



Addressing the shortage of female health workers

IMPACT SUMMARY

- ✓ 552 young women from rural communities have been supported through the FYP – of which 456 went on to enter professional training for health workers.
- ✓ W4H funded the first four cohorts fully, with the state and local government taking over funding for the last three cohorts.
- ✓ Katsina's government passed a law committing to continue the FYP in 2019 - and has signed an agreement to automatically offer employment to all FYP graduates.
- ✓ Katsina's government has spent N245 million funding the FYP and invested N97 million in supporting HTIs.
- ✓ All the HTIs in Katsina have full accreditation, and all participate in annual budget process in collaboration with the state ministry of health.
- ✓ Indexed places in Katsina's HTIs increased by 186% to 650 from 350 in 2012.

Katsina state

Population **5.8** million (2006)

Since it began in 2012, the UK aid funded Women for Health (W4H) programme worked closely with Katsina's state government and other partners to improve the education and training of female health workers in the state. W4H's innovative Foundation Year Programme (FYP) helped young women from rural communities pass entrance exams to study on professional health courses. W4H support has transformed the health training institutions (HTIs) in the state and encouraged the government to open new HTIs and new courses. More qualified health workers than ever are now being produced – and new laws and funding have been put in place to ensure this will be sustained and scaled up.



I'm proud to be the first ever midwife in our village and to serve my community. One day I was called upon at 1:00am to help a woman in prolonged labour at home. The baby was breech and I supported the woman and she successfully delivered. The family of the woman were very happy – and they still express their thanks more than seven months later.

Hadiza Sani Muhammad is an FYP graduate who qualified as a community midwife and now works at a primary health facility in Kaita LGA.



I feel so happy when I successfully support a delivery and the woman and her baby are in good health. I am now a model in the community, people respect me a lot, they show appreciation whenever I attend to patients. People are happy that they can call me anytime to attend deliveries or assess the situation of a pregnant woman in labour.

Halima Abdulrahman is an FYP graduate now working as a qualified community midwife in Kafur LGA.

W4H has helped **456** students in Katsina state qualify as professional health workers

Celebrating the successful partnership with Women for Health from 2012 to 2020

HTI Indexed Places per cohort in 2020 (2012 in brackets)

School of Nursing Katsina

Basic Nursing	100 (50)
Basic Nursing refresher course	30 (0)
Community Nursing	100 (0)
Adaptation for Foreign Trained Nurses	20 (0)

School of Midwifery, Malumfashi

Basic Midwifery	100 (50)
Community Midwifery	50 (0)

School of Health Technology, Daura

CHEW* JCHEW**	125 (125)
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School of Health Technology, Kankia

CHEW* JCHEW**	125 (125)
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* Community Health Extension Worker

** Junior Community Health Extension Worker

Total places in Katsina State this year



The transformation of health worker education in Katsina

In transforming health worker education in Katsina, W4H supported the HTIs in many ways:

- Refurbishing infrastructure and facilities, including constructing new classrooms and accommodation blocks.
- Increasing tutor numbers and improving the quality of education through training for tutors and new approaches including student-centred learning and e-learning.
- Improved governance, leadership and management including introduction of computerised record keeping.

W4H advocacy in Katsina raised awareness of the shortage of health workers in the state and led to the government employing more health workers. W4H support led to the health training colleges in Katsina improving their accreditation status – full accreditation allows them to enroll the maximum number of students per cohort.

“ I have never seen a programme like W4H that started by involving stakeholders and did so right up to the exit, or a programme that changed the lives of the common woman. The HRH Learning Hub at the Centre for Gender Studies at Bayero University Kano is an indelible legacy W4H has left for the Northern states. It will remain a reference point for us. It was an excellent exit, no NGO has ever done this. ”

Abdulrahman Marafa, secretary of the State Foundation Year Programme Working Group.



The W4H programme is funded with UK aid from the UK government.



The programme is led by DAI Global Health (incorporating Health Partners International and GRID), in partnership with Save the Children.

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