



Health Reform Foundation of Nigeria (HERFON)

Report of the Town Hall Meeting On Health Care Financing held in Lambata Primary School Gurara LGA, Minna, Niger State on the 6th June, 2011

Introduction

The Town Hall Meeting for the North Central Zone took place on the 6th June, 2011 at Lambata Primary School Minna, Niger State. The Zonal consultants with the use of stories and drama, passed messages to the community members which triggered discussions on issues around Health care financing, Health system strengthening with a view to reaching agreement on the preferred option for financing within their locality.



The Chairman Board of Trustees, Dr. Ben Anyene addressing the Community during Town Hall Meeting

Purpose / Objective of Activity:

The thrust for the town hall meeting are as follows:

1. To improve the understanding of the community members on issues around health system, financing and equity
2. Sensitize community members that health system implementation has a cost and somebody has to pay.
3. Understand the community's perception of challenges and possibilities of implementing healthcare financing options to inform future policy.
4. Reach agreement with the community members on who pays and for what to ensure sustainability of the health system.

General Discussion:

The following types of healthcare financing options were mentioned by the community during discussion:

- National Health Insurance Scheme (Community Health Insurance, Private Health Insurance)
- Government subsidy
- Out of pocket
- Donation from NGOs and philanthropic
- Corporate social responsibility.

The meeting x-rayed the advantages and disadvantages of these options of financing health within their locality and resolved that out-of-pocket option is not good due the high risk that is associated with it.



One of the facilitators, Dr Ibrahim Oloriegbe taking the community through the general discussion on health system issues from the drama.

Conclusion

The meeting was graced with the presence of the following dignitaries, agencies and organization in Health Sector

- Dr. Muhammad Ali Pate, CEO/ED NPHCDA
- HRH, Dr. Yahaya Haliru, Chairman, NPHCDA Governing Board
- Mr John Chukwu Igboka, Ag Executive Secretary
- Dr. Ben Anyene, Chairman, HERFON Board of Trustees
- Reps of FMOH, NHIS, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank, Gurara LGA Chairman
- Traditional and Religious leaders, Headmaster Lambata Primary School

- Dr. Tarry Asoka
- Dr Ibrahim Oloriegbe
- Dr Sambo
- Dr Ejembi
- Dr Idris Mohammed and so on