

MARKET PLACE EVENT FOR ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Theme: Synergizing to maximize Provision for Orphans & Vulnerable Children in Nigeria in times of need



*11th November, 2021
@ The Pavilion Event Centre, Area 11, Garki, Abuja.*

COLLABORATION TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN

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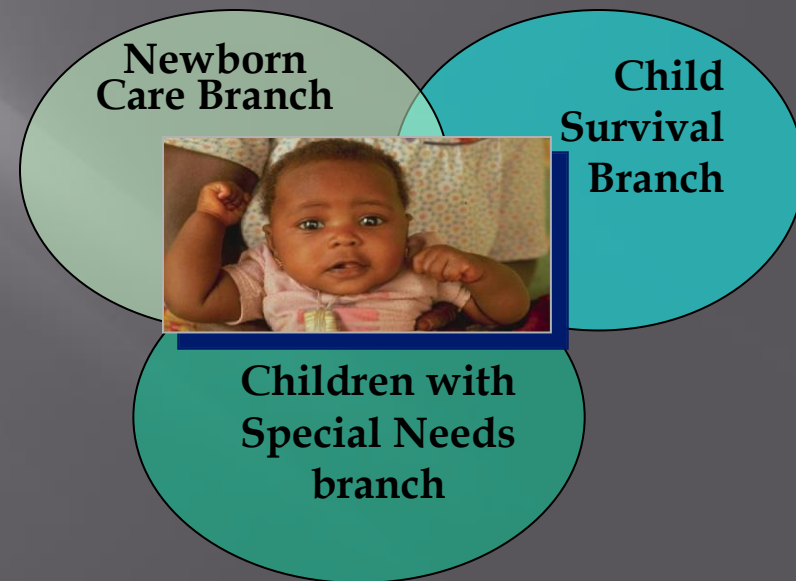
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CHILD HEALTH DIVISION

Mandate:

To formulate and coordinate effective implementation of government policies, guidelines and SOPs that promote and protect the health and wellbeing of the Nigerian child for optimum growth and development.

Branches:



Existing Policies, Guidelines and Protocols

- i. National Child Health Policy
- ii. Integrated Community Case Management (iCCM) of Childhood Illness implementation guideline (2013)/Decision Tree (2015)/Training materials (2016)
- iii. Nigeria Every Newborn Action Plan (2014)
- iv. Essential Newborn Care training materials (2014)
- v. Kangaroo Mother Care Operation Guideline

- vi. Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI)/cIMCI Training Protocols (2017)
- vii. Program Management Training manual (2013)
- viii. Emergency Triage, Treatment and Assessment (ETAT) guidelines (*WHO Generic version*)
- ix. ***Need for a strategic document and mapping to address Vulnerable Children --- gap***

Coordination and Technical Assistance to States

Coordination platforms:

- National Child Health Technical Working Group
- National Quality of Care Steering and Technical Committees
- National Task Force on integrated Community Case Management (iCCM) of childhood illness

Technical Assistance:

- Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI)
- Integrated Community Case Management (iCCM) of Childhood illness.
- Capacity building and Supportive Supervision to States.
- Essential Newborn Care Course – full and modified (ENCC & mENCC).
- Programme Management for RMNCH.
- Emergency Triage, Assessment and Treatment (ETAT).
- Quality of Care, Quality Improvement Approaches

Who is a vulnerable child?

- A vulnerable child is one who, as a result of economic factors, disease, physical impairment, mental/psychological, emotional, societal, environmental or political reasons, is placed at a disadvantaged position when compared to children in whom these defining criteria are present.
- In the National Demographic Health Survey (NDHS) 2013, a vulnerable child is defined as a child under 18 years of age who has a chronically ill parent (sick for three or more consecutive months during the past 12 months) or who lives in a household where an adult was chronically ill or died during the 12 months preceding the survey. (NPA- OVC, 2013–2020)

Categories of Vulnerable Children in Nigeria

These are but not limited to:

- Children living in poor households
- Orphans
- Children in need of alternative family care/deprived of primary caregivers
- Children with disabilities
- Children living on the street
- Sexually exploited children
- Exploited Almajiri children
- Children in need of legal protection
- Children infected or affected by HIV or other chronic illnesses
- Children in 'hard-to-reach' areas
- Children living in households where the breadwinner is living with HIV or other chronic illnesses and are impoverished

Categories Cont'd

- Children living in households with recent deaths of a working age adult (breadwinner)
- Children who are violated, abused or neglected
- Children in exploitative and domestic labour
- Trafficked children
- Children at conflict with the law
- Children 'on the move' (migrant workers, nomadic and militants)
- Children affected by armed conflict and used in illicit activities
- Children in IDP camps and children's homes
- Socially excluded children
- Children of Female Sex Workers
- Children in 'bounded' work

Child Health Division repositioning

- The Children with Special Needs Branch, embedded within Child Health Division was inaugurated by the Honourable Minister during the inauguration of the National Child Health Technical Working Group on 26th of March, 2021.
- The National Child Health Policy document under review to incorporate Vulnerable Children as a thematic area to focus on the health needs of children in such categories.

Justification for the Children with Special Needs (CSN) Branch

- In realization of Universal Health Coverage (UHC, 2030) vision and a bid not to leave any child behind, the FMoH is repositioning its approach for better health outcomes.
- In line with WHA Resolution 63. article 17 2010
- SDG 3
- Nigeria Act 23. Child Rights Act (CRA 2003),
- NSHDP II 2018-2022

The priority areas for CSN – focus is *HEALTH* needs of children in the following categories:

1. Orphans & Vulnerable children (OVC) & Children in Humanitarian settings:
 - i. Orphans & children in foster homes
 - ii. Children in Difficult circumstances: Child Labour & Abuse, post-traumatic situation, armed conflict, child-victim of trafficking, rape, forced marriage
 - iii. Street children, Almajiris, Correctional Facilities, Substance Use
 - iv. Children in Humanitarian settings: IDPS etc

The priority areas for CSN (cont'd)

2. Birth Defects, Hereditary & Developmental challenges including prevention interventions:
 - i. Birth defect: Surveillance, Genomics, Prevention,
 - ii. Disabilities,
 - iii. Rehabilitation
 - iv. Psychosocial supports
 - v. Developmental & Hereditary issues: Autism, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Downs' Syndrome, Albinism etc

The priority areas for CSN (cont'd)

3. Translation hub:
 - i. CSN Policy implementation
 - ii. Tracking & knowledge management
 - iii. Legal & regulatory frameworks
 - iv. CSO/NGO coordination
 - v. Advocacy

Priority activities for 2021

1. Articulate & Address Policy gaps on the Health of CSN
2. Stimulate relevant parliamentary actions
3. Build capacities for implementation
4. Support, monitor & supervise implementation at state & service delivery levels
5. Establish Coordination mechanisms for *HEALTH* of CSN
6. Map & 'profile' stakeholders & build effective partnerships

Areas of collaboration to improve the health of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC)

- Using iCCM to hard to reach communities (where there is no health facilities) through training of CHIPS (Communities Health Influencers and Promoter Scheme).
- Encourage WASH intervention and the 19 key Household practices in synergy with Ministry of Water resources, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Environment.
- Render technical assistance to other line ministries as it pertains to the health of children in their reviews (TWG ON EVAC by Ministry of Women Affairs).
- Push for inclusion of Orphans and Vulnerable children in NHIS list as a safety net measure.



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF
HEALTH

Thank You For Listening



“**MY
ABILITY
IS STRONGER
THAN MY
DISABILITY**”