

CADAHA signs MoU with US-based NGOS

By NGOZI Duru

A Nigerian based non-governmental organization known as Centre for Alcohol, Drugs and HIV Awareness (CADAHA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with two US based NGOS; Trans World Development Initiatives (TWDI) and Global Health and Education Projects (GHEP)

CADAHA whose vision is to foster collaboration with similar international organizations to address debilitating effects of drugs, alcohol and HIV/AIDS on the Nigerian people especially

those who live in the rural areas and poverty stricken people, is a centre rehabilitation, counselling, detoxification and hospitalization.

Speaking to a cream of journalists in their Nigerian office complex in Owerri, the Programmes Director of the centre Chief Joe Nwokem stated that they aim run to the centre using internationally renewed best practice guidelines tailored to favour the Nigerian publics in every facet of life and sphere of contact.

"We want to transplant

a system that has worked in the developing countries to our country, we believe it will work!

In order to sensitize the general public the centre plans to embark on seminars, workshops, flier information and other forms of sensitisation programmes.

Nwokem maintained that under the MOU, the three organizations have agreed to collectively pool their resources together to expand the reach of their programmes which among other things is aimed at addressing the health, social and economic consequences of drugs, alcohol use not only by the general populations such as educational and work force settings.

The Programmes Director stated that the awareness campaign among the urban and rural dwellers will give rise to total abstinence from drug usage, self medication, over dose, addiction, excessive intake of alcohol which will in turn create room for increased production, less illness, Reduction of HIV/other related ailments, less incidence of cultism, thuggery, harlotry, and protection of pregnant women and their unborn babies.

He revealed that the centre is poised to fish out and rehabilitate drug addicts, abusers and alcoholics who have become social menace to themselves and the Nigeria publics.

He said they do not intend to achieve these alone but to partner with the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Nigerian Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and other civil society organizations/Government Agencies.

Lending his voice, the Personnel Director Chucks Ajaelu revealed that the prison is not a rehabilitation centre as such should not be used as one, even as he revealed that test kits would be used on motorists to ascertain drunk drivers and to book them for rehabilitation.

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- See pg. 10

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CEDAHA to fight Drug Abuse, HIV Scourge in Imo state

By Declan Ahaele

A Non Government Organization CEDAHA that is centre for Alcohol, Drugs and HIV Awareness has concluded plans and arrangements needed to fight against Drug abuse/addicts and HIV virus across the 36 States of Nigeria and its environ.

This however followed the signing of MOU by the organization and two United States based NGOs of Transworld Development Initiative Inc, (TWDI) and the Global Health and Educational Projects, Inc (GHEP) which are in Washington D.C.

In a recent press briefing organized by the program Director of the said organization in Nigeria, Mr. Joe Nwokeni, he noted that CEDAHA as an organization that centers on the well being of humanity and its society is aimed at enlighten educating sensitizing people through workshops, seminars on the devastating effect of alcohol, drug abuse as well as measures to treat and rehabilitate those already affected by such.

Speaking further, the Director described as unfortunate and uncalled for situations where addicts are imprisoned without recourse to diagnosis to ascertain the actual cause or causes of their problems hence he averred, that by method of CEDAHA, it undertakes the use of facilities which are used in diagnosing their problems and subsequently rehabilitate those affected who according to him would become still useful to the society and not the other way round.

On the area of finance, he stated that under the articles of the MOU, the three organizations have agreed to pool their resources together to expand the reach of their programs which aimed at addressing the health, social and economic consequences of drugs, alcohol not only in the cities but amongst rural dwellers adding that the organization will work in collaboration with agencies like NDLIA and Road Safety Corp in actualizing the goal of CEDAHA.

Describing much intake of alcohol as one of the factors necessitating the spread of HIV

and AIDs, the Director said that those under the influence of alcohol always forget the use of protective measures while having sexual intercourse and such he said is capable of increasing the spread of the virus.

On the benefits of CEDAHA programs, he maintained that pregnant women, youths, the aged would benefit adding that CEDAHA would ensure a cleaner society. Present at the briefing include Mr. Chuks Ajacgbu and Ijeoma Agbarakwe.



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NGOs to partner FRSC, NDLEA on drugs, HIV awareness

THE Center for Alcohol, Drugs and HIV Awareness (CADAHA) and two other US-based Non-Governmental Organizations, including TransWorld Development Initiatives, Inc (TWDI) and the Global Health and Education Projects, Inc. (GHEP) among others, have indicated interest to partner the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) to boost awareness on the negative effects of drugs and its role in the spread of the dreaded HIV virus.

Briefing journalists in Owerri, the Imo State capital, shortly after signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the NGOs, the CADAHA Program Director, Joe Nwokem, said that the collaboration with similar international organizations was conceived to address the debilitating effects of drugs and alcohol misuse, especially

■ Okodili NDIDI, Owerri ■

among rural dwellers, using internationally renowned best practice guidelines.

He said that under the articles of the MoU, the organizations agreed to collectively pool their resources to expand the reach of their programs aimed at addressing the health, social and economic consequences of drugs and alcohol use not only in the general population but also in specific population such as educational and workforce settings.

"We are ready to partner with FRSC to reduce the prevalence of drunk driving for instance. We are going to provide kits to check and detect drunk drivers and in turn book them for rehabilitation at our center and also partner with the NDLEA to rehabilitate drug users, who often waste away because of lack of effective tools and expertise to rehabilitate them and reintegrate them back to the society."