



Right to Health and Nutrition

in Nigeria



CARE's Right to Health and Nutrition strategy focuses on Improving health and nutrition outcomes, particularly for women and girls, by strengthening primary health care and nutrition systems. This includes strengthening systems and building capacities of front-line health workers to provide quality Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and nutrition care.

CARE Nigeria works with national and international development partners and government agencies to deliver its health programming to crisis-affected people via facility and outreach-based SRH services in the most hard-to-reach areas. In line with CARE's localization commitment, our interventions focus on strengthening the systems of partner civil society organizations at all levels to respond to the ongoing crisis, while building local capacities and cultivating long-term resilience to environmental shocks.

Since its establishment in 2017, CARE Nigeria has reached over 500,000 people with health interventions.

INTERVENTIONS

Maternal, Young Child, and Newborn Care: CARE implements a health system approach layered with gender-responsive service delivery to improve maternal, newborn, and child outcomes at the primary and secondary care level, and provides facility and outreach-based services. CARE promotes access and utilization of improved pre-and post-natal care, family planning, HIV counseling and testing, clinical management of rape, health education, and post-abortion care. In addition, CARE

2021-2023 Improved Immunization Coverage

7,409

children received first immunizations at birth

4,347

vaccinated with Measles second dose

9,928

vaccinated with Penta 1

10,031

vaccinated with Penta 3

4,968

children referred for further health services



implements integrated management of childhood illnesses and supports community-based disease surveillance and referrals.

Adolescent Mothers against All Odds (AMAL) Initiative:

CARE's AMAL Initiative promotes married adolescent women's access to SRHR services. The approach is led by participants and adolescents and combines health workers' expertise and community dialogue to address the immediate needs of pregnant adolescents and first-time mothers in crisis-affected settings. Working through three components—young mothers' clubs for first-time mothers and pregnant adolescents, capacity-strengthening for health providers, and reflective dialogues with community members—the project increases young mothers' ability to engage with health providers and advocate for adolescent-responsive services.

CARE's **Central Emergency Response** funded SRHR interventions that strengthen health systems for improved maternal and child health outcomes, and worked with existing government primary health care facilities to provide effective, efficient, timely, and adequate services. The project provided a comprehensive SRH care package that included ante-natal care, newborn care, family planning, post-abortion care, HIV testing, and counselling. The project also provided education

and raised awareness about SRHR, reaching 58,242 community members (19,971 girls, 16,869 boys, 8,468 men, and 13,934 women).

CARE Nigeria strengthened health systems by implementing a mobile outreach service focused on hard-to-reach areas. It built the capacity and technical skills of government health workers on the Clinical Management of Rape, Family Planning, Basic Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (BEmONC), and Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) provision. This mobile service reached 437 boys, 1,106 girls, 1,457 men, and 3,983 women.

COVID Vaccine Accessibility: CARE raised awareness in order to reduce infection risk, address vaccine hesitancy, and support systems for vaccine accessibility. CARE also promoted equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines and community engagement through national and local level advocacy, strengthened health systems, and promoted access to medical supplies and services.

Supporting Access to Family Planning and Post Abortion Care (SAFPAC) Initiative: Through the SAFPAC project, CARE worked with our partners to reduce unintended pregnancies

and deaths from unsafe abortion by increasing access to quality Family Planning services (including long-acting reversible contraception), improving services for women and girls in fragile and crisis-affected settings including northern Nigeria, and utilizing proven interventions.

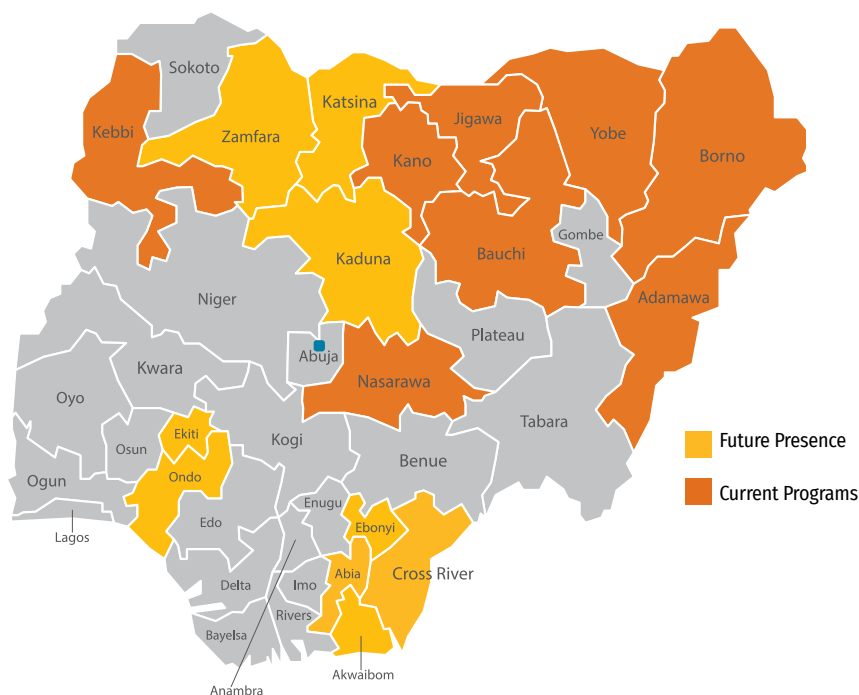
Reducing Infectious Disease among Children U5: The Lafiyayyen Yara (Healthy Child) project worked to reduce mortality in children under five through a community-based health systems-strengthening approach that ensures communities receive a core package of child welfare services. The project also promoted 'family planning plus' and maternal care services for women and adolescent girls. It:

- Increased knowledge of family planning methods from 51.1% to 81.4%.
- Improved access and quality care for 41,412 people (34,446 children under five, and 6,966 pregnant women).
- Trained 170 health workers.
- Reached 68,006 people through community-based activities to promote healthy behaviours.
- Strengthened 22 health facilities.

CARE Nigeria engages with community structures (representatives, religious, and traditional leaders), civil society groups, and government authorities.

COUNTRY PRESENCE

CARE is currently present in eight states namely Borno, Adamawa, Yobe, Bauchi, Jigawa, Kebbi, Nasarawa, and Kogi. We plan to expand our presence to include the following, starting in 2025: Kano area (Katsina, Zamfara, Kaduna), Lagos area (Ondo, Ekiti), Akwa Ibom, Cross River, and Ebonyi.



Approaches

- ➔ Health systems strengthening
- ➔ Front line health worker strengthening
- ➔ Digital health counselling and awareness
- ➔ Rapid Gender Analysis
- ➔ Community Score Cards
- ➔ Advocacy and accountability
- ➔ Working locally and connecting locally
- ➔ Addressing social norms and practices that negatively impact maternal and child health
- ➔ Strengthening community-based surveillance

Donors

- CARE USA
- Central Emergency Response (CERF)
- Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
- Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
- Nigerian Humanitarian Fund (NHF)
- Pfizer
- Private Foundation
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Parcel Service (UPS)

2024–2030 Strategic Plan



Right to Health & Nutrition

Improve access and use
of health and nutrition
services

Strengthen the quality
of health and nutrition
services

Advocacy, Accountability
and Collaboration for
Health & Nutrition

Impact Target:
1.5 million people

HEALTH AND NUTRITION STRATEGY: 2024–2030

Between 2024 and 2030, CARE Nigeria and its partners will improve health and nutrition outcomes for women and girls by focusing on strengthening primary health care systems (including strengthening capacity for front-line workers, Community Health Extension Workers (CHEWS), and universal health care coverage). This increases access to quality SRHR and nutrition care.



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