



## ASSOCIATION FOR REPRODUCTIVE AND FAMILY HEALTH

**ARFH Newsletter**

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# PREVENTING SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN NIGERIA

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## **#ChooseToChallenge: International Women's Day 2021**



With our hands up, ARFH women & girls commemorated the internationalwomensday2021. Aligning with this year's theme: we #ChooseToChallenge and rise up to call to action to strengthen our commitment to be bold and proactive in fighting for women's rights, preventing GBV, reducing maternal and child mortality, as well as unmet needs for adolescent girls.



**#ARFHChooseToChallenge #Women  
#GenderEquality #InclusiveWorld!!!**



## **EU-UN Spotlight Initiative: ARFH Trained 383 Teachers on Eliminating SGBV in 4 States**



As one of the Community Serving Organisations implementing the Spotlight initiative, ARFH conducted a refresher training for 383 teachers in Adamawa, Sokoto, FCT and Ebonyi states to build their capacity to empower their students to contribute to the elimination of sexual and gender based violence in their communities. Capacities of the teachers were built to train and mentor peer educators as

well as make referral to designated health facilities and NGOs where abused students could access health and psychosocial services. The EU-UN Spotlight Initiative is a global, multi-year partnership between the European Union and the United Nations to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls.



## ***IMsafer: Preventing Sexual Violence Against Women and Children in Lagos State***



In February 2021, ARFH-ICHSSA 2 project trained 15 female instructors with the No Means No Worldwide IMsafer Curriculum to prevent and address high rate of Gender-Based Violence in Surulere LGA, Lagos State. The IMsafer approach combines 3 components (Prevention, Intervention & Recovery) to form a comprehensive dual-gender intervention which includes 8 hours of IMsafer empowerment self-defense classes, network referral systems and Survivors in Recovery Anonymous (SIRA) aftercare support.

It emphasizes early recognition of boundary testing, negotiation, diffusion tactics, and verbal assertiveness. The instructors would be responsible for mobilizing their communities for change and teaching adolescent girls aged 9-14 years mental, verbal and physical skills/strategies to prevent sexual assault and other forms of Gender Based Violence, which in turn reduces their risk of contracting HIV.

**ARFH is a Non-Governmental organization with a mission to collaborate with other strategic partners indesigning and implementing innovative and high impact programs for improved health outcomes and well-being of individuals and families in Africa.**

Head Office  
ARFH HOUSE, Plot 815A, Army Officers' Mess Road Near Ikolaba Grammar School,  
Agodi GRA, Ikolaba P.O. Box 30259, Secretariat, Ibadan, Oyo State – Nigeria.  
+234-802-354-2881

Abuja Office  
Trade and Convention Centre,  
The Abuja Chamber of Commerce and Industry Complex,  
KM8, Umaru Musa Yar'Adua Express Way, Airport Road, Beside Shoprite, Lugbe, Abuja  
+2348037263687