



THE NATION

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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."