

CHINASA U IMO

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I am an international development/policy strategist with nine years' experience working in the development health sector, designing, and managing health programs. My expertise span across providing leadership, and technical assistance to multi-stakeholders to develop and implement policies that improves access to quality healthcare for women and children in low resourced and volatile countries. I am strongly suited in managing not-for-profit programs that focuses on maternal, newborn, and adolescent reproductive health and rights, systems strengthening, and building participatory processes. Also, I have managed multi-donor grants with over \$500,000 budget, led pro-health policy advocacies, build capacities of multi-stakeholders' coalitions on social accountability and evidence-based policy engagements, provided technical support to ministries on health financing strategies, designed, and managed organizations communication strategies, and participated in health emergency preparedness and response as a humanitarian/risk communications specialist.

KEY SKILLS

- **Competency:** I am competent in providing leadership, managing people; mentorship and coaching; facilitating trainings and public speaking, program design and management; policy analysis and problem solving; strategy development; advocacy, community engagements; knowledge management and communication; packaging learnings; qualitative research. I have capacity to work in both highly stressed self-directed and team-oriented environments. Also, I deploy my creative and innovative skills in writing policy briefs, memos, articles, and blogs, and in developing training materials, creative assets. I am tech-savvy with a natural talent for mastering new software applications

Countries of Work experience: Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ghana, and The United States

Languages: English

EDUCATION

Master of Art in International Development and Policy

Sept 2020 – June 2021

The University of Chicago, Irving B. Harris School of Public Policy Class of 2021 Chicago, Illinois, USA

- Certificate in Global Health Policy -Major
- Kiphart Research Fellow – Center for Global Health Research Program
- Fellow - Graduate Program in Health Administration and Policy-GPHAP

Master of Art in Diplomacy and Strategic Studies

Jan 2013 – Dec 2015

The University of Lagos, School of Post-graduate Studies, Lagos, Nigeria

- Majored in inter and intra state conflict and conflict resolution

BSc Public Administration (Honors)

Oct 2007 – July 2009

Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria

- Majored in project and human resource management

National Diploma in Public Administration

Jan 2003 – July 2005

Abia State Polytechnics, Aba, Nigeria

CERTIFICATES/LICENSES

Health Administration and Policy – Global Health (GPHAP Fellowship)

June 2021

The University of Chicago Graduate Program in Health Administration and Policy
Crown Family School of Social Works. Illinois, Chicago, USA

Social and Behavioral Research

Jan 2021

CITI Program

NORC of the University of Chicago

Biomedical Research

Jan 2021

CITI Program

NORC of the University of Chicago

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- **Abstract and Poster** – Assessment of Healthcare Needs of Three Communities in Mid-West Ghana: Using a Community Participatory Approach. Global Health Conference Midwest 2022, Feb 4-6th 2022, Omaha, USA
- **Abstract and Lead Paper Presentation** – Participatory Governance: How Nigeria Can Achieve Development Through Citizens participation in Policymaking. 7th International Interdisciplinary Conference on Raising Girls' Ambition (RAGA 2021), Lead City University, Oct 12 – 15th 2021, Ibadan, Nigeria.
- **Guest Speaker** – Political Participation and Community Development. Nkporo National Youth Summit, Sept 25-26th 2020, Lagos/Abia State, Nigeria.
- **Invited Presentation** – Politics and Public Health; Navigating Governance to Deliver Healthcare. West African Academy of Public Health, June 26th, 2021, Virtual.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The University of Chicago Medicine and Biological Sciences, Chicago, USA

2020 to date

Research Fellow - Center for Global Health-UCGH

- Design and conducted Community health needs assessment in Ghana (The Ashanti and Central Regions) and in Nigeria (Ondo and Ekiti state) using mixed methods to identify critical health needs bothering rural and hard to reach communities in West Africa. Findings from the research contributes to learnings on community health, and as program improvement resources for UCGH local and international affiliates.
- Conducted a 6 years Kiphart Foundation/Center for Global Health Ghana Project Impact assessment to document the impact of their community intervention projects such as water and sanitation, primary health facilities support, community school's computer laboratory installations and school farm support projects in Ghana and Nigeria.

Summer Research Fellowship:

- As a research Attaché to the **International Rescue Committee** – IRC, I designed a Problem driven solution protocol to evaluate the PDIA process in Northern Nigeria and a PEA adoption strategy to implement a multiyear, program to improve maternal and newborn healthcare delivery in conflict/emergency settings.

Graduate Research Assistant: Center for Global Health

- Supported data cleaning and analysis for ongoing research to develop a quality improvement plan to treat breast cancer patients at the University of Chicago cancer treatment center under the Center for Global Health.

Graduate Research Assistant: Advancing Health Equity- leading Care, Payment, and Systems Transformation (AHE)

- Conducted a case study on how the AHE Delaware team is using health equity approach to improve access to care for the black pediatric population in Delaware.

Policy Lab

- Participated as a team of Harris policy students to evaluate the Impact of Covid-19 on Illinois Child Care Workers Employment for the Illinois Department of Employment Security- IDES
- Participated in a team to design an adaptive program implementation strategy suitable for delivering healthcare services to vulnerable population in the conflict and hard to reach areas of Cameroon for Keafon Health Initiative – an NGO providing rural healthcare services in southern Cameroon – as a **GPHAP capstone project**

Options Consultancy Services; Evidence for Action-MamaYe Program, Niger, Nigeria

2019 – 2020

Niger State Advisor

- Successfully set up and grow the Evidence for Action-MamaYe program in Niger state, including conducting initial political economy analysis of the maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent reproductive health and rights-RMNCAH⁺ space, stakeholder's identification, mapping and engagement, and program onboarding.
- Led the strategic design and delivery of the Evidence for Action-MamaYe plans, and overall program management in Niger State. These include setting up a state-led advocacy and accountability coalition for maternal newborn, child health and rights in the state, identifying and collaborating with partners to provide technical assistance to the state ministry of health governance system, interacting with key stakeholders, and managing the state team.

- Provided technical assistance to the state Ministry of Health on maternal and perinatal death surveillance and response-MPDSR and build the capacity of the MPDSR Committee and other Maternal, Newborn and Child Health-MNCH advocacy and accountability mechanism on how to link health systems data to health budget processes.
- Supported the Niger state Covid-19 Rapid Response team to assess the state level of preparedness and use the information to design preventive response strategy and community engagement and sensitization strategy to reduce community-to-community transmission without disruption to routine primary healthcare service for women and children.
- Liaised with team members in Abuja, Kenya, and the London office on broad Options Consultancy advocacy and policy influencing programs design and implementation for all reproductive health services.
- Led the introduction and use of new health technologies; this includes the use of software to develop and design scorecards to measure RMNCAH indicators, such as the OS-Application that has been successfully deployed by civil society coalitions across the states and countries that Options Consultancy supports, they use the App in analyzing the data they need for evidence-based advocacies with policymakers.
- Coordinated the management of E4A-MamaYe 3 years sub-grant to civil society coalitions in 9 states in Nigeria. The funding was provided by the Gates Foundation and PAI international organization, for CSO coalition to engage policy stakeholders in advocacy to implement the Primary Health Care Under One Roof-PHCUOR, domesticate family planning services in focal PHCs, and roll out the Basic Health Care Provision Funds at different state levels.

Communications Officer, Country Office, Abuja, *Nigeria*

2017-2019

- Developed E4A-mamaYe country overall communications and advocacy strategy/operational plans.
- Oversee all communications activities of the program, including the development of creative assets, contents for blogs, branding, IEC materials, graphics,
- I also managed E4A-MamaYe social media platforms, media engagement and Photography coverage. Coordinate E4A-MamaYe Quarterly newsletter publication, updated content to the website, and supported the production of scorecards such as MNCH, MPDSR, Health budget.
- Managed E4A-MamaYe Nigeria relationship with other NGOs and Stakeholders and represent the organization in conferences and multi-stakeholders' policy influencing at national and state levels.
- Successfully entered and Featured E4A-MamaYe as one of the 100 Sparks of Hope for the #WalkTogether campaign in honor of Nelson Mandela 100 years Walk to freedom by The Elders.
- Successfully executed the E4A-MamaYe 'Health Finance Advocacy Campaign' #FundNaijaHealth in the three states they cover, and Abuja. This resulted in the release of the 2019 BHPF funding by the federal government and raised consciousness around timely health budget release advocacies.
- Initiated the transferring of MamaYe scorecard development process from paper base to digital Scorecard management platform as a sustainable way of improving the capacity of coalitions and government officials to develop RMNCAH scorecards.

Nigerian Center for Disease Control-NCDC, Abuja, *Nigeria*

2017

Risk Communication Officer

- Developed press releases, social media contents, and behavioral and social change communication materials such as posters, fact sheets, pamphlets
- Worked closely with the technical preparedness team during hepatitis E outbreak in Borno state to design communications tool for the social mobilization team
- Participated in the research and analysis of the Measles outbreak in Nigeria
- Developed training manuals and contents on Risk/ Emergency Communication during health emergencies.

USAID/John Hopkins University Health Communication Collaborative (HC3), Ebonyi State, *Nigeria* 2017

Research Consultant

- Participated in the Baseline Evaluation of Contraceptives and family planning ideation and behaviors in Nigeria
- Conducted focus group discussions among women of reproductive age in different communities and used the analysis to support the design of appropriate SBCC strategy and messages for uptake of contraceptive services in Ebonyi state.

USAID/Malaria Care and Binomial Optimus Limited Project, Ebonyi State, *Nigeria*

2016

Research Consultant

- Participated in the End-line Evaluation of the Improved Community Case Management (ICCM) program for Under-5 Illnesses by Patent Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVs) in Ebonyi State.

National Primary Health Care Agency/ Hanovia Medicals, Ebonyi State, Nigeria
Enumeration and Listing Officer

2016

- Participated in the end-line Tetanus Toxoid Immunization Campaign Coverage Survey in 4 Local governments in Ebonyi state

ONE Campaign International, Nigeria
ONE Champion

2016 – 2017

- Participated in the design and execution of advocacy campaigns such as #StrongGirl, which focused on raising awareness on issues of gender inequality women and children's rights, and girl child empowerment. And #MakeNaijaStronger Campaign, a health budget advocacy to meet the 15% Abuja declaration and the 1% Consolidated Revenue Fund-CRF of the National Health Act for the implementation of the Basic Healthcare Provision Fund-BHCPF, the advocacy resulted in the improvement of the 2017 budget allocation to health, and the allocation of the 1% CRF in the 2018 Budget, it also widened the scope for health budget advocacies in Nigeria.
- Represented Nigeria/Africa in the ONE Ambassadors' International summit in France, where we advocated to the OECD for the replenishment of the Global Funds for Malaria, HIV, and tuberculosis in Paris, 2016.

African Union - Support to Ebola Outbreak in West Africa, Sierra Leone
Humanitarian Affairs/Communications Officer (AU-Pillar Head)

2014-2015

- Collaborated in partnership with local and international government and non-governmental organizations to plan, design and implement humanitarian emergency relief assisted programs such as Quick impact projects like setting up community WASH projects, distribution of relief materials to families in quarantine homes and interim care centers, providing psychosocial support to patients undergoing treatments. Monitor welfare of families under quarantine, carry out community sensitization, and conduct monitoring and evaluation.
- Prepared reports, briefings, and presentations for various stakeholders, developed communication and social mobilization training materials, conducted training and workshops.
- Prepared daily situation reports- highlighting challenges and possible solutions to the AU response team.
- Coordinated Psychosocial activities such as community mobilization, counseling of survivors and families, collection and reunification of survivors from the Treatment centers, family tracing and reunification for displaced children, provided child protection services and SGBV support, follow-up with survivor for post treatment support.

Nigeria Center for Disease Control - Ebola Emergency Operations Center, Lagos, Nigeria
Communications and Social Mobilization Officer

2014

- Coordinated with all the local media houses on EVD reporting to ensure conformity to best practices on accurate reporting of the outbreak to reduce the spread of false information, panic, and stigmatization. I also reviewed and compiled daily newspapers to identify reports or any publication that may trigger negative alerts or panic. I prepared daily, weekly, and monthly Sit-reps for the EOC.
- Worked with EOC partners (WHO, CDC, UNICEF) to develop Communication Materials for Community Sensitization programs, Training, Workshops, and Advocacy. We also identified and documented best practices and lessons learned

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Civic Leadership Fellowship:** Young African Leadership Training (YALI), GIMPA, Ghana, 2017
- **Integrated Disease Surveillance Response (IDSR):** World Health Organization E-learning Course, 2017
- **The Future of works in Africa: Innovation for Youth Employment:** Ashoka Fellowship, 2016
- **Risk Communication:** World Health Organization, Lagos, Nigeria, 2014
- **Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Educator:** National AIDS Control Agency (NACA), Nigeria, 2011

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

- **2014/2015- UNMEER** A lead player in the eradication of Ebola Virus Disease in West Africa,
- **2015- President Ernest Bai Koroma** (President, Sierra Leone) Meritorious Service Award for the dedication and commitment to service as an Ebola Responder during the Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak in Sierra Leone,
- **2015- African Union** Medal of Honor/ Certificate of Recognition for outstanding contribution to the fight against Ebola Virus Disease in West Africa

- **2017- ONE Campaign International** Certificate of Appreciation for the Commitment in the Fight Against Extreme Poverty in Africa
- **2021- 7th Annual International Interdisciplinary Conference on Raising Girls' Ambition (RAGA 2021)**, Award of Recognition as Lead Speaker – Gender and Power: A Driving Force or Hindrance for Progress and Social Change

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

African Youth Employment Initiatives-AYEI (with UN-ECOSOC status)

Co-Founder – Ghana Headquarter Office – Since 2016

- Provide strategic program direction to all the leads in the countries AYEI have presence in (Ghana, Central Africa Republic-CAR, Uganda, Burundi, Ivory Coast, Malawi, and Tanzania) to design community intervention programs.

Stand to End Rape Initiative

Program Officer (Voluntary) - Lagos, Nigeria 2016 - 2017

- Designed and implemented community awareness campaigns on reducing the incidence of rape and HIV prevalence in communities, also coordinated a HIV counseling and testing drive in 8 local governments in Lagos, the campaign reached over 3000 families and directly reached more than 300 youths. The program was supported by AHF grant.

3 Armored Division, Nigerian Army - Maxwell Khobe Military Cantonment, Rukuba Barracks

National Youth Service - Plateau, Nigeria 2010 - 2011

- Provided training to junior high students and military personnel on basic computer knowledge and served as a court transcriber and rapporteur during court-marshal proceedings.
- Volunteered as a Peer Educator - conducted health promotion campaign around the communities in Jos, on Malaria and HIV/AIDS prevention and care, and trained over 400 school teenagers on reproductive health care and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and infections.

PUBLICATIONS AND PIECES IN THE NEWS

- [Student Spotlight: Chinasa Ude Imo, MAIDP Class of 2021 | The University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy \(uchicago.edu\)](#)
- [Why I became an HIV and AIDS activist - ONE](#)
- [ONE Nigeria members walk for better health systems on International Youth Day - ONE](#)
- [Accountability Mechanism inaugurated to combat maternal, newborn deaths in Niger Newsdiaryonline](#)
- [Spotlight on: Preventing maternal deaths by improving quality of care | Options](#)
- [IMPORTANT ROLE COMMUNITY INFORMANT PLAYS IN INTEGRATED DISEASE SURVEILLANCE IN NIGERIA | Afribary](#)
- [How data can save someone's mother, partner, friend or child | E4A-MamaYe](#)
- [Using scorecards to achieve Sustainable Development Goals | E4A-MamaYe](#)
- [Baby Loss Awareness Week | E4A-MamaYe](#)
- [Children by choice, not by chance | E4A-MamaYe](#)
- [Early detection of Sepsis | E4A-MamaYe](#)
- [Still She Fights On | EbolaAlert Blog](#)
- [For Ebola Survivors, The Fight Has Just Begun | EbolaAlert Blog](#)
- [Ebola On Wheels – Kamara's Story | EbolaAlert Blog](#)