

**NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS, BENUE
STATE**

**PERSONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE (CDS)
PROJECT**

ON

**SICKLE CELL ANEMIA AWARENESS, DONATION OF RELIEF MATERIALS
TO INDIGENT SICKLE CELL PATIENTS IN THE BENUE STATE TEACHING
HOSPITAL MAKURDI**

CARRIED OUT BY:

DOGO, ALEXANDER ALBERT

STATE CODE: BN/21B/1488

PLACE OF PRIMARY ASSIGNMENT (PPA):

NIGERIA POLICE HEADQUARTERS MAKURDI, BENUE STATE

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SUBMITTED TO THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, CDS DEPARTMENT,

NYSC SECRETARIAT, BENUE STATE.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

My name is **DOGO, ALEXANDER ALBERT**; I am Piti by tribe from Lere Local Government of Kaduna State.

I completed my Primary School at Eckan Chwelnyp Primary School, Jos North, Plateau State in 2008 and my Secondary School at Government Secondary School Gwong, Jos North Plateau State in 2014. I studied law at University of Jos, Plateau State where I graduated in 2020 and was called to the Nigerian Bar in July, 2021.

I am a legal practitioner, a poet and a Sickle Cell Anemia awareness advocate, a member of the Nigerian Bar Association as well as a volunteer and member of the Nigerian Red Cross.

PROJECT EXECUTED

Sickle Cell Anemia Advocacy within Makurdi and its environs, donation of relief materials to indigent sickle cell Patients in the Benue State Teaching Hospital Makurdi.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this project to God Almighty for pioneering/revealing the idea and inspiration for this project to me. May his name be highly glorified! I also want to dedicate this project to my late cousin (Mr. Shem) the person whose battle with the Sickle Cell Anemia, transformed me into being a Sickle Cell Awareness Advocate and to all those who died while fighting the Sickle Cell Battle. All Spirited individuals who believed in this project and invested their resources to the realization of same, I sincerely appreciate.

ACKNOWLEDGEMEN

First and foremost my profound gratitude goes to God almighty for keeping me alive and bringing me thus far in this Sickle Cell Advocacy journey. I owe it all to you Lord. My sincere and indebt gratitude goes to State Coordinator, Mr. Abe Dankaro Ashumate. The fathers of all Corp Members here in Benue State for approving this project, words are too slim to express my gratitude to you.

My gratitude also goes to Mr. Konto Mathias for helping me discover the entire purpose of my Youth Service Year. Your guidance, support and commitment to the realization of this project are heartily appreciated and may the Lord continue to grace your path in whatever you do.

To my principal Barr, Friday Agwu, O/C Legal State CID Benue State, your kind are rare and May the Lord Almighty Continue to protect, grace and guide our path in all that you do. To all the Legal team State CID, Makurdi, Benue State. I appreciate you all.

To my friends especially Dr. Emmanuel Akighbemidu Erene, Friday Ogaga and Aisha Aduntan, who were understanding and always willing to go out with me to any advocacy outing, may God Almighty grace your paths especially as we face a wider sphere of life. Isaac Ayodele Olushegun, Godswill (Macho), and all other Corp members who contributed toward the realization of this project, God's grace is what I wish your paths. My utmost appreciation goes to Rev. Fr. Frederick Eger (SP) for standing by me both financially and spiritually may the Lord Almighty continue to grace your paths in ministry.

To the Sickle Cell Awareness Campaign Group. (SCAACG BENUE). I pray that this group outlived us all as we serve humanity in Benue State.

And Lastly, to all Spirited individuals, institutions and establishments whose contribution served as the life wire that light the realization of this project, I want to wish you God's ultimate grace. Thank you all.

PROJECT PROPOSAL/ AIM AND OBJECTIVES

ABOUT THE PROJECT

This project aim at creating awareness to people as to the existence to sickle cell anemia, its causes, symptoms, complications and how to prevent its occurrence In our society by flagging off campaigns in Schools, Mosques, Churches as well as NYSC Orientation Camp among others. The project is also aim at providing relief materials to some persons living with sickle cell Anemia.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVATION

My greatest motivation for this project is my cousin who lived and died of sickle cell anemia, seeing the kind of agonizing life he lived made me despite the fact that my area of specialty is not medically inclined, I had to develop myself into being a sickle cell advocate. More so, that I have so many friends living with the disease. Their plights painstakingly reminds me of my late cousin, who died in the world of rejection as he was rejected by his father. He only gets to live his entire life in the struggling arms of his lone mother without any sort of support considering our background.

PROJECT AIM AND OBJECTIVES

As resources will permit, this project aim at realizing the following objectives:

- a. Creations of awareness (sensitization) in religious institution, schools, and orientation camp as well as radio presentation as opportunity will avail itself.
- b. Donation of Wheel Chairs to Sickle Cell Patients who have been seriously impacted with sickle cell anemia.
- c. Donation of Hot Water Bags (HWB) to Sickle Cell Patients.
- d. Provision of free genotype test.
- e. Distributions of fliers on sickle cell Anemia.

COST IMPLICATION

1. 10 Wheel Chairs (50,000 Naira each)..... 500,000
2. 100 Hot water bags (4,000 Naira each)..... 400,000
3. Genotype Test (100 persons) (1000 Naira each)..... 100,000
4. Fliers 3, 000 copies (9.33 Naira each).....28,000
5. Transportation.....5000
6. Miscellaneous.....5000

Grand Total.....1038000

Amount in words: One Million Naira, Thirty Eight Thousand Naira Only.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Donations from well spirited stakeholders, the State Government/ Ministries, Non-governmental Organizations, Churches/Mosques etc.

DURATION OF PROJECT

From April to July, 2022.

PROPOSED DATE OF COMMISSIONING

First week of July, 2022.

NKST SECONDARY SCHOOL ALONG NEYMA, HIGH LEVEL MAKURDI



A talk on Sickle Cell Anemia at NKST Secondary School, during Legal Aid CDS's outing on Career opportunity. On the 25th of May, 2022.

METHODIST NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL, SOUTH BANK MAKURDI

On the 1st day of June, 2022.



A talk on Sickle Cell Anemia at Methodist Primary School, South Bank. On the 1st June, 2022. Where I discuss sickle cell anemia to both staff and students and their roles in the fight against its spread.

**St. Michael the Archangel Police Catholic Chaplaincy, Makurdi Benue State.
Opposite NYSC Secretariat Makurdi.**



Discussing sickle cell anemia to the congregation exposing why sickle cell anemia still persists as well as their roles in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia regardless of Profession, Age and Marital Status.

**ST. MATHEW POLICE CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY, MAKURDI, BENUE STATE
OPPOSITE 'B' DIVISION MAKURDI 5TH JUNE, 2022.**



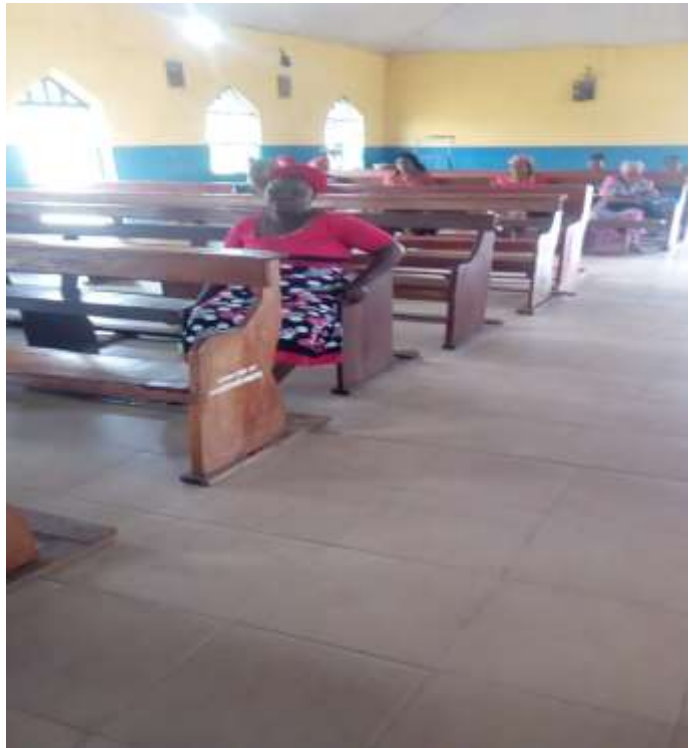
Discussing sickle cell anemia to the congregation exposing why sickle cell anemia still persists as well as their roles in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia regardless of Profession, Age and Marital Status.

**DEPARTMENT OF LOGISTIC AND SUPPLY, NIGERIA POLICE FORCE,
STATE POLICE HEADQUARTERS, MAKURDI, BENUE STATE**



On the 7th June, 2022. At the Department of Logistic and Supply, Nigeria Police Force, State Police Headquarters, Makurdi, Benue State. During their routine Morning briefing addressing all the service men and women on their role in the fight against the spread of sickle cell anemia.

Addressing the 'A day with Mary and Jesus Prayer Group. At St. Michael Archangel Police Catholic Chaplaincy 8th june, 2022.



Discussing sickle cell anemia to the congregation exposing why sickle cell anemia still persists as well as their roles in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia as parent.

VISIT TO CAC SECONDARY SCHOOL IN CONJUNCTION WITH MEDICAL CDS GROUP. 14th June, 2022.



Addressing Students, Staff and Medical CDS Members on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia.

VISIT ST. CATHERINE'S JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
MAKURDI OPPOSITE RAIL MAKURDI ON 15th June, 2022.



Addressing Students on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia.

**CHAPEL OF PRAYER POLICE HEADQUARTERS MAKURDI
ON THE 16TH JUNE, 2022**



Discussing sickle cell anemia to the congregation exposing why sickle cell anemia still persists as well as their roles in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia as parent.

Brothers Fm, 90.5 Makurdi on the 18th June, 2022.



Discussing sickle cell anemia to Brothers Fm Makurdi exposing why sickle cell anemia still persists as well as the roles of our listeners in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia as parent. The program was rebroadcast on the 21st June due to the interesting nature topic.

ST. CAMILLUS OF LILLUS, COLLEGE OF NURSING MAKURDI 19TH JUNE, 2022
Celebrating the World Sickle Cell Day.



Discussing sickle cell anemia to the congregation exposing why sickle cell anemia still persists as well as their roles in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia regardless of Profession, Age and Marital Status.

Addressing Fire Service CDS, At NYSC Secretariat Makurdi on the 22nd June, 2022.



Addressing my fellow corps members on their role in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia

ADDRESSING EDG/ICT CDS GROUP AT NYSC SECRETRIAT 22ND JUNE, 2022.



Addressing my fellow corps members on their role in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia

LEGAL AID CDS 22ND JUNE, 2022.



Addressing my fellow corps members on their role in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia at the Legal Aid CDS Group

AT NYSC ORIENTATION CAMP WANNUNE, TARKA LGA OF BENUE ON 24TH JUNE, 2022.





Presenting at the Nysc Camp. after the my presentation I proceeded to OBS, I.e the camp Orientation Broadcasting Service where I secured a slot for the medical Doctors in camp to go talk about the Medical Condition of which they were given an hour to discuss on the disease which they did.

RED CROSS

At Tilley Gyado Secondary School North Bank, Makurdi. Delivering a talk during the quarterly, Joint training of members and volunteers of Makurdi Division Red Crossers.



Delivering a talk on Sickle cell Anemia with more emphasis on compatibility as regards genotype combination. The Makurdi Division of the Nigerian Red Cross comprises of four major Detachments: Detachment 12, Nenge etachment, North Bank Detachment and Baba Gana Detachment. On the 24th June, 2022.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CHURCH, HIGH LEVEL, MAKURDI, BENUE STATE. ON THE 26TH JUNE, 2022.



Discussing sickle cell anemia to the congregation exposing why sickle cell anemia still persists as well as their roles in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia regardless of Profession, Age and Marital Status.

A visit to Detachment 12, Nigeria Red Cross Makurdi, on the 28th of June, 2022 during their weekly meeting. Where I deliver two hours lectures on Sickle Cell Anemia.



Addressing Detachment 12 Red Cross Volunteers and Members on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia.

30th June, Visit to Reproductive Health CDS.



Addressing the CDS Group on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia and the need for compatibility.

30th June, Visit to SDGs CDS Group



Addressing the CDS Group on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia and the need for compatibility.

A visit to Nenge Detachment, Nigeria Red Cross, Makurdi Division on the 30th of June, 2022 during their weekly meeting. Where I deliver two hours lectures on Sickle Cell Anemia



Addressing Detachment 12 Red Cross Volunteers and Members on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia.

1st July, 2022. At Ekan Primary School Makurdi, Along J. S. Tarka way opposite Ape Akwu Stadium We afterward had a session with the staff.



Addressing Students and Staff on Sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia.

4th July, 2022. Visit to MSS Department of State Police Headquarters Makurdi Benue State.



Addressing Staff of the department on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia.

8th July, 2022. Visit to Birccan Secondary School Makurdi, Opposite Aper Aku Stadium



Addressing Students and Staff on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia.

A visit to North Bank Detachment, Nigeria Red Cross, Makurdi Division on the 8th of July, 2022 during their weekly meeting. Where I deliver two hours lectures on Sickle Cell Anemia



Addressing volunteers and members of the Red Cross Detachment on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia

9th July, 2022, at Seven Days Adventist Church Makurdi, Along David Mark Bye Pass Makurdi.



Discussing sickle cell anemia to the congregation exposing why sickle cell anemia still persists as well as their roles in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia regardless of Profession, Age and Marital Status. Speaking at the church premise after service.

10th July, 2022. At the Benue State Central Wadata, delivering a talk on Sickle Cell Anemia during a Program Organized by Devoted Youth for Development



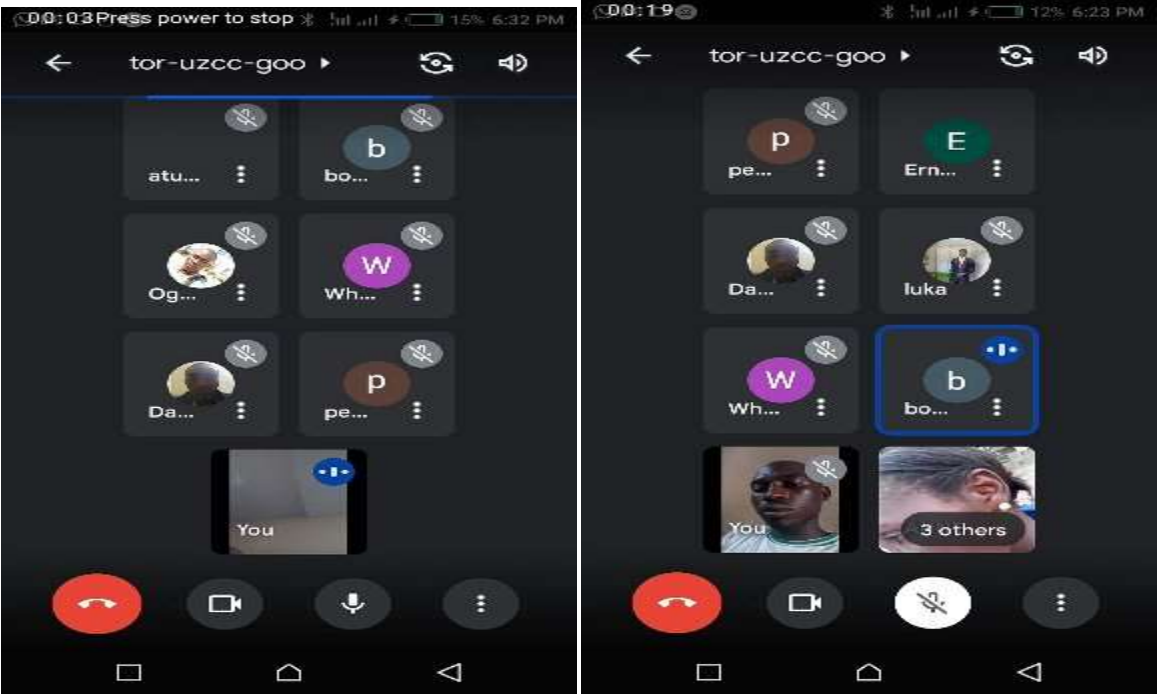
Discussing sickle cell anemia to the dignitaries and invited guests on Sickle cell anemia exposing why sickle cell anemia still persists as well as their roles in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia regardless of Profession, Age and Marital Status.

13th July, 2022. AT RADIO BENUE MAKURDI, 95.0 FM.



Delivering a talk on sickle cell anemia at Radio Benue Makurdi with a Doctor exposing why sickle cell anemia still persists as well as the roles of our listeners in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia. pleased with the discussion, the Director General of the Station as the Acting Director of Program to avail us another 1 hour to enable us discuss the subject matter elaborately as well featured on a recorded health talk.

Virtual meeting organized on the 17th July, to discuss intensively with stakeholders on viable strategies on how to curb the Spread of sickle cell Anemia. the Program featured the Following Personalities; Doctors, Lawyers, Media Personals, Expert from the Nigerian Red Cross Benue Branch and A Parent of a Sickle Cell Patient and someone who was able to fight incompatibility. The Below Are the Pictorial Evidence.



**SICKLE CELL ADVOCACY
NYSC PCDS**

SICKLE CELL ANEMIA

DISCUSSION WITH STAKEHOLDERS



Barr. DOGO, ALEXANDER ALBERT
HOST/MODERATOR



To join the meeting on Google Meet,
click this link:
<https://meet.google.com/tor-uzcc-goo>

Or open Meet and enter this code:
tor-uzcc-goo

POWERED BY




RSVP  **08107309021**





Mr. Ugeeh terkimbi Ernest
co - moderator



Dr Ashibogwu Peace Onyeka
Special Guest



Rev. Fr. Fredrick Eger.
Special Guest



<p>Mr. Luka Danboyi Managing Director Lukiconcept co-moderator</p>	<p>Dr. David Owoeye. Special guest</p>	<p>Mrs. Fatima Hassan NTA Makurdi</p>	<p>Barr. Boniface Onovo Chukwuma Special guest</p>	<p>Funke Awodiya Guest Author</p>	<p>Mrs. Anne M. Ashiekaa Acting Director of Program Radio Benue.</p>	<p>Mr Abah Anthony Abah Executive branch secretary Nigerian Red cross benue state</p>	<p>Mallam Ibrahim Abu Secretary to the Chief Imam Benue State Central Mosque Makurdi.</p>
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JULY 17TH 2022

GOOGLE MEET OPENS

TIME: 4:00 - 6:00PM



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The program was a success. We had over two hours discussion with the stakeholders as so our audience were exposed to trends in the sickle cell world and the role each and every one of us can play in the fight against the spread of sickle cell anemia.

21st July, 2022. Visit to Radio Benue where we gave an Hour Talk with a Doctor on Sickle Cell Anemia.



We were privilege to have an hour discussion on Sickle cell Anemia and many listeners called to register the their contributions

On the 22nd July, 2022. Giving a talk on Sickle Cell Anemia on the Assembly Ground at Government Model School Zone 4 High Level Makurdi.



Addressing Students and Staff on Assembly ground on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia.

27st July, 2022. Visit to Radio Benue where for a recorded of the version of the sensitization with a Doctor on Sickle Cell Anemia so as to enable the station to be playing it at regular interval during their health programs.



my third visit to Radio Benue, on this we had a recorded version of the Sickle Cell discussion of which same will be played at regular interval on the Stations' health program.

On the 28th July At Drug Free and Quality Control CDS, Makurdi, LGA Secretariat



Addressing fellow Corps Members on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia and the need for ensuring compatibility

On The 28th July, 2022. At The Digital On boarders CDS Meeting at Makurdi Local Government Secretariat.



Addressing fellow Corps Members on sickle Cell Anemia exposing their roles in the fight against the spread of the sickle cell anemia and the need for ensuring compatibility

28th July At Nta Makurdi. Delivering A Recorded Talk On Sickle Cell Anemia Which Will Be Played During Their Health Program Called Life Watch.



During a recorded discussion on Sickle Cell Anemia with Dr. Emmanuel and Mrs.Susan Omale at NTA Makurdi.

29th at the Police Officers Conference Makurdi. Talking to officers on their role in the fight against the spread of sickle cell anemia at Officers Mess opposite Aper Aku Stadium Makurdi.



Addressing Officers at Police Officers Conference on their roles in the fight against the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia, especially as Parents and Grandparent exposing why the condition still persist in our community.

On the 29th July, I was invited to deliver a talk on Sickle Cell Anemia at C.....Behind Apostolic Secondary School Mobil barracks Makurdi.



Addressing Youths and Parent on the Need for genotype compatibility as it is the surest and cheapest way of combating the spread of sickle cell anemia.

DONATION OF RELIEF MATERIAL AT BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL



At the Benue State University Teaching Hospital donating a Wheel Chair. Myself and the Local Government Inspector Mr. Cletus Akoh Present the Wheel chair and the Item was received by the Head of Hematology Dr. Okoli on behalf of the Benue State University Teaching Hospital in the presence of others Staff in his office.

DURING THE INAUGURATION OF THE EXECUTIVES OF BENUE STATE SICKLE CELL ANEMIA AWARENESS CAMPAIGN GROUP AT THE RED CROSS OFFICE.



Present At The Inauguration Were The Branch Secretary Red Cross Benue State. Mr. Anthony Abah, the acting Director of Program NTA Makurdi Mrs. Susan Omale and the Acting Director of Program Radio Benue Mrs/ M. Shiekaa. The trio admonished the new executives on the selfless nature of their service and integrity and all pledge to give their maximum support towards the realization of the group mandate.

BREAKDOWN OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT.

In the course of executing this project, the following activities were carried out. Donation of a wheel chair at the Benue State University Teaching Hospital, I was permitted to address Corps Member Batch B Stream 1 at the Orientation Camp on the 24th day of June, 2022. Sickle Cell awareness at three detachment of the Nigerian Red Cross and in one at their general Quarterly meeting, seven schools were visited, two radio stations were visited as well. They include Brothers fm 90.5, Makurdi and Radio Benue 95.0 Fm. I was featured at Radio Benue at three different Occasions. One TV Station was equally visited (NTA Makurdi), where a record discussion on Sickle Cell Anemia was done which was played on their health program title “Life Watch”. Eight Churches were visited as well. Seven NYSC CDS Groups were also visited where I gave an intensive talk on sickle cell anemia and the need for the compatibility as Corps Members. I visited different Police Departments and I was invited to deliver a talk during the Police Officers Conference.

CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The challenges faced in the course of executing this project may includes; financial constrains which to so extent cripple the realization of most of the mandate of this project. The fusion of office work from my Place of Primary Assignment and the realization of the mandate of this project was time demanding that in the verge of doing one the other suffers.

Another challenge is getting permission to address people, considering the financial mandate of this project of this project, wherever I go asking for permission as well as financial support, most of them if not all fail to avail me that opportunity possibly due to the inclusion of financial assistance at some point, I had to go back to those establishments demanding for just permission to talk as public sensitization is the whole essence of the campaign.

The attitude of people especially as regard to financial assistance was very discouraging.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Going by the exposure gotten as a result of this project, I will like to pose the following recommendations;

1. I also recommend the compulsory inclusion of Sickle Cell Anemia as a topic that should discuss at every orientation Camp. For it is hugely belief that NYSC is majorly the last bridge to cross before driving into the matrimonial phase. More so that most people come to service with the intention of meeting their life partners during their service year.
2. That a CDS Group should be establish on Sickle Cell Anemia Nationwide to increase public sensitization on sickle cell anemia. this is because one of the major reason why the disease still persist is ignorance and it is belief that the perfect and cheapest cure for sickle cell anemia is prevention in other words avoidance. Thus, the question is how can one avoid contacting a disease he/she is not aware of or even if he/she is aware of the disease, but ignorant of how the disease is acquired? Thus establishing the Sickle Cell Awareness CDS Group Nationwide will go a long way in stamping down the spread of Sickle Cell Anemia in our community as well as the reducing the number of persons living with the disease in our society. As Nigeria is the World Capital of Sickle Cell Anemia.
3. Although the Medical Group CDS do carry out sensitization on different medical conditions, I think the celebration of the World Sickle cell day which in turn will increase the volume of public sensitization on the subject matter should be made compulsory and that day should be made a general CDS day for all Corp members.
4. The de-concentration of Doctors to only Medical CDS Group. I recommend that some medical practitioners and Lab scientist should be posted to the Sickle Cell Advocacy CDS Group. This will help in the making sure that the composition of the group is made up of competent professionals who deeply appreciate the subject matter.
5. That the scheme should make genotype compatibility one of the condition precedents for the acceptance of marriage among corps members during their service years so as to attract the stipends to be disbursed by the scheme. The scheme should device a means of verifying the test result presented by the intending couples.

CONTRIBUTIONS/EXPENDITURE

CONTRIBUTIONS

NAMES	AMOUNT
1. PCSII MAKURDI	5,000
2. Department of Works	1,970
3. AC State CID Makurdi	2,000
4. Justice M.A Abounu	10,000
5. V.T. Kor	2,000
6. M.J Ameh	500
7. Akhigbemidu Emmanuel	4,000
8. Ameh Ann	2,000
9. Ameh Rose	1,000
10. Justice M.J Ojohor	10,000
11. Anene, Sewuuese Catherine	5,000
12. God'swill Offiong Ekpo	4000
13. O. Y Dennis Esq	4500
14. Aisha Aduntan	11,000
15. Inpr. Alechenu Ujah	4000
TOTAL	N 66970

EXPENDITURE

1. Transportation -----	8000
2. Printing of letters/photocopies-----	2970
3. Printing of Progress/Final Report-----	6000
4. Wheel Chair-----	45000
5. Logistic-----	5000
Total -----	66970

CONCLUSION

Despite the raising awareness as to the existence of sickle cell anemia, there are diverse factors responsible for this. They include ignorance, stubborn attitude of lovers, unplanned Pregnancy, medical error, deceit and concealment. We are by way of conclusion calling for the intensification of more effort in creating more awareness exposing the danger of the above mentioned factors in the fight against the spread of sickle cell anemia.

It is my humbly belief that the National Youth Service Corps have a role to play in the fight against the spread if the above outlined recommendations can be put into place.