

TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Bringing Health Care to the Doorsteps of the People: The Abia Experience
Туре	Oral Presentation Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment
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Content

Background Access to health services is a major global challenge, particularly in developing economies, including Nigeria. To support the primary health care revolution of ensuring health for all people of Abia State, the south-east zone of the Association for Public Health Teaching, Research and Service (APHTReS), a not-for-profit organization that promotes excellence, quality, professionalism and effectiveness in public health teaching, research and practice, conducted community health outreach programs tagged Ikpeazu Door-to-Door Free Medical Outreach, in honor of the State Governor, Dr. Okezie Ikpeazu. Objective To provide medical, dental, surgical and eye care to communities across Abia, one of the states in south east Nigeria. Methods The south-east coordinator of APHTReS who serves as the special assistant to the Abia State Governor on public health matters mobilized a multidisciplinary team of doctors, public health nurses, laboratory technologists, opticians, dieticians, community health officers, nurses, environmental health officers, health educators, and journalists to promote and provide health outreach programs to 10,327 people from 22 communities in Abia State. Results A table showing the communities and the number of beneficiaries for each of the communities will be presented at the conference.. Conclusion Increasing access to health care through community-based health outreach programs can be one of the major ways of bringing health care closer to the people in the spirit of equity and justice