



Precious Jewels



Nigeria Sex Workers Association (NSWA)

... our Voice must be heard, our RIGHTS not violated

Member: Africa Sex Worker Alliance (ASWA), Global Network of Sex Work Project (NSWP)

INTRODUCTION

Nigeria sex workers association (NSWA) is an umbrella body of sex workers led groups and organizations working in Nigeria. NSWA takes the responsibility to develop innovative strategies in consultation with members which they continue to apply in advocacy and lobbying to improve human rights of sex workers as well as initiating constructive discussions with the national government agencies to ensure sex work is recognized and health and security services are tailored for their unique needs. For example, NSWA works with the alliance members in the realization of our mission and advocacy goals.

Nigeria Sex Workers Association (NSWA) is a national network of sex workers led groups and organizations in the country which has a leadership structure that forms 100% sex workers from the secretariat .NSWA has a board that comprises of male and female sex workers who are selected and appointed by sex workers led groups/organization members through a transparent and equal process to represent sex workers interests within the network. NSWA's structure is led by members who are 100% sex workers and are mandated with the task of decision making for all the decisions made within the group.

Our Vision

To see a Nigeria where sex work is recognized as work, violence and discrimination against sex workers eliminated and the health, social and human rights of sex workers are respected and not violated.

Our Mission

To empower and strengthen the voices of sex workers, advocate for their health, social and human rights including those living with HIV and those using drugs through collaborations, networking and partnerships. Uplift the status of sex workers through creation of awareness of their social, health and human rights, promotion of healthy living, prevention of diseases through advocacy, education,

research, information, quality service delivery for improved livelihood and empowerment.

Our Core Values

- Love, Respect and Passion
- Commitment to the rights of all sex workers
- Solidarity and Unity
- Equality and Diversity
- Transparency and Accountability
- Reliability
- Integrity
- Professionalism

Our Goals

- To advocate for the decriminalization of sex work.
- To promote social, psychological and economic well-being of sex workers through provision of information, advocacy, education, skills and quality services.
- To improve public health by enabling sex workers to negotiate condom use with clients and reduce the risk of infection in both groups.
- To educate every sex worker to be able to defend their human rights.
- To see a Nigeria where sex workers can freely express themselves and live in dignity without fear or intimidation.
- To provide sex workers with the skills and opportunities needed to find other

Our Objectives

- To create awareness about risky behaviour and HIV/AIDS/STIs prevention, control, and impact mitigation.

- To improve the sexual and reproductive health of sex workers and raise their awareness on the benefits of correct and consistent condom use.
- To provide economic development opportunities for sex workers as a means of improving their earning power.
- To advocate at local, national and international levels for policies and actions that furthers the human rights of sex workers.
- To ensure that the economic & psychosocial needs of sex workers are properly addressed.
- To facilitate opportunities for the voice of sex workers to be heard in local, national and international forums at which ideas about sex work is exchanged.

GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

Nigeria sex workers association was created in 2014

NSWA's management team is made up of a board and secretariat that is sex workers led. The board is made up of male and female sex workers that are transparently and equally selected and appointed by sex workers led member groups within the alliance and plays an advisory role by giving directions in very critical decision making. NSWA secretariat employees are all sex workers which make the alliance very effective and accurate in its decision making for they have as well been part of and undergone victimization and discrimination due to the criminalization challenges of the sex work environment in Nigeria. Member organizations that are sex workers led have a very critical role too in providing their feedback and designing of the alliance's program implementation and advocacy agendas that speaks to all sex workers in Nigeria This has been effective through the national convening of the sex workers leaders, efficient communication through emails, phone calls and social media platforms like WhatsApp, Facebook, twitter, Instagram and website comment section NSWA has in the past continued to engage and push for sex workers spaces within government forums where programing is discussed.

CONTEXT

(Problems Faced by Female Sex Workers)

Female sex workers have the worst experiences of human rights violations due to prevailing stigma and criminalization of the acts of sex work persons in the country. The human rights violations range from discrimination, violence, arbitrary detentions, intrusive medical checks and denial of access to various services such as sexual reproductive health and Right services. All these violations have resulted into severe and damaging effects on their physical and mental health and limit their access to and use of vital health and judicial services. The continued criminalization of sex work in Nigeria limits female sex workers' access to support and assistance regarding basic human rights, including, in particular, services offering health education, self-organize, legal support and police assistance. Where Social services exist, Female sex

workers have fear of disclosing their identity and sexual orientation and prejudicial behavior on the part of service provider's results in sex workers being hesitant to use the services. The widespread abuse, lack of legal protection, poor working conditions and discrimination with regards to economic opportunities have compromised the ability of female sex workers to access health services for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) particularly HIV. Discrimination by health care providers and often fear of abuse prevents female sex workers from seeking health care. Additionally, in society, female sex workers are heavily stigmatized: being named, shamed and labeled as immoral, abhorrent and a threat to society. Female sex workers among other key populations are a popularly "accepted" target of hate crime - people feel justified in harassing and abusing them. Therefore, the protection of the rights of female sex workers is still basic in Nigeria. Female sex workers are still excluded to where others are allowed, in areas of getting organized, access to social and health justice and more so heavily discriminated in employment, a lot needs to be done in order for female sex workers to enjoy equality with other persons.

WORK DONE:

- Sensitization and awareness Program for sex workers
- Income generating activities.
- PEP and PrEP discussion.
- SRHR.
- Post GBV Services.
- Legal Aid
- Save House
- Capacity Building for Sex workers
- Support group for Positive Sex workers and their Partners
- Human Rights training
- Advocacy visits to key stakeholders and allies and Lobbying

FUNDERS

PITCH

Red Umbrella Fund

ISDAO

Motto: OUR RIGHTS MUST BE RESPECTED

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