

REPORT ON THE NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE HELD AT DIOCESAN PASTORAL AND TRAINING CENTRE, SUNYANI, BRONG-AHAFO REGION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The 9th Annual Conference of the National Catholic Health Service was held in Sunyani from 25th – 27th October, 2011. The theme for the conference was “Building Local Ownership for Sustained Improvement”. The key objectives for the conference were:

- To encourage peer-to-peer learning on improvement activities
- To bring the NCHS managers and staff together for socialization and connectivity

These were among the list of participants who attended the programme.

1. The Host Bishop, Sunyani,
2. The Episcopal Bishop for Health
3. CEO, Christian Health Association of Health (CHAG)
4. The Executive Secretaries of the various Arch/diocese
5. Regional Director, Regional Health Directorate, Sunyani
6. Regional Manager, NHIS, Sunyani
7. Director, Pentecost Health
8. Three managers each representing 31 hospitals
9. Three representatives from the Konongo Mampong Diocese
10. Two representatives from the training institutions
11. Six pharmaceutical companies for exhibition of medical products
12. The Chief and the Queen Mother of Sunyani Traditional Council

MAIN PROGRAMME

DATE	ACTIVITY
25 th October, 2011	Executive Secretaries Meeting
26 th October, 2011	General Business Session
27 th October, 2011	Seminars/Buffer Dinner

1.1 EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES MEETING – 25TH OCTOBER, 2011

At the Executive Secretaries meeting the following issues were discussed:

- Progress on the Policy Goals namely, Identity, Administration and Management
- Health Service Delivery
- HIV/AIDS
- Drugs and Medical Supplies
- Healthcare Financing and Financial Management
- General Issues;
 - CHAG
 - Annual Conference
 - Pooled Procurement
 - National Provident Fund Management System
 - Website for NCHS

1.2 GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION – 26TH OCTOBER, 2011

Wednesday, 26th October, 2011 was the main business day session. The programme began with an Opening Mass celebration officiated by the Host Bishop, Most Rev. Matthew K. Gyamfi and the Episcopal Bishop for Health, Most Rev. Joseph K. Afrifah –Agyekum. The rest of the day’s activities continued after the Mass celebration as per the programme below;

TIME	ITEM
10:20 – 10:25	INTRODUCTION OF CHAIRMAN – MRS. VERONICA ADU-TACHIE
10:25 – 11:35	CHAIRMAN’S OPENING REMARKS
10:35 – 10:45	WELCOME ADDRESS – Diocesan Health Service Director, Sunyani (Sr. Wilhelmina A. Mensah)
10:45 – 11:00	FRATERNAL MESSAGES (CHAG, GHS, CRS)
11:00 – 11:20	ADDRESS – DIRECTOR, HEALTH DIRECTORATE (Mr. George Adjei)
11:20 – 11:40	GUEST SPEAKER (Regional Minister, Brong Ahafo Region)
11:40 – 12:10	KEYNOTE ADDRESS – Bishop of Koforidua Diocese/Episcopal Chairman for Health (Most Rev. Joseph Afrifah-Agyekum)

	PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
	CHAIRMAN’S CLOSING REMARKS/OPENING OF CONFERENCE
	VOTE OF THANKS – (Ms. Martha Amoah)
	CLOSING PRAYER
	GROUP PHOTOGRAPH
13:00	LUNCH

The second part of the day’s programme began with a lecture by Dr. Gilbert Buckle, C.E.O. of Christian Health Association of Ghana (CHAG) on the topic “Building Local Ownership for Sustained Improvement in the Context of Health Systems Strengthening”. The day ended with an interview.

The interview pattern was targeted on the facilities that have achieved remarkable results with Quality Improvement (QI) Projects on Project Fives Alive over the year. The following panelists were invited from NCHS facilities.

- Abubakar Braimah – Biostatistician, Holy Family Hospital, Nkawkaw
- Dr. Evans Agbenu – Fr. Thomas Allan Rooney Memorial Hospital, Asankragua
- Mr. Shaibu – NHIS Coordinator, St. Martin’s de Porres Hospital, Agomenya
- Dr. Benedict Boateng – Our Lady of Grace Hospital, Breman Asikuma
- Mavis Forgonson – St. Francis Xavier Hospital, Assin Fosu

Mrs. Josephine Agyeman-Duah, Project Officer of the Project Fives Alive coordinated the interview.

SEMINAR – 27TH OCTOBER, 2011

Participants were divided into three groups. A well arranged programme was scheduled for all the participants to take part in all the activities as planned for the day.

Topics for the seminar were:

- Stakeholder involvement in improvement work
- Managing multiple projects and sustaining gains of improvement Results in NCHS
- Understanding data in improvement – emerging issues

The programme ended on the 27th November, 2011 with a Buffet Dinner at Regent Hotel in Sunyani.