

## 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 renowned 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 Chief 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