

IHCC Celebrates Nurses Week

Nurses Week celebrated May 6th to May 12th is a special observance dedicated to celebrating and honoring the contributions and hard work of nurses worldwide. It is an opportunity to recognize the crucial role that nurses play in providing healthcare services, promoting wellness, and offering support to patients and their families. Additionally, this year's International Nurses Day was celebrated on May 12th as it marks the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. Florence Nightingale was a pioneering nurse during the 19th century and made significant contributions to the field of nursing, improving patient care, and establishing nursing as a respected profession. Nurses play a vital role in patient care, often working long hours and facing challenging situations. Their efforts are instrumental in providing medical care, administering medications, assisting doctors, monitoring patients, and providing emotional support to those in need.

Nurses also play a significant role in promoting health education and preventive measures to improve public health.

It's essential to show gratitude and respect to nurses not only on Nurses Day but throughout the year for their unwavering commitment to the well-being of patients and their invaluable contributions to the healthcare system.



Board of Directors Spotlight - Eddie Dane Donton

Mr. Eddie Dane Donton is the Founder and President of the West Africa AIDS Foundation, and its onsite clinic; the International Health Care Center. Mr. Donton is an epic leader in community mobilization and empowerment for improved access to health services for underserved and vulnerable populations. He has extensive experience in developing and delivering community-based education and care programs for HIV/AIDS and associated illnesses. Mr. Donton has established hospice and palliative care facilities in both the USA and Ghana and has, over the years, been active in providing access and guidance to community mobilization for HIV care service delivery and negotiating relationships with private sector partners. He was recently appointed as the vice chair to WAAF's Board of Directors.



Staff Capacity Building: Presentation on TB

Our clinical Head; Esinam Agbanyo shared a presentation to the staff of WAAF-IHCC on the state of TB in the country. During the presentation, she shared pertinent information about the current epidemic status of TB including the prevalence of TB nationally, and among sub-groups in the country including children. She highlighted the drivers of high incidence of TB among children stemming from low testing and other barriers. She also shared insights into the current recommended treatment regimens in Ghana. This activity was a technical information learning session she conducted following a training program she was nominated to attend as part of staff capacity building on early TB detection in children. This was organized by the Ga East Health Directorate.

Ultra Sound Services Now Available at IHCC

As part of our continuous effort to upgrade our services to be able to provide one-stop services to clients at the WAAF clinic; the International Health Care Centre (IHCC) in Haatso Accra, collaborated with the New Birth Midwifery; an organization in the United States providing at home birthing services, and a birthing center. With this partnership, IHCC procured an ultrasound machine to enable clients who visit the clinic to access its services whenever needed.

Although IHCC does not yet provide maternity services, it has quite a few pregnant women and even men showing up with the need to get ultrasound services to aid in diagnosing their health conditions. Having an ultrasound machine has given IHCC the ability to provide diagnostic imaging services, monitor pregnancies, assess internal organs, detect medical conditions, guide medical procedures, and enhance the quality of patient care. Ultrasound technology is generally a non-invasive and safe, making it valuable for various medical applications. IHCC seeks to serve clients as best as it can, meeting international standards. We are indeed your community clinic.



Volunteer Spotlight - Sharon Harmon



In 2023 Quarter 2, WAAF and IHCC bid farewell to a nurse volunteer by the name of Sharon Harmon who is a nurse by profession and is currently studying for her Masters in Public Health, Global Concentration. Sharon was a nurse practicing in the United States and was deciding where to do her practicum, and chose WAAF and IHCC to experience caregiving in Ghana especially in the Public Health sector and worked with us from January to April 2023. Her hard work and dedication are greatly appreciated and her presence is dearly missed. Here's to wishing her the very best in pursuing her Master's at the Liberty University.

Sponsorship for Trooper

If we were to put a CV / resume together for our Toyota Landcruiser, formally known as Toyota Trooper, it would be an impressive one that would win the hearts of the best drivers in the world. WAAF acquired the trooper from the Ghana AIDS Commission in 2014 to help WAAF enhance health outreaches. Now, in its 9th year with WAAF, the Trooper has enabled the organization to go to extremely remote places bringing healthcare to those often left out. After almost 10 years helping WAAF service remote areas by driving on extremely bad road networks, the trooper is now suffering from wear and tear. It is in dire need of refurbishment in order to restore it back to its strong, robust state and allow it to continue with its great work. By acquiring new vehicles, NGO organizations like, WAAF and IHCC are on top of maintaining their assets, including its fleet of vehicles. The Trooper still has lots of life in it, but needs some parts to be replaced including new tires, and its body refurbished. Your help in getting The Toyota Trooper back to saving lives would be greatly appreciated! Thank you very much for your contribution to making a difference in the lives of those far and wide by getting our strong Trooper back on the road!

WAAF/IHCC Needs Your Help

PLEASE DONATE

Your Donation will help fix:

- upholstery works
- body works
- gang
- seal replacement
- antenna pole

Make a Donation Via Mobile Money
055 865 9391

Or Donate in Person
Monday-Friday 8AM - 4PM
Saturday 8AM - 1PM
@IHCC OPD

Closure of Matching Fund Healthy Mother Equals Healthy Baby Project

The Healthy Mother Equals Healthy Baby Project is a matching fund from Glad Star Ministry and Star Ghana Foundation. The project monthly meeting was held on the 13th of June at the WAAF-IHCC premises. This project, which focuses on HIV positive pregnant women and lactating mothers, is held every month without fail. Ten HIV positive pregnant women and lactating mothers were in attendance with a nurse who had a talk with the women. The meeting was very educational and engaging on important topics such as the effects of living with HIV. A lot of mothers shared their experiences and how they overcome these challenges as they come along. Some mothers shared how they were really grateful to WAAF/IHCC for giving them the help they need and treating them without discrimination. One mother in particular expressed gratitude towards aunty Joan and aunty Alice for the how much they helped her which made it easier for her to start her medication. Some of the mothers also expressed worry at the thought of still transmitting the virus to their children. They were encouraged to be consistent in taking their ARVS and were also advised to make sure their partners took prep to prevent infection.



The speaker at the meeting gave a data estimation on how people living with HIV were 3 more times likely to be depressed. Most of the mothers agreed with that. Some recounted that they had lots of sleepless nights and felt like they were going to be shunned by their communities. They were advised to find hobbies to help them cope and take their minds off sad thoughts.

EpIC Focus Group Discussions



A focus group discussion took place at PORSH, one of WAAF's sub-recipients of the EpIC project, with 20 participants, organized by EpIC WAAF. Their goal was to understand why peers were discontinuing PrEP and how to address this issue. The meeting maintained anonymity. The discussion covered HIV transmission and the importance of ART. It was emphasized that HIV transmission requires Quantity, Quality, and a route for entry (QQR). The U=U theory was explained, which highlights that consistent ART use can render HIV untransmittable. Prevention methods were discussed, including the ABC theory (Abstinence, Being loyal, Condom use). PrEP was also explained, with a recommendation to use it alongside condoms for comprehensive STI prevention. Peers' discontinuation of PrEP was due to a reduced sense of risk, leading them to switch to event-driven PrEP, resulting in unused medication. Side effects were mentioned but were said to diminish after a few weeks.

GET INTOUCH 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

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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



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