

OUR WORK ON COVID-19

First step is a child focused non-governmental organization, especially children 0-2 years. Most of the interventions of COVID-19 in Nigeria and Benue state specifically, young children are not protected and they are the most vulnerable group susceptible to the corona virus. I am sure we are all aware that children are vulnerable, they depend on their caregivers for care and protection and therefore we need to educate and support them to protect their children from being infected with COVID-19 in the community.

PREVENTION OF COVID-19

We held a meeting with caregivers of children “0-2” years; during the discussions, the origin, symptoms and preventive measures were discussed; hygiene was emphasized especially during breastfeeding with the practical demonstration of hand washing with running water. The kettle popularly called “buta” which is easily found in every household for washing hands and feet before prayers were used for demonstration of hand washing.

LIQUID SOAP MAKING

As most caregivers can hardly afford to procure soap for washing of hands as a result of poverty at the household level, they were taught how to make Liquid Soap. This was demonstrated and caregivers were urged to mount hand washing points at their individual households. Caregivers were also advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. “Social distancing” was also observed during the meeting. Some caregivers used the opportunity and started a business in soap making and selling in the community. They earn extra income while they sustained hand washing.

PARTICIPANTS

A total of 15 Care givers were in attendance {all female and are HIV positive}

The primary beneficiaries were caregivers and children 0-2 years.

Secondary beneficiaries were men, grandmothers and other community members.

ACHIEVEMENTS

15 Caregivers were reached with information on effective ways of corona virus prevention.

Effective hand washing was practiced.

Caregivers gain skills in liquid soap making.

CHALLENGES: lack of IEC material in hausa language

Lesson learnt

There is need to empower women to lead in the response.

