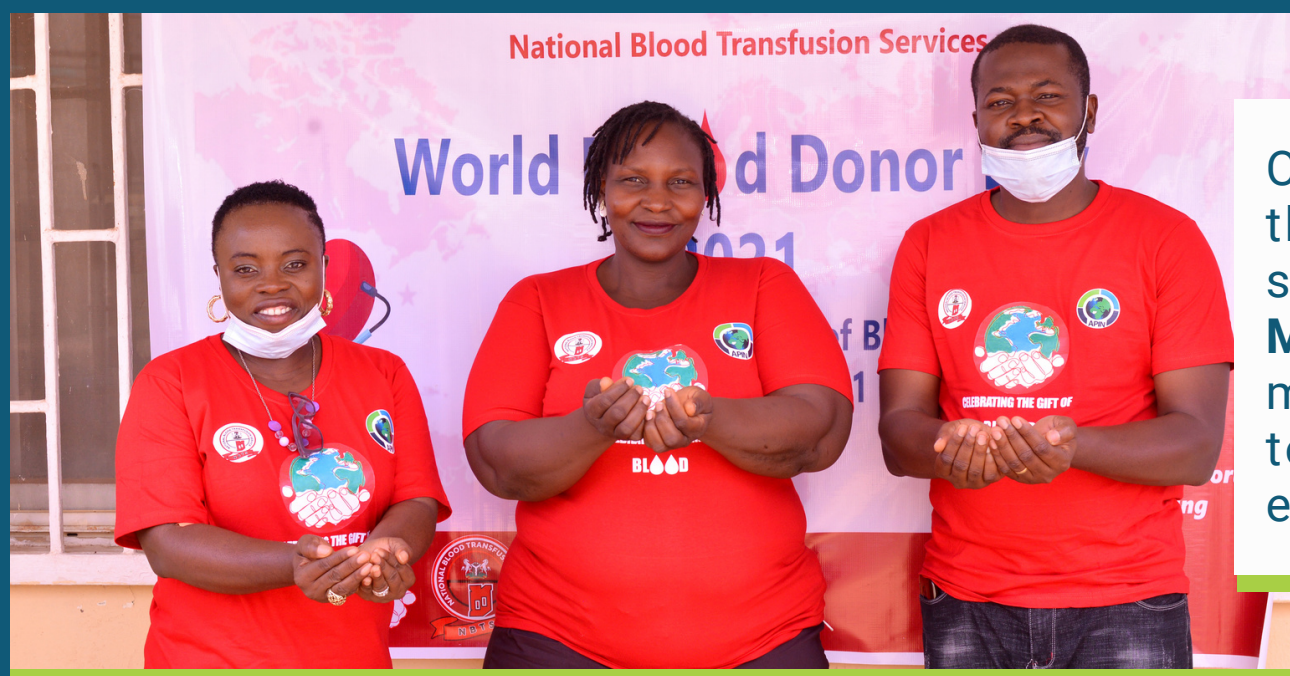
In order to achieve the HIV Treatment Surge target of testing 6,902 new HIV-positive cases by September, 2021, APIN Plateau program staff focused on reaching uncovered areas such as **Wase Local Government Area**. Following the identification of new positive cases in the LGA, it became necessary to activate a refill centre at least.

APIN teamed up with the **State Ministry of Health (SMOH)** and the **Plateau State agency for the Control of HIV/AIDS (PLACA)** to hold a week-long series of mobilization including advocacy visits to the **LGA Chairman and the Wase Emirate Council**, community sensitization and subsequent activation of the **Cottage Hospital (CHC), Wase** as an ART refill centre.

APIN Commemorates 2021 World Blood Donor Day

In partnership with the **National Blood Transfusion Service (NBTS)**, APIN HQ kicked off the **2021 World Blood Donor Day** activities with a Webinar on Safe Blood Donation. The webinar dispelled myths about blood donation and highlighted the benefits of blood donation.

Multiple-time voluntary donors, **Barrister Hajara Isah and Nathan Akpan** shared their personal experiences with the participants.



Our **Plateau State** office also partnered with the **National Blood Transfusion Service** in the state to host a **Blood Donation Drive**.

Miss Grace Zam, the female donor with the most blood donations in the state was there to share her personal experience and encourage first-time donors.

APIN HQ also supported the **NBTS' Blood Safety Programme** at Government Junior Secondary School, Wuse Zone 3, Abuja, where we sensitized the students of the host school and three visiting schools about the importance of Blood Donation and how it helps save lives. The students from each school made presentations to demonstrate what they had learnt.



As part of the line-up of activities for World Blood Donor Day, APIN HQ and our partners at NBTS hosted a **Blood Donation Drive at Apo Mechanic Village, Abuja**. We had a great turnout and generated **76 pints** of blood.

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