

# FACT SHEET



## BACKGROUND

Established in 2004, the Alliance for Reproductive Health Rights (ARHR) is a Ghanaian NGO that promotes a rights-based approach to RMNCH. Through advocacy, capacity-building and research to protect the rights of the poor, young and disadvantaged, the ARHR helps to protect the interests of Ghanaian people at a regional, national and international level.

The core values of the ARHR are:

- Gender equality
- Mutual respect, participation and consensus building
- Equity, transparency and accountability
- Community sovereignty and empowerment

The ARHR is made up of various groups and organizations engaged in SRH rights in Ghana. The ARHR has a multi-tier structure comprising of 35 implementing NGOs (LNGOs), three zonal coordinating NGOs and a Secretariat.

Activities of the ARHR are focused along the following goals:

- Increasing access to responsive ARH services and information in target communities
- Improving the capacity of target communities to understand and demand responsive, timely and accountable sexual and reproductive health services
- Improving the capacity of Ghanaian NGOs and community-based organizations to deliver rights-based SRH services and information.

Some key achievements of the ARHR include:

- Tracking Ghana's realization of the health MDGs 4, 5 & 6 through projects such as the Cordaid funded 'Citizens Action and Health' programme

- Building successful partnerships with influential NGOs such as the Planned Parenthood Association, Marie Stoppes and IPAS to address reproductive health issues in Ghana in areas including unsafe abortions, family planning and the establishment of youth-friendly health centers across Ghana.
- Enabling an environment for SRH issues to be discussed by playing a lead role in the development of conferences and campaigns, such as the national roundtable on Maternal and Child Health.
- Working with key stakeholders such as traditional and religious leaders, women groups and committee and Assembly members in communities.
- Engaging Parliamentarians to be ambassadors and champions of SRH issues in Parliament.
- Producing and disseminating a documentary on maternal mortality in Ghana, 'The lights have gone out – another woman dies giving birth' – which highlights the social dimensions of maternal health.



## OUR VISION

Our vision is a society in which the sexual reproductive health rights of all people - especially vulnerable groups such as the poor, marginalized and women of reproductive age - are protected and fulfilled irrespective of socioeconomic status, gender or race.

## OBJECTIVES

Increase access to responsive sexual reproductive health services and information in underserved communities;

Improve the capacity of target communities to understand and demand responsive, timely and accountable sexual reproductive health services;

Strengthen the capacity of Ghanaian NGOs and community-based organizations to deliver sexual reproductive health services and information.

**ARHR programmes are based on the premise that education and a sense of entitlement to basic SRH services empowers communities and health providers to realize their own self and community development.**

## PARTNERSHIPS

ARHR enjoys close working relationship with the development partners, government institutions and other civil society organizations working on sexual reproductive health issues both locally and internationally.



In Ghana, ARHR works with government institutions such as the Ministry of Health (MoH), Ghana Health Service (GHS), National Population Council of Ghana, Parliamentary Select Committee on Health, district assemblies and civil society organizations such as IPAS, Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana etc.



## **FLAGSHIP PROJECTS**

**MamaYe!** - A campaign initiated by Evidence for Action Programme, MamaYe is being implemented in Ghana by the School of Public Health and ARHR to improve maternal and newborn survival in sub-Saharan Africa. MamaYe is using evidence, advocacy and accountability to save lives of mothers and newborns in Ghana.

**Universal Access to Health Care Campaign!** - The Ghana Universal Access to Health Care Campaign advocates for removal of National Health Insurance Scheme premium by 2015 and to ensure universal access to health care free at the point of use.

**Transparency and Accountability Project (TAP)!** - A project funded by Results for Development Institute, ARHR worked to improve the effectiveness of public funding and service delivery in health. Using citizen report card surveys, ARHR facilitated a research on the Free Maternal Health Care Initiative and used findings of the study to galvanize communities to advocate for redress of lapses maternal health care service delivery.

**Health MDGs Advocacy Project!** - The Citizen's Action and Health MDGs Project (CAH-MDGs) was implemented from June 2007 to May 2010. The project was to track Ghana's progress towards achievement of the health MDGs and to produce civil society alternative report on the MDGs 4 & 5.

**TOP Maternal Health in Ghana!** - The Top Maternal Health project was implemented to improve women's access to maternal healthcare services in rural areas in the Upper East Region of Ghana. Citizens were educated and made aware of their rights regarding healthcare. ARHR also increased Ghanaian parliamentarians' awareness and commitment to make maternal health care free.

**Star Health!** - The project will facilitate community adaptation of client-health provider feedback mechanisms (ombudsman system) to improve and redress concerns of clients/patients in accessing health care at health facilities. It is also to improve client-health provider relationship for improved health outcomes.

**Star Ghana Election!** - The Promoting Health Rights and Accountability in a Peaceful and Fair 2012 Election was implemented to empower and provide platforms for poor people especially women and youth in underserved areas to hold political parties to account for peaceful and fair elections and their infant and maternal survival.

**World Bank Project!** - The ARHR secured funding from the World Bank to undertake activities aimed at reducing maternal and neo-natal mortality in Ghana and to promote civic engagements between duty bearers and beneficiaries on reducing maternal deaths and morbidity.

**Contact Details: 9 Apple Street, East Legon, P.O. Box CT 6103, Cantonments, Accra, Ghana  
Phone: +233 30 2504 468 Email: [contact.us@arhr.org.gh](mailto:contact.us@arhr.org.gh) Website: [www.arhr.org.gh](http://www.arhr.org.gh)**