



01/07/13

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This is to thank all who were present at the just concluded **Blue Torch Home Care Conference on Home Health Care Delivery in Nigeria**; they all made it a success.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Government of Enugu State especially its health ministry who stood by us to achieve this benchmark in Home Care Delivery for the 1st time in Nigeria taking place in the state. I wish to say that Enugu State has made the history in the Nigerian Healthcare sector.

We wish to say thank you to the **Keynote Address Speaker** Dr. Mrs. Felicia Ugwu (Commissioner for Health, Enugu State); **Special Guest of Honors:** Dr. Hyacinth Okeke and Lady J.O. Anene; **Guest Speakers:** Dr. Mrs Anarado (Senior Lecturer Nursing Sciences University of Nigeria Enugu Campus and former Head of Department Nursing Science UNEC), Dr. I.I. Onah (Chief Consultant Plastic Surgery NOHE), Princess Uju Nwafor-Orizu (HIFA country representative and Chairman Medical Library Association of Nigeria), Dr. Fintan Ekochin (University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital Enugu), Mr. Obioha Okora (NOHE), Miss Ogbogu Chinenye (NOHE), Mrs. E. Agunwah (former Deputy Director Nursing Services UNTH Enugu) whose input were very much appreciated.

Also to the Board Members of Blue Torch Home Care Limited including the Protocol Officer – Buchi Steve and all other officials for their tireless efforts and contributions in the organization and execution of this event.

Lastly, I wish to thank our exhibitors - SANOFI Aventis & Synapse Biotech Medicals and other sponsors/supporters who made the event colourful.

Mr. Ekezie Ralueke O.
CEO Blue Torch Home Care Limited

SUMMARY

The 1st conference on Home Healthcare delivery in Nigeria organized by Blue Torch Home Care Limited - a Nigerian Home Health Care Agency was held at Modotel Hotel Enugu State Nigeria from 20th – 21st June 2013. Themed *“Home Health Care Delivery: THE PATHWAY TO A HEALTHIER NATION”*

The conference had in attendance home care experts, polymeric intellects, religious groups, officials of various parastatals, dignitaries from Nigeria, Africa and beyond. Also in attendance were officials of the Ministry of health, health care professionals, NGOs, health care agencies, primary health care Agencies to mention but a few.

The aim of the conference is to build a consortium of healthcare professionals who pioneer the development of Home Care in Nigeria and Africa at Large; To establish a circle of Home Care agencies in order to develop a National body of the already established home care agencies; explore the opportunities Home Care practices can bring to the health care sector of the country; to bring together all stakeholders who are the players in the specialty of home care in the Nation; As well as the implication of the long neglect of this aspect of health care delivery on our health care system.

Delegates arrived at the event venue on the morning of the conference and registered as the colorful opening ceremony was going on. The conference commenced immediately after registration on 20th June Thursday and was declared open by Dr. Hyacinth Okeke - the Controller, Federal Ministry of Works and Urban Development. After his opening remarks The welcome Address was delivered by The CEO Blue Torch Home Care Limited Mr. Ekezie Ralueke, while the keynote address was delivered by Dr. Mrs. Felicia Ugwu, Hon. Commissioner for Health Enugu State, who made a call for stakeholders to work together and ensure that Home Care thrives in the country and stated that the government is willing to go into PPPT with Blue Torch to ensure that the state at least will establish a home care delivery system.

In the process of the conference, many high structure papers were delivered from various health care professionals in various fields such as the palliative care, the Nurses, Doctors, Pharmacists, librarians, health care coaches, entrepreneurs and Home care related agencies. All presentations were subjected to immense questions and answers for clarity.

ABOUT BLUE TORCH HOME CARE

Blue Torch Home Care Limited is a Home Healthcare agency registered with the Cooperate Affairs Commission in Nigeria with registration number RC: 1020370.

We are one of the first Home Healthcare Agencies in Nigeria whose aim is to make Home care a house hold name; to make health care affordable and accessible in the home of clients as well as to reduce the length of hospital stay and admissions. Our sole aim of establishment is taking healthcare to the homes of all categories of patients and clients.

We deliver quality healthcare to clients in the convenience of their homes, schools, offices, churches and events. Our services range from: Home care nursing, provision of live-in-nurse, physiotherapy services, Home speech therapy services, First Aid, Nutrition and Diet Support, Medical Outreach, Tele Nursing, Research and Development to mention but a few.

Blue Torch Home Care Limited is a private company with international relationships with World Health Organization (WHO), Stop TB Partnership, and Health Information for All (HIFA), Society for Telemedicine and eHealth in Nigeria (SfTeHN), SANOFI Aventis amongst others. Partnership for Maternal Newborn and Child Health

Blue Torch Home Care Limited is a recipient of the care challenge Innovation Award 2011 version on its effort to develop Home Healthcare in Nigeria.



The conference was held to create the much needed awareness about the importance of home care and bring together the stakeholders who will assume major roles in the development of Home Care in the country. Those stakeholders include both resident and international players. The conference therefore was put in place to enlighten the home care practitioners about their roles and the policies they are to observe in the course of the practices. A lot of opportunities to meet the experts in the fields existed as the government, health education facilities, home care agencies, medical industries, health care agencies; health care institutions were all present.

The organizers of this conference is a private sector corporate agency registered in Nigeria to carry out activities of Home care delivery, home healthcare education, Home Care Nursing amongst others. They also work hard to alleviate the burden of over population in our hospitals and healthcare institution in Nigeria and provide alternatives to those who prefer home convenience for health care.

Blue Torch Home Care Limited was the winner of an International award in 2012 to help her develop home care in Nigeria. The award is titled “Connecting Nurses Care-Challenge Innovation awards”

OBJECTIVES

- Development and nurture a labour market in the healthcare sector using home care delivery.
- Explore other various opportunities home care present to both the country indigents and the health care sector.
- To facilitate the development of national Home care agency who will in turn fashion out policies on the operational guidelines for home care delivery in the country.
- To bring together the stakeholders who play vital role in the strengthening of the efforts being put through by Blue Torch Home Care Limited.
- To learn from success stories on the input of Home Care in the Nigerian system.



PARTICIPANTS

The conference was embraced by 145 participants from Nigeria, Egypt and Bulgaria plus the Media/Press. The event attracted quite a number of policymakers, Entrepreneurs, State Ministries of Health, Primary Health Care Agencies, National Primary Health Care Development Agencies, State Primary Care Agencies, Health Care Institutions, corporate bodies, NGO's, Companies.

Other personnel, dignitaries and important personalities who also attended the conference in the persons of the Controller Federal Ministry of Works and Urban Development represented by Engr. Emeka Okeke; **Bishop of Anglican Diocese of Enugu** - His Lordship Rt. Rev. Chukwuma Represented by Dr. NNPC Ghamzi; Dr. Mrs. Felicia Ugwu - Hon. Commissioner for Health Enugu State represented by Dr. GPI Oluka; Lady J.O. Anene - Director Primary Health Care Anambra Stat; Dr. Mrs. N. Nwosu - South-East Coordinator Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA); The Head of Nursing Services, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital; The Head of Nursing Services, National Orthopedic Hospital Enugu; Director of Nursing Services - Ministry of Health Enugu State; Dr. Thamer Kazamel - CEO Deltamed Group (Egypt); Head of Nursing Services, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Mrs. Okeke Oyebola etc.

THE WELCOME ADDRESS

The welcome address was delivered by Mr. Raluke Ekezie, The Chief Executive Officer of Blue Torch Home Care Limited who expressed his gratitude to all the participants who made it to the conference as well as those who were not able to make it. He highlighted the importance of Home Care in the country and Africa; the commitment of the Agency in making sure that home care is a household name in the country. He saluted the dignitaries who left their tight schedules to embrace the event and also call on the Innovative minds in the health care system to come together and develop home care in order to exploit all its benefits.

Finally he said a big thank you to the organizing committee for a job well done and envisaged all participants a great session of learning, deliberations and networking.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Fidelia Ugwu Hon. Commissioner for Health Enugu State represented by Dr. G.P.I. Oluka.

In his address he reminded the participants that Home care actually was what has been in existence for long before now in the nation where people traditionally cared for their aged ones. He then encouraged the organizing agency for the effort they are putting towards helping the healthcare sector in Enugu state experience the 1st of its kind.

He highlighted the need for home care as the social lives of Africans in changing from rural to urbanization and hence a less extended family is practiced as well he emphasized on the ever growing non-communicable diseases and chronic illness which do not need an everlasting hospitalization But Home Care instead. He also said that home care with its all attribute is embraced by the Enugu State Health Ministry and will help to make it accessible and affordable to its indigenes.

DAY 1 - THURSDAY 20TH JUNE, 2013

The conference commenced at 10:00am with the introduction of the dignitaries and inviting them to the high table followed with a National Anthem and goodwill messages.

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARK

The chairman's opening remark counted on his happiness to be privileged to chair the occasion and embrace the achievement of Blue Torch Home Care Limited in the field of Home Care delivery in Nigeria and highlighted the importance of home care to the health care system strengthening and lauded the Enugu State government who is privileged to experience this maiden

conference in Nigeria and wished all the participant a pleasant stay as he is sure they will be drilled on what he called a packed conference of intellects of different areas of the health profession. He said that this emerging field will be the bedrock in the few years to come and urged the government in Federal, state and local government levels to embrace it. He also asked the participants and stakeholders to carry the news home as all of them may be in need of home care in one stage of their lives or another.

Finally, he made a call to the stakeholders to take home care to the next level by consulting this already developed agencies in the country to liaise together and have more stable operational guidelines as it is seen in other European, American and even same African countries. He then said that this field of health care can be a place to invest and nurture an employment avenue for the government.

He concluded by saluting the innovative approach of the organizing Home Care Agency - Blue Torch Home Care Limited by telling them that the input they have made will be acknowledged by many in no distant time.



TECHNICAL SESSION

First plenary session was on the possibility of home care in Nigeria where the CEO of Blue Torch discussed extensively on the various needs for Home Care in the country.

Presentations

“Home Care in Nigeria possible or Not? By Mr. Ekezie R.O.

Paper II – “Challenges in Home care” Delivered by Ibeh Chinwendu

Paper III – “Health Tourism and Globalization, New Era in Health Care Management by Tamar Kazamel (MD, Medica Overseas Egypt).

Exhibition –

Paper IV – “Basic tips on healthy living” by Princess Uju Nwafor-Orizu

Paper V – “Home Management of Diabetic foot Ulcer” by Ogbogu Chinenye (Miss).

Closing Remarks – Comfort Akaehie (Miss)

Miss Comfort gave the closing remark where she thanked all participants for coming and giving their time to listen to the highly intelligent speakers of the day and wish them a cool rest and encouraged them to be present for the next day as it will be a session not to be missed.



DAY 2 - FRIDAY 21ST JUNE, 2013

Paper I – “Palliative Care and Home Care – Dr. Mrs. Anarado

Paper II – “ Home Care Delivery Variables/Mechanisms” – Mrs. E Agunwah

Paper III – “The future of Medicine” – Dr. Fintan Ekochin

Paper IV – “Equipments used in Home Health Care” – Okoro Obioha (Mr.)

Paper V – “Home Management of Burns” - Dr. I.I. Onah.

Paper VI – “Female Hygiene” SANOFI Aventis

Paper VII – “Data Management in Home Health Care Delivery” – Ekezie R.O.
(Mr.)

Closing Remark by the Host Agency – CEO Blue Torch Home Care Limited

He thanked all who participated and wished them a good trip back to their base. He also informed them that the conference is an annual event as the plan for the next year event is already on course and encouraged them to refer any client they come across needing home care. He also said Blue Torch is pleased to have all the participants and will always keep in touch with them.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

FOR: BLUE TORCH HOME CARE LIMITED



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