



THE ADVOCACY BULLETIN

The Nigerian Physicians Advocacy Group

NIGERIA CAN ONLY WORK IF WE COME TOGETHER AS ONE TO PLAY OUR ROLE.

SUPPORT THE DISTRIBUTION OF ONE MILLION PVCs TO NIGERIA VOTERS.

PVCsForBetterNigeria
PlayYourRole

National Voters Drive Coalition (NVDC) - Outcomes Report

Susan Edionwe MD, FACS

We are officially in February 2023, less than two weeks away from the presidential and national assembly elections, on February 25. Anyone who has paid ANY attention and has seen the good, the bad, and even the ugly surrounding this election, but NPAG is **PLEASED** to report some of the not just good, but **GREAT** work that has been achieved under our engagement as part of the NVDC, the National Voter's Drive Coalition (a coalition of NGOs: NPAG, APHF, SHIFT Nigeria, RTLA, and P.A.Y and independent stakeholders).

As discussed in previous issues, the goal of this collaboration of organizations was to increase voter participation and voter awareness, and education in a non-partisan way; we are all collectively very pleased with the outcome of the work of this coalition and our partners on ground, and while election day draws so very close, we are all very aware that the work has just begun.

NVDC SPECIAL EDITION


PHASE ONE:


Phase One of our exercises under NVDC was centered on continuous voter registration exercises. During this phase, we focused largely on Abia state with the help of our partners, Progressive Youth Abia Youth (P.A.Y) on ground. Our decision to focus in Abia State was solely based on a very collaborative relationship that we established with INEC in the state, thanks to our very solid partners on ground. During phase one, we enticed potential voters to register for their permanent voter's cards (PVCs) by making blood pressure checks and medical screenings available to them for FREE.




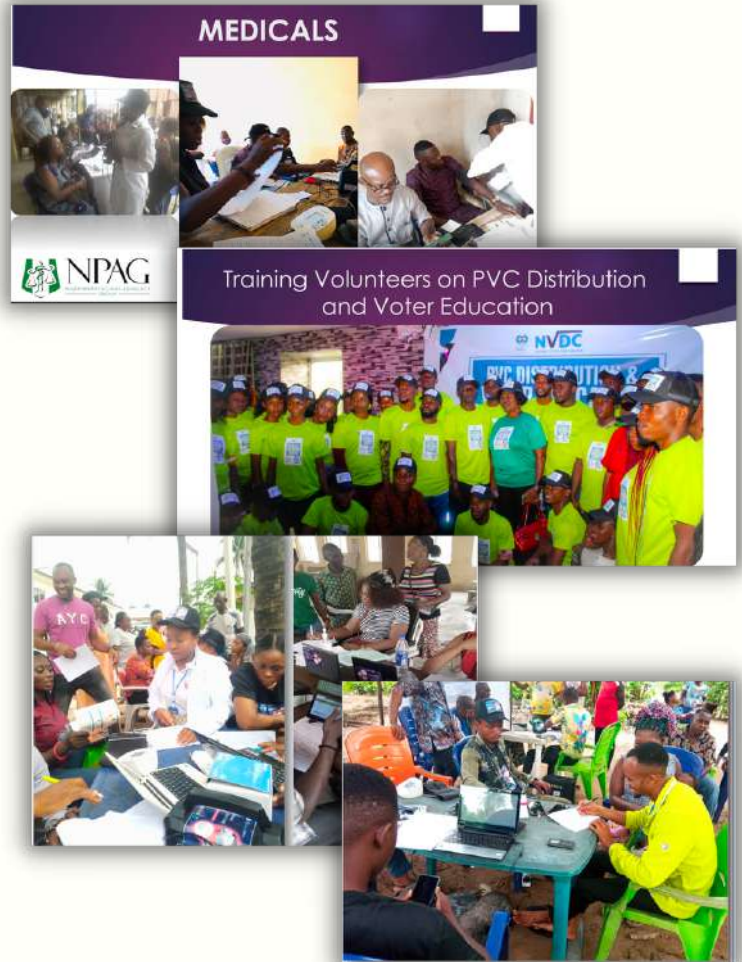
RESULTS OF PHASE ONE:

 **126%** increase in the number of voters registered in Abia State from February-May 2022

 **74,299** Voters added to the voters register in Abia State in 4 Months

 **51,203+** Total blood pressure screening tests done

 Activities fostered a positive relationship with local and state INEC leadership.



PHASE TWO:

Phase Two of our effort was focused on PVC distribution and voter education. PVCs allow Nigerian citizens to vote, and in certain states and LGAs, large amounts of these cards are not collected. Given our success in Abia, we kicked off phase two exercises in Abia and also in Lagos. Phase two involved coordinating PVC distribution with INEC in Abia and briefly in Lagos in conjunction with medical screenings in Lagos. Phase two also included media and community outreach to educate voters on the need to pick up their PVCs and the importance of making their voices heard by voting. P.A.Y was again our lead partner in Abia and SHIFT Nigeria was largely in charge of spearheading NVDC's efforts to encourage PVC collection and voting in Lagos; SHIFT Nigeria's efforts included not only a successful radio tour but a Road Show to take our message to the streets.

RESULTS OF PHASE TWO:

- We helped INEC recruit more than **3,000 AD-HOC staff** for the 2023 Elections
- Our Voter Education and Publicity flyers were translated into 3 major languages. Initial **85,000 copies produced and circulated**
- **20,000 "I WILL VOTE"** stickers were produced and circulated.



Recruitment ad



Flyers



Stickers

RESULTS OF PHASE TWO CONT'D

✓ **88 volunteers** mobilized and trained for PVC distribution and voter education (Abia and Lagos)

✓ Our Text Message campaign reached **32,000 voters** (Abia)

✓ Over **27,000+** PVCs were distributed in Lagos and Abia State with this initiative

✓ Our Market-to-Market campaign reached **20,000 people** (Abia)

✓ **1,393** people medically screened in Lagos

✓ Our Church-to-Church campaign reached over **4800 voters** (Abia)

✓ Over **100,000 voters** were reached with our Media outings in Lagos and Abia

✓ 3 days-long Radio Tour in Lagos across 5 radio stations engaging in much-needed voter education

In phase two, NVDC with SHIFT Nigeria on ground coordinated a Lagos Road Show as another part of our voter education initiatives. Using entertainment to promote our messaging in Lagos, our partners with the support of the DEAN Initiative for entertainment, led the charge on the Road Show with the following goals:

- **GRASSROOT ENGAGEMENT AND SENSITIZATION** - Recruit 13 of our volunteers across the 3 LGAs in Lagos (Apapa, Mushin, and Ajeromi Ifelodun) to act as ambassadors and to engage with Lagosians; Door to door sensitization
- **SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT** - Volunteers share their experiences while volunteering and sensitizing people on social media
- **ROAD SHOW/MUSIC** - Services of dancers and DJs to create awareness and get people's attention



See the impact of the Lagos Road Show



PHASE THREE

We still have time and the "GET OUT THE VOTE" Campaign is now underway in Abia, Lagos, and **Kano State**! Stay tuned for results!



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NPAG would like to THANK the sponsors of our most recent Virtual Gala 2022!

Zion Medical Group

Zion Medical Group is a clinical practice located in Phoenix, Arizona, and predominantly dedicated to caring for in-patients in the areas of Internal medicine, Pediatrics, Infectious disease, and Wound care at hospitals, skilled nursing, rehabilitation, and long-term care facilities. We exist to humbly serve our clients as we provide the best care ever for all people.

Zion Medical Group began in October 2014 with a mission to bring care and compassion to hospitalized patients. This mission was born out of a lack of empathy, compassion, and love in the healthcare delivery system. We have a vision for healthcare delivery systems that bring back the human touch and personal connection, allowing us to bring healing to the body and the soul. We achieve this vision by focusing on building a team of amazing people who happen to be healthcare providers."

Eastowne Family Physicians

Eastowne Family Physicians is a Family Practice Clinic located in Noda, Eastway, Plaza Midwood, Charlotte, NC. We are committed to giving you comfort and relief from your immediate symptoms. We also look for the underlying causes of our patient's conditions to improve their health and quality of life. We accomplish this by prioritizing patient care and compassion, making patient education and involvement a key component of our treatment plans, and continually innovating our technology for better outcomes.

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Georgia Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery is Atlanta's premier cosmetic plastic surgery service for men and women. We offer both surgical and non-surgical procedures in a safe environment. We are dedicated to patient safety, surgical excellence, and satisfaction. Our sister organization, Abuja Plastics operates in Lagos and Abuja Nigeria.

Dr. Julius Kpaduwa, MD



Dr. Julius Kpaduwa, MD is an Obstetrics & Gynecology Specialist in La Puente, CA, and has over 44 years of experience in the medical field. He graduated from HOWARD UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES / MUSIC DEPARTMENT in 1979. His office accepts new patients.

Dr. Iheanacho Emeruwa



Dr. Iheanacho Emeruwa, MD is an Internal Medicine Specialist in Corona, CA. He is affiliated with medical facilities such as Corona Regional Medical Center and Parkview Community Hospital Medical Center. His office accepts new patients and telehealth appointments.

Dr. Emmanuel Okafor, MD



Dr. Emmanuel C. Okafor is a gastroenterologist in Ravenna, Ohio, and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including Cleveland Clinic South Pointe Hospital and Cleveland Clinic Hillcrest Hospital. He received his medical degree from the University of Nigeria Faculty of Medicine and has been in practice for more than 20 years.

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Dr. John Ijem, MD



Dr. John Ijem, MD is a Cardiology Specialist in Pawleys Island, SC. Dr. Ijem has extensive experience in Cardiac Electrical System Procedures, Heart Conditions, and Adult Congenital Heart Conditions. He is affiliated with medical facilities Tidelands Georgetown Memorial Hospital and Tidelands Waccamaw Community Hospital. His office accepts new patients and telehealth appointments.

Ayo Makinde MD



Dr. Ayodeji C. Makinde is a pediatrician in Dalton, Georgia, and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including AdventHealth Gordon and AdventHealth Murray. He received his medical degree from Ogun State University College of Health Sciences and has been in practice for more than 20 years.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The healthcare crisis in Nigeria is directly related to significant gaps in governance. In order to improve health outcomes, the governance problem must be addressed with top priority. It is estimated that 40 doctors and 150 nurses emigrate from Nigeria weekly. This is a disaster!!!! NPAG's commitment remains to encourage civic engagement to promote good governance in a non-partisan way.

Iyore James MD/MALD, FACS