



**REPORT ON TRAINING,
OUTREACH AND
SCREENING ORGANIZED
IN WESTERN REGION
(TAKORADI).**

23RD OF MARCH 2022

INTRODUCTION

The Ghana Hemophilia Society is committed to breaking the shackles of hemophilia on affected persons, their families and the country at large. For this reason, it embarks with the help from other partners on various programs to achieve this objective.

An outreach program was organized in Western Region to increase advocacy, training for healthcare professional and a screening exercise for patients' identification.

On 12th March, 2022, two project officers of the Ghana hemophilia society took off from Accra and arrived safely in Takoradi. They lodged at Akroma Plaza Hotel. The idea was to create awareness in churches around Western Region the next day.

On 13st March, 2022, the two project officers left the hotel to meet representatives of Western Region's National Commission for Civic Education as their help was needed to create the awareness.

The representatives were Mr. Isaac (driver) and Madam Rita (communicator). The following churches were visited

1. Bethel Methodist Church
2. Church of Christ
3. First Baptist Church
4. Household of favor chapel
5. International Central Gospel Church
6. Orthodox Anglican Church
7. Pentecost Church
8. Makarios church

In two of these churches, the presence of the Ghana hemophilia Society was announced and the project officers together with the communicator from the information service department were allowed to talk to the congregation. We informed them of the training and the screening exercise and encouraged the people to come out in their numbers for the screening, which would be conducted at the Effia Nkwanta Regional Hospital. The other six churches did not us to talk to the congregation because of time. They rather received our posters and flyers in other to do the announcement on our behalf.



Letters were sent to these churches in February to inform them that we will need their platform but they still did not give us the audience. Some of them rather requested for soft copies of the flyers to post on their WhatsApp group pages which we gave.



At 4:00PM, we went to two markets to create awareness. The communicator made the announcements whereas the two project officers shared flyers to individuals and explained the condition to them. We also urged them to come for the screening.



On Monday 14th march,2022, the two project officers left the hotel again to meet with Madam Gifty Amugi (Western Region Director for public Health). She took the responsibility to send letters about the training to various districts in Western Region thus we had to meet her in person to thank her and also request her to send reminders to the participants since the training was due. She told us that reminders had already been sent out.

We saw the Takoradi harbor nearby so we went there to distribute flyers to the fishmongers and fishermen.



We proceeded to the Regional Hospital to meet the medical superintendent (Mr. Tambil) who gave us the phone number of head of Laboratory (Mr. Ameyaw). We called him but he was in a meeting. We then went to the laboratory to wait for him. One biomedical scientist listened to us and said he would pass the information to Mr. Ameyaw.

We proceeded to the Nursing school to confirm if they would allow us to educate the nurses about hemophilia management since we sent them a letter in February. The secretary directed us to the programs manager who told us it was possible on Thursday, 17th march, 2022

We left the Nursing school to follow up on radio stations we had sent letters to before arriving in Takoradi This was to find out if we could be given airtime to educate the public about Hemophilia and also announce the screening date.

We first went to Twin-City radio who agreed to interview us on 15th March, 2022. The second radio station was Good news radio who also confirmed to interview us at 11:00am the next day. The third was Maxx radio who gave us 2:30pm the next day being 15th March,2022. The fourth was Connect FM who failed to confirm the appointment

Nurse Limmy arrived in the evening and we had a brief meeting to inform her about our activities so far and also tell her about the appointments we had the next day



On Tuesday 15th March 2022, Nurse Limmy and the two project officers left the hotel to various radio stations.

Our first appointment was with Twin City radio at 8:00am. We got there 7:50am. The interview started and the nurse and project officer answered all the questions that followed. The presenter was surprised at the mention of hemophilia as he had never heard of it before. At the end of the interview, the official number of the Ghana hemophilia society was announced to the public as they were encouraged to come for the screening.

The second appointment was with Good news radio which started at 11:30am. The host was very interesting which made the interview lively. As usual, the nurse and project officer answered all his questions and by 1:30pmm the show came to an end.

The next radio station was Maxx radio and the appointment time was 2:30pm. With the help of the NCCE, we rushed to secondi market to distribute flyers and share information to the public

At the market, madam Rita gave the announcement whilst the project officers shared the flyers to spoke with the market women about the disease.





We had to rush back to Maxx radio for the interview when we finished with the market areas. The NCCE van picked us up after the interview to three towns (zenith electoral area, Adakope, Kokompe and presby electoral area where the communicator gave information about the disease and poster were plastered on walls and polls by the project officers.



Below are pictures of interviews with radio stations



WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH, 2022. TRAINING OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

The venue for the training was Akroma Plaza Hotel. The program was set to begin by 9:00am. Participants started arriving and were registered by the project officers. A documentary on hemophilia was streamed for the few participants that were seated as others were yet to arrive. The Moderator for the program was Miss Christiana Anymore. The opening prayer was said by Ellen Oduro. Rahamatu Adams introduced the chairperson. (Madam Gladys Ampomaa Ababio) she is currently the chief nursing and midwifery officer for Western Region. She gave the welcome address after which Dr. Emma lectured on the overview of hemophilia which was the first session of the program. Questions and answer session followed then a coffee break.

It was time for the second session of the program where we usually break into groups of doctors, nurses, biomedical scientists and physiotherapists. Dr. Emma lectured the doctors. Limmy Sarpong lectured the Nurses. Mr. Hussein Botchway took charge of the physiotherapists and Madam Patricia also lectured the biomedical scientists.

All these facilitators had printed slides which were shared to the various participants by the project officers.

There was one media station to cover the program (Adom tv,). The representative from City Tv could not make it. The group sessions ended and all participants got together again. Certificates were issued.

The chairman gave his closing remarks and wished everyone a safe journey back home. A closing prayer was said by Ellen Oduro. It was now time for group pictures after which lunch was served. Below are some pictures of the training.





17th MARCH, 2022 SCREENING DAY AT THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

The screening team arrived at the regional hospital by 8:00am to begin the screening exercise.

At the hospital, those who had come for the screening were registered by the project officer, nurse Limmy and nurse Ellen took their samples whilst madam Patricia run PT and APPT tests on them.

The screening team waited patiently as the individuals came in slowly. The exercise came to an end at 5:00pm. The total number that gave samples was 22 with 2 showing high APPT results. The samples were going to be transferred to Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital the next day for the last test (Factor Assay).

Dr. Emma left for Kumasi and Mr. Botchway left for Accra as well on the screening day. Below are some pictures of the screening exercise.





FRIDAY 18TH MARCH, 2022. DEPARTURE DAY

Three of the facilitators' flight was at 9:10am from Takoradi to Kumasi thus they left the hotel at 7:30am for the airport. Unfortunately, there was a mix-up with the airline but they were scheduled for 3:30 flight that after-noon.

The project officers also had a 3:30pm flight to Accra that day so they also left the hotel by 1:30pm to the airport. The project officers arrived in Accra by 4:00pm and everyone went to their respective homes after taking some training materials to the office premises.

CHALLENGES.

1. Unwillingness of churches to allow the team to educate the congregation even when a letter had earlier
2. There was a low turn up for the training and the screening because some of the districts did not select participants to attend
3. Some districts later complained about distance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continuous follow up calls to both churches and offices should be done after sending the letters out in future.
2. Request for names of participants from the districts and call them once you have their phone numbers to confirm their attendance in order to plan.
3. Accommodation should be provided for the participants coming from far districts.

