

World Meningitis Day: Nigeria

5th October 2022



"What is meningitis?" - Reaching communities across Nigeria via radio and a street march.

For World Meningitis Day 2022, CADEC took to the streets and appeared on radio shows spreading awareness about meningitis.

For the first time in Rivers State, Nigeria, CADEC partnered with the Rivers State Ministry of Health (RSMoH), and other partners, including the World Health Organisation, to hold activities in commemoration of World Meningitis Day 2022.

These activities included:

1. A state broadcast, made by the Permanent Secretary, RSMoH, across three different radio stations on October 5th and 6th

2. Live radio appearances at three radio stations in Port

Harcourt, which featured a radio jingle in Nigerian Pidgin English that aired for 5 days.

3. People affected sharing their stories; Nwandieze Fortune, a meningitis survivor, joined CADEC on 99.1FM station (Radio Rivers, Port Harcourt) to speak about his experience. Fortunately, he survived meningitis with little-to-no after effects, and is now calling for everyone to defeat meningitis.

4. A street walk was conducted in partnership with RSMoH and other partners to distribute

Organisation:

Care and Development Centre (CADEC)

Location:

Nigeria

Background:

CADEC is a NGO registered in the year 2011 and with its themes cutting across: Women's Health and Health Promotion; Sustainable and Environmental Livelihoods; Family and Cultural Promotion.

Contact:

Omorodion Rhoda Omoile, CEO of CADEC.

Change objective:

To raise awareness about meningitis and support those affected.





"Meningitis is not a death sentence; early prevention through effective vaccines is key"
- Deborah Akinola, World Health Organisation Rivers State Surveillance Officer

flyers with essential meningitis information. They successfully distributed 1000 flyers during their awareness-raising street walk.

Result and impact

CADEC's key result of this year's World Meningitis Day was the acceptance and commitment of the RSMoH to actively participate in the campaign, going as far as to invite their partners to join as well. As a result, the Permanent Secretary made a state broadcast across three radio stations within the state.

This led to an estimated reach of 50,000 people.

Key learnings

- **There is still need to raise more awareness.** CADEC found that awareness levels were poor, with most people asking: "What is meningitis?", "Is that a new disease?"
- **Partnership is key.** One single organization may struggle to get it totally right or successful.
- **Reflect and grow.** Hold a meeting after the campaign between everyone involved to allow for reflection

Further Resources

- [CADEC Facebook](#)
- [Downloadable infographics in Nigerian Pidgin English](#)
- [Downloadable infographics to raise awareness of meningitis in Hausa.](#)

Advocacy tip!

CADEC recommends that other Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and stakeholders try and see how they can get in touch with their local health authority to propose partnering on World Meningitis Day.

Contact details:

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