



POLIO STOP

Quarterly Newsletter of the Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee

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DECEMBER 2025



We mourn the loss of a true hero, a dedicated Polio Ambassador whose passion and service will never be forgotten.

Rest in Peace, our Polio Hero.

*Akiin Shuga
(Akinloye Tofowomo)*



National PolioPlus Committee: PDG Joshua Hassan - Chairman, PDG Yomi Adewunmi - Vice Chairman, PDG Andy Uwejeyan - Vice Chairman
PDG Kazeem Mustapha - Vice Chairman, PAG Yakubu Ndanusa - Vice Chairman, PDG Obafunso Ogunkeye - Secretary, PDG Remi Bello - Treasurer
PDG Tolu Omatsola - Member, RIPE Yinka Babalola - Adviser, TRUSTEE Ijeoma Okoro - Adviser, PDG Tunji Funsho - Adviser, PDG Femi Lawani - Adviser



CHAIRMAN'S REMARK

This journey has not been without its challenges. Yet, your resilience, collaboration, and belief in the cause kept us moving forward. You reminded us that vigilance is not a moment, but a responsibility, one we carry together.

On behalf of the Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee, I extend my sincere appreciation to every Rotarian, Rotaractor, partner, health worker, and volunteer who gave their time, resources, and voice this year. Your service continues to strengthen trust in our communities and reinforces Rotary's promise to leave no child behind.

As we look ahead, let us carry this spirit of unity, compassion, and purpose into the coming year. Together, with quiet determination and collective action, we will keep Nigeria polio-free and continue to serve humanity with grace.

Thank you for standing firm. Thank you for believing. Thank you for serving.

End Polio Now, together, always.

As we reflect on our journey through the year, my heart is filled with deep gratitude and quiet pride. It has been a year of steady progress, shared responsibility, and unwavering commitment to protecting our children from polio.

Across states, communities, markets, places of worship, and hard-to-reach settlements, Rotarians showed up, not for recognition, but out of love for humanity. From supportive supervision during immunization campaigns to advocacy with traditional and religious leaders, to awareness walks and community engagements, your presence made a difference. Every step taken, every conversation held, and every child reached brought us closer to a future where polio remains only a memory.



As life is, death is. The awareness of this fact allows you to live life fully and intensely.

-Sadhguru

Akinloye Tofowomo

Akinloye Tofowomo, popularly known as Akiin Shuga lived life fully and intensely. He was never a half bread man.

Despite suffering limb paralysis from Polio at the age of 5, with boundless courage and enthusiasm he lived life to the fullest.

He was a singer, songwriter and businessman. He is best known as the founder and lead singer of the popular live band Shuga band, that was formed in 1998. Tofowomo was also the founder of Shuga Limb Foundation, a foundation that cares for people suffering from polio.

Our paths first crossed when the CEO of BENOLA cerebral palsy initiative AVM Femi Gbadebo (Rtd) invited him to entertain us at the annual Benola day celebrations in 2017. I welcomed him as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and he came across as a very unassuming and humble person. I must add that he entertained us pro-bono.

It was not long after on Friday 19th February 2018 that we invited him to be our Polio Celebrity Ambassador which he gladly accepted.

Not long after Tofowomo was invited to join Rotary club of Maryland Lagos in 2019.

While engaged as Rotary Celebrity Ambassador he and his band entertained Rotarians and guests at 2018 District Conference in Abeokuta where he led a fundraising drive for Polio and made a personal donation.



In 2019 he performed at the polio fund raising concert along with other celebrities such as Ali Baba, Timaya, Kate Henshaw and Phyno.

He attended and performed at the National Field Workers Awards in Abuja also in 2019 and capped it with his performance at the celebrations of Nigeria's certification as a polio free country in August 2020.

Tofomowo lived a truly impactful life. The story of polio eradication will not be complete without a mention of the role he played at no cost to Rotary.

As we mourn him, we send our condolences to his wife Maria and his children.

May God rest his generous soul.

Tribute by Dr Tunji Funsho

Katsina State: Building Trust, Strengthening Systems, and Moving Closer to a Polio-Free Future

Katsina State continues to make steady progress in the fight against polio, driven by strong partnerships, community ownership, and consistent coordination. Through a combination of proven strategies and adaptive field approaches, the state is reinforcing its commitment to protecting every child.

Key interventions include the activation of Non-Compliance Resolution Committees across LGAs, intensive engagement of traditional and religious leaders, and the visible involvement of Local Government Chairmen. These efforts are complemented by collaboration with ministries and parastatals, community drama and dialogue sessions, town hall meetings, and continuous training of frontline health workers, particularly in interpersonal communication skills.

All activities are carefully coordinated through the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC), which serves as the hub for planning, supervision, review, and partner alignment. With support from LGAs, the State Government, and development partners, implementation remains structured and responsive.

Traditional leaders remain at the heart of polio eradication efforts in Katsina State. From pre-campaign mobilization to post-campaign follow-up, district heads, village heads, and ward heads (Mai Anguwas) play a decisive role in building trust and resolving non-compliance.

At the ward level, most cases of initial refusal are successfully addressed during house-to-house visits and revisits. More persistent cases are resolved through dialogue sessions facilitated by traditional leaders after campaign rounds. Their influence ensures community buy-in and sustained participation.

Local Government Chairmen continue to strengthen government ownership by chairing campaign flag-off ceremonies, participating in evening review meetings, and providing logistical and financial support. Their presence reinforces accountability and local leadership.

Religious leaders across major Islamic sects, Izala, Tijjaniyya, Abba'iyah, Qur'aniyyah, and Shiites, as well as the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), are actively involved in public awareness and advocacy. Through sermons, congregational meetings, and

community engagements, they help address misinformation and encourage caregivers to vaccinate their children.

Katsina State's surveillance system remains strong and responsive. The impact of sustained efforts is evident: while 34 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV) were recorded in 2024, only two cases have been reported in the same period in 2025—both from Danmusa LGA, a security-compromised area. With continued vigilance, the state is optimistic about achieving zero cases in 2026.

The SEOC remains fully engaged, convening regular meetings and field reviews to identify gaps, track progress, and support timely action. This level of preparedness ensures that emerging risks are addressed swiftly.

Recent activities include:

- An Advanced Non-Compliance Resolution team meeting at the Katsina SEOC, with participation from an NTLC member and the District Head of Dutsinma
- Training for media representatives on accurate reporting and effective public awareness creation on polio activities, held in Katsina
- A Social Mobilization Committee meeting at the Dankama international border, led by the District Head of Dankama of the Katsina Emirate

The progress recorded in Katsina State reflects the collective efforts of government, communities, partners, and Rotary. Sustaining these gains will require continued advocacy, surveillance, and investment in community trust.

Together, we move closer to a future where no child in Katsina—and across Nigeria, is left vulnerable to polio.

Mansur Garba
Field Coordinator, Kastina



A Precarious Victory: Sustaining Zamfara's Polio-Free Status

Zamfara State occupies a unique place in Nigeria's polio eradication journey. It was the final epicentre of Wild Poliovirus (WPV) in the country, with the last confirmed case recorded in Maru Local Government Area in November 2023. Since then, Zamfara has remained polio-free, helping to preserve Africa's historic certification as polio-free, achieved in August 2020.

This achievement reflects years of determined effort by government, partners, frontline health workers, and communities. Yet, it is a victory that demands constant protection.

Why Vigilance Still Matters, despite the absence of new WPV cases, the risk of resurgence remains real. Persistent security challenges continue to limit access to some settlements. Population movement, particularly the return of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to their ancestral homes since 2022, adds complexity to tracking and vaccinating eligible children. In addition, the global scale-down of Polio Eradication Initiative (PEI) activities since 2021 has reduced the frequency of some immunization campaigns.

These realities underscore one truth: sustaining zero polio cases requires sustained commitment.

Reaching Every Child, No Matter the Terrain: to address these challenges, the Zamfara Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has adopted a flexible, multi-layered approach tailored to settlement accessibility.

In inaccessible areas, vaccination and surveillance are supported through:

- Reaching Inaccessible Communities (RIC), conducted with military support
- Community Informants in Inaccessible Areas (CIIA), who provide critical disease surveillance and enable opportunistic vaccination

In partially accessible and accessible communities, strategies include:

- Reaching Every Settlement (RES) with the support of Community Gatekeepers (CGKs)
- Supplemental Immunization Activities (SIAs) through periodic, intensive campaigns
- Expanded Routine Immunization (RI) delivered by mobile teams offering all antigens

For mobile and transient populations, vaccination teams operate in markets, transit points, nomadic routes, and formerly established IDP camps—ensuring that movement does not translate into missed children.

These interventions are made possible through strong partnerships and core funding support under the Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding

involving Rotary International, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Dangote Foundation, UNICEF, and other Polio Eradication Initiative partners.

As polio transmission remains at zero, Zamfara's strategic focus has shifted toward embedding protection within the health system itself. Priority actions include:

- Zero missed opportunities, ensuring that all health facilities administer birth doses—OPV, BCG, and Hepatitis B—immediately after delivery
- Strengthening routine immunization, with settlements classified as accessible, partially accessible, or inaccessible to guide targeted resource allocation
- Reaching newly accessible areas, deploying RI teams as security improves to vaccinate children in previously unreachable communities

The objective is not only to prevent polio's return but also to build a resilient immunization system capable of protecting children from multiple vaccine-preventable diseases.

Community engagement remains central to sustaining progress. Regular dialogues are organised to address concerns, reduce non-compliance, and promote vaccine acceptance. Traditional and religious leaders are actively involved in campaign flag-offs, advocacy visits, vaccination exercises, and engagement meetings at all levels. Support for Community Informants in Inaccessible Areas (CIIA) continues to strengthen surveillance in hard-to-reach locations, while Community Gatekeepers (CGKs) play a vital role in generating demand and building trust.

Zamfara's journey shows that ending polio is not the end of the work—it is the beginning of a new responsibility. With continued collaboration, strong leadership, and community ownership, the state is laying the foundation for a resilient health system that will protect generations to come.

Together, we can ensure that no child in Zamfara is left behind, and that the global investment in polio eradication delivers a lasting legacy of health.



Dahiru Shehu
Field Coordinator, Zamfara

Making a Difference During the Integrated Polio-MR Campaign in Sokoto State

October 2025 was a defining period for the fight against polio in Sokoto State. As one of Nigeria's Areas of Intractable Transmission (AITs) for cVDPV2, Sokoto presents unique and persistent challenges. Knowing this, I understood from the outset that this campaign could not be approached as business as usual.

As a Field Coordinator working with Rotary, I relied on my background in public health, my experience in the field, and my understanding of the local context to guide my work. Most importantly, I knew that teamwork would be key. I became actively involved from the very beginning, starting with the state planning meetings, where I openly highlighted lessons learned from previous campaigns and suggested practical actions that could improve outcomes this time around.

Together with the state team and partners, we carefully reviewed recurring challenges such as missed settlements, children absent during visits, particularly in elite households, gaps in team selection and training, and weak supervision in hard-to-reach, insecure, and border areas. I strongly advocated for accountability at all levels and ensured these concerns were reflected in the campaign plans.

I attended multiple meetings at the state, LGA, and ward levels, and also held one-on-one discussions with key stakeholders and partners. My goal was simple: to ensure that everyone shared a clear understanding of the priorities and worked together to address them. As the saying goes, a goal without a plan is just a wish, and careful planning was central to our approach.

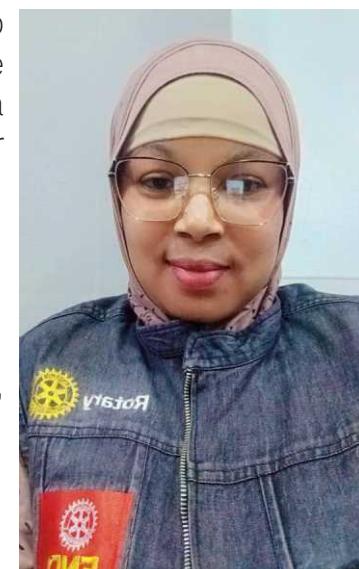
By the time implementation began, all pre-campaign activities had been successfully

completed. Team distribution, cold chain management, vaccine and logistics supply, social mobilization, and supervision plans were well coordinated. These efforts laid a strong foundation for a smooth campaign.

During the implementation phase, from October 6th to 15th, 2025, I was assigned to support two of the most challenging LGAs Wamakko and Sokoto South. These areas have a history of high non-compliance, recent cVDPV2 cases, and large numbers of unimmunized children. I supervised and supported 31 house-to-house teams across 31 settlements in Arkilla and Gagi B wards, providing on-the-spot guidance and encouragement.

Throughout my visits, I focused on supportive supervision, ensuring teams were confident, well-equipped, and motivated. I also confirmed that all antigens, including the HPV vaccine, were available at fixed posts and administered correctly.

This experience reinforced my belief that progress is possible when planning is intentional, collaboration is strong, and every child truly counts. Each visit, each conversation, and each vaccinated child brought us one step closer to a polio-free Sokoto, and a healthier future for all.



Hauwau Auwa
Field Coordinator,
Sokoto



On Friday, October 10, 2025, World Polio Day was celebrated in a way many Rotarians will never forget. Districts 9111 and 9112 turned an ordinary journey into an extraordinary statement of commitment, by taking the End Polio Now message on a train from Lagos to Abeokuta.

Led by District Governor Lanre Adedoyin (D9112), District Governor Henry Akinyele (D9111), Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee Chairman, PDG Joshua Hassan, District 9112 Polio Chair Rtn. Abdul-Azeez Adenike, and District 9111 Polio Chair Busola Satuyi, the day began at the Babatunde Fashola Train Station in Lagos.

From the very start, the atmosphere was unmistakable. Rotarians arrived dressed in bright red T-shirts and caps, proudly displaying the universal colour of polio eradication. Laughter, music, and conversations filled the station as anticipation built, not just for the journey ahead, but for the purpose that united everyone.

The celebration truly came alive on the train. What could have been a quiet ride turned into a moving awareness campaign. Songs, conversations, and shared stories about Rotary's polio journey echoed through the coaches, drawing curiosity and smiles from fellow passengers. Polio awareness was not just spoken, it was lived.



Upon arrival in Abeokuta, Rotarians from the city joined their colleagues, swelling the numbers and strengthening the spirit of unity. Together, they headed to the vibrant Adire Market, where colourful fabrics and lively trading set the perfect backdrop for meaningful engagement.

When the Fight Against Polio Took a Train Ride to History

At the market, Rotarians spoke directly with market women, mothers, caregivers, and community influencers, about the importance of polio immunization. These were not lectures, but warm conversations rooted in care, trust, and shared responsibility. Every interaction reinforced a simple message: every child deserves protection.



From the market, a polio awareness walk took off, carrying energy and purpose through the streets of Abeokuta. The walk led to one of Nigeria's most treasured landmarks, Olumo Rock.

At Olumo Rock, the End Polio Now flag was proudly hoisted, symbolizing Rotary's unwavering resolve. As Rotarians climbed the historic rock, every step felt symbolic, a reminder that the journey to a polio-free world requires effort, unity, and persistence.

Just as Olumo Rock stands tall and resilient, so does Rotary's commitment to protect every child from polio.

The day ended with a relaxed picnic filled with laughter, shared meals, drinks, and heartfelt conversations. It was a moment to reflect, recharge, and celebrate progress together.

With over 300 Rotarians in attendance, the celebration was not just grand in numbers, but rich in meaning.

End Polio truly climbed to new heights that day, on rails, on foot, and in purpose.

written by Olamide Adekoya

2025 WORLD



HRH Mai Kaltungo, Engr. Sale Muhammad joined Rotarians in Kaltungo to celebrate World Polio Day 2025, showing true leadership in action.



Gombe State Local Government Chairmen walking against polio to celebrate world polio day



The World Polio Day awareness walk in Akwa Ibom echoed a powerful message across the community, polio eradication is possible.



NNPPC Members and Rotary International Polio Ambassador Sir Emeka Offor's visit to Hon. Minister of Health Muhammad Ali Pate for World Polio Day



Rotary Club of Ojodu District 9111 Marks World Polio Day by erecting a Billboard in Alagbado, Ogun State



Rotary Clubs in Kaduna, alongside amazing partners, hit the streets for a colorful End Polio Now Walk.

POLIO DAY



Zamfara State marked World Polio Day 2025 with a grand celebration at the Emir's Palace, Gusau, graced by His Royal Highness, Alh. Abdulkadir Ibrahim Bello II.



To celebrate World polio day Rotary Club of Wuse Central organized 5K End Polio Concert at Jabi Lake Mall, Wuse Central, Abuja



Young voices, big impact! The Interact Club of ChristHill College hit the streets with an End Polio Now Awareness Walk to celebrate World Polio Day.



Rotaract District 9112 Holds Market End Polio Awareness Drive in Ilisan Community, Ogun State



District 9141 Polio walk awareness in Yenagoa



Enugu Rotaract commissioned a World Polio Day 2025 billboard to keep the End Polio Now message visible and loud.

Midyear Report Of The Polio Plus Committee Of District 9126



Taking into consideration of the component parts of the States that constitute the District and the need to leverage on the support of the partners; World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF and the different state Primary Health Care Development Boards (SPHCDB), in the eradication goal of Rotary International through Vaccination, Advocacy, and Community Engagement. The Rotary District 9126 Committee on Polio Plus set out with plans to help the District in the following way:

The District Polio Plus Committee through the State Representatives prepared for the World Polio Day celebrations on each State basis. Thus 7 celebrations were held in Ondo, Osun, Oyo, Ekiti, Kwara, Kogi and Niger States between 23rd and 25th October. The celebrations involved Road shows with horse riders, rollerblade artists, jugglers and branded vehicles. The Partners that participated were WHO, UNICEF, PHCDBs and Rotaractors. All the activities were submitted before carrying them out and the completed activities reported

The District Governor, in conjunction with the DPPC and the State Polio Reps embarked on visits to the Executive Governors of each state in the District for photo shoots to promote Polio eradication through immunizations and the Governors of Ondo, Niger and Osun states have featured and participated and the pictures of these State Governors dropping OPV drops in the mouth of some children are on multiple billboards in strategic areas in these states. The other State Governors are expected to give dates for their own photoshoot



Part of the information disseminated at the Polio Seminars was the need to participate, supervise and report on the immunization activities during the National Immunization Days (NID) or State Immunization Days (SID). Rotarians actively took part in the exercise in State where Polio immunizations took place during the period. The reporting tool (ODK) were used to submit activities

Val Clubs in the District have raised and reported donations to the Rotary Foundation thus ensuring no zero giving club for the half year. This goes a long way to ensure our donations to the course increases. As at today, the District 9126 has raised 25,371USD in support of the fight against polio.

Rasak Saliu
District PolioPlus Chair
Rotary International District 9126



Rotary International District 9111

Polioplus Half-year Report (July–December 2025)

Rotary International District 9111 remained fully aligned with The Rotary Foundation's PolioPlus priorities during the July–December 2025 reporting period, implementing targeted advocacy, capacity-building, and fundraising activities to support global polio eradication efforts and sustain zero transmission in Nigeria.

A key capacity-strengthening intervention during the period was the District PolioPlus Seminar held on 13 August 2025. The seminar convened over 150 Rotarians and Rotaractors and featured technical presentations from the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF on global polio eradication strategies, routine immunization, and emerging public health risks. Participants received hands-on training on the use of Open Data Kit (ODK) for data collection and reporting, strengthening monitoring, accountability, and data-driven decision-making for PolioPlus and allied health interventions.

In line with Rotary's advocacy mandate, the District implemented a series of high-impact World Polio Day activities aimed at increasing public awareness and stakeholder engagement. On 10 October 2025, Rotarians from Districts 9111 and 9112 undertook a symbolic advocacy train journey from Lagos to Abeokuta, reinforcing Rotary's sustained commitment and cross-district collaboration in the fight against polio.



On 22 October 2025, the District conducted a large-scale End Polio Now market outreach at Oshodi Market, Lagos, engaging traders, community leaders, and the general public on the importance of vaccinating children under five years of age. The activity included an awareness walk through major market routes and an educational session delivered

by the Local Government Immunization Officer. A community health advocate was formally recognized as a Rotary Polio Ambassador, strengthening local ownership and demand for immunization services.



To support resource mobilization and community participation, the District organized an inter-zonal football competition on 25 October 2025 in collaboration with the District Health & Wellness Committee. The event served as both an advocacy and fundraising platform, attracting significant public attention and generating direct contributions to the PolioPlus Fund, with each participating zone contributing USD 500. The presence of a national sports figure further amplified public engagement.

To promote sustained giving, the District introduced innovative fundraising incentives, including a PolioPlus Teddy Bear award to recognize the highest PolioPlus contributor in each club. This initiative encouraged friendly competition, increased awareness of PolioPlus goals, and strengthened long-term donor engagement at the club level.



Overall, District 9111's activities during the reporting period contributed to strengthened advocacy, improved technical capacity, enhanced data reporting, and increased financial support for polio eradication. Through strategic partnerships, innovative fundraising, and sustained Rotarian engagement, the District continues to support The Rotary Foundation's mission to achieve and maintain a polio-free world.

PAG Busola Satuyi
District PolioPlus Chair
Rotary International District 9111

Nigeria Marks World Polio Day 2025 with Nationwide Rotary Joint Celebration

Nigeria joined the global Rotary family in commemorating World Polio Day 2025, reinforcing progress made toward the eradication of polio and renewing advocacy for sustained immunization efforts. The nationwide observance also amplified the voices of polio survivors, whose lived experiences continue to play a vital role in educating caregivers on the importance of ensuring every child is fully immunized.



The 2025 commemoration, tagged "All Nigeria Rotary Joint World Polio Celebration and Activities," was hosted by Rotary District 9127 and brought together Rotary districts from across the country in a unified national celebration. District Governors from multiple Nigerian districts actively participated, lending leadership, visibility, and solidarity to the campaign.

The celebration featured a diverse mix of advocacy, awareness, and community-centered activities, including solidarity walks, symbolic immunization across the six Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), public awareness campaigns, and inclusive para-soccer games.



The week-long activities commenced with a National Friday Prayer held at the NAFSAT Mosque, Utako, Abuja, seeking spiritual support for the success of the polio eradication mission. This was followed by a National Sunday Church Service at St. James Anglican Church, Asokoro, Abuja, reinforcing faith-based advocacy for child health and immunization.

A Press Briefing was held at the Polio House, Abuja, led by the District Governor, Dame Joy Okoro, alongside her team, Rotarians, and Rotaractors. The briefing underscored Rotary's enduring commitment to ending polio and outlined the planned activities for the week.

Community-level advocacy continued with a visit to Wuse Market, where Rotarians sensitized market women on the importance of polio vaccination and environmental hygiene in safeguarding child health. Further advocacy visits were conducted at proposed vaccination sites across the six Area Councils of the FCT, where Rotary leaders engaged community heads to secure cooperation and support for the immunization exercises.



Key activities included symbolic polio vaccination across the six Area Councils, public awareness creation on polio vaccination and other routine immunization antigens, and the first leg of the Para-Soccer Tournament, promoting inclusion and highlighting the resilience of persons affected by polio. A recreational sit-out at Jabi Lakeside, featuring boat rides, horse riding, and interactive games, provided additional platforms for public engagement. The day concluded with a vibrant Cultural Night, celebrating unity and

shared purpose.

24 October 2025 World Polio Day was marked with a National Awareness Walk, drawing participation from Rotarians, partners, polio survivors, and community members. Symbolic immunization exercises were conducted at Rotary Centres, led by Sir Emeka Offor, followed by the final leg of the Para-Soccer Tournament.



An advocacy visit to the Honourable Commissioner of Health, also led by Sir Emeka Offor, further strengthened collaboration between Rotary and government stakeholders in sustaining polio eradication efforts.

The activities concluded with a hiking exercise, during which the End Polio Now flag was erected at the City Gate Mountain, serving as a powerful visual symbol of Rotary's unwavering commitment to a polio-free world.



The success of the para-soccer tournament and associated activities was strengthened through generous support from Rotary clubs and partners:

- Emeka Offor Foundation – Cash awards to

the first and second place para-soccer teams

- Rotary Club of Abuja Urban – Cash prize to a winning team
- Rotary Club of Kaduna – Donation of 15 branded T-shirts to Team Kaduna
- Rotary Club of Abuja Unity – Donation of 15 branded T-shirts to Team Unity
- Rotary Club of Maitama – Donation of 15 branded T-shirts to Team Maitama, alongside food and refreshments

The 2025 Nigeria Joint Rotary World Polio Day Celebration was a resounding success, marked by well-coordinated programming, strong inter-district collaboration, and the visible presence of District Governors from across Nigeria. District Governors served as team leads across various Area Councils, spearheading symbolic immunization, awareness creation, and advocacy visits within communities.



The well-organized awareness walk, participation of polio survivors, and recreational elements—including horse riding and community engagement activities—added vibrancy and broadened public reach. Recreational activities at Jabi Lakeside extended awareness beyond formal settings, while the active participation of executives of the Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee (NNPPC) added national depth and relevance to the celebration. Collectively, these efforts reaffirmed Rotary's unwavering commitment to ensuring that no child is left behind and that polio is eradicated once and for all.

written by Olamide Adekoya

D9112 District PolioPlus Committee Half Year report – 2025/2026 Rotary Year



The District PolioPlus Committee of Rotary International District 9112 began the 2025–2026 Rotary year with renewed energy following its inauguration on 16 July 2025 at the District Governor's Office. During the first half of the Rotary year, the District implemented a range of advocacy, capacity-building, and field-support activities aligned with Rotary International's global polio eradication priorities.

A major milestone was the District PolioPlus Seminar held on 10 September 2025 at the District Office. The seminar attracted strong participation, with 324 registrations and a combined physical and virtual attendance of nearly 200 Rotarians. Development partners delivered technical presentations on polio eradication strategies, while the NNPPC National Program Coordinator facilitated hands-on training on the use of the Open Data Kit (ODK) for effective field reporting and supervision.

Partnership with government stakeholders was strengthened through a strategic engagement with the Lagos State Primary Health Care Board. Discussions led to closer collaboration with the State Immunization Office and the identification of operational gaps affecting vaccinators, particularly access to waterlogged and hard-to-reach communities. In response, Rotary committed to providing essential protective gear to support field teams.

Field engagement continued with Rotary's active participation in an Outbreak Response campaign in Lagos Mainland LGA following positive environmental samples. Rotary supported vaccination teams, provided incentive materials to address non-compliance, and carried out advocacy visits to traditional leadership in Makoko to strengthen community acceptance ahead of World Polio Day activities.

World Polio Day 2025 was marked with innovative, high-impact advocacy. District 9112 partnered with District 9111 for a signature project that saw over 300 Rotarians travel by train from Lagos to Abeokuta. Community sensitization activities were carried out, and the End Polio Now flag was hoisted at the historic Olumo Rock, symbolizing Rotary's continued climb

toward a polio-free world. The event attracted more than 500 participants and significant public attention.

Additional World Polio Day activities included awareness walks in Ogun and Lagos States, led by District leadership and supported by traditional rulers and local authorities. Vaccination teams immunized over 230 children under five years during these activities, reinforcing the link between advocacy and direct health impact.



Operational support was further strengthened through the donation of polio-branded raincoats and rainboots to the Lagos State Primary Health Care Board, enhancing vaccinators' ability to reach underserved communities. Digital advocacy also played a key role, with 473 Rotarians adopting World Polio Day profile displays across social media platforms.

During the reporting period, the District supported one Outbreak Response campaign and two rounds of National Polio Days. Giving Tuesday was also observed with renewed advocacy for PolioPlus contributions, resulting in direct donations from Rotarians.

Through sustained advocacy, strong partnerships, and active field engagement, Rotary International District 9112 continues to demonstrate unwavering commitment to protecting every child and advancing the global goal of a polio-free world.

Adenike AbdulAzeez
District PolioPlus Chair
Rotary International District 9112

Rotary International District 9142 Reporting Period: 2025 Rotary Year



In alignment with Rotary International's global commitment to the eradication of poliomyelitis, Rotary International District 9142 implemented coordinated PolioPlus activities focused on vaccination advocacy, community engagement, capacity building, and resource mobilization.

Through the District PolioPlus Committee and its State Representatives, targeted advocacy and awareness activities were conducted across multiple states, including Abia, Akwa Ibom, Anambra, Cross River, Ebonyi, Enugu, and Imo States. These efforts significantly strengthened public awareness and stakeholder engagement during the 2025 World Polio Day commemoration, reinforcing the message that the fight against polio continues until eradication is achieved globally.



As part of capacity-building efforts, the District organized a PolioPlus Seminar on 28 November 2025 in Nnewi. The seminar brought together Rotarians to review progress made in polio eradication, strengthen understanding of ongoing challenges, and reinforce Rotary's role in supporting the National PolioPlus Committee and government-led immunization efforts.

Participants were encouraged to deepen collaboration with government authorities, Ministries of Health, and partner organizations. This approach contributed to strong participation and collaboration with key stakeholders, including the World Health Organization (WHO) and relevant government agencies, particularly during World Polio Day activities and vaccination campaigns.



Resource mobilization remained a key priority during the reporting period. The District intensified efforts to promote universal club participation in PolioPlus giving, with the goal of achieving zero non-giving clubs for the year. As a result of sustained advocacy and donor engagement, the District raised over USD 5,000 in direct contributions to the PolioPlus Fund, strengthening Rotary's financial support for global eradication efforts.

Overall, District 9142's PolioPlus initiatives during the 2025 Rotary Year contributed to increased awareness, strengthened partnerships, enhanced Rotarian engagement, and improved financial support for polio eradication. These collective efforts align with The Rotary Foundation's mission to protect every child from polio and to sustain a polio-free world.

Paul Ileka
District PolioPlus Chair
Rotary International District 9142

POLIO STOP

Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair's Visit to Nigeria



Trustee Hoger Knaack and spouse vaccinating children during their visit to Nigeria



Trustee Holger Knaack and spouse with NNPPC committee members in Polio office Abuja



RI Trustee's wife, Mrs. Knaack, sharing smiles and hope as she gifts children Pluses, a simple gesture making a powerful impact in the fight to end polio

High Level Advocacy visit by District Governor 9126 RTN Batife Funkeakpo



The Governor of Ondo State, His Excellency Dr. Lucky Orimisan Aiyedatiwa, vaccinating a child.



His Excellency Ademola Adeleke, Executive Governor of Osun State, leads by example by vaccinating a child and reaffirming the importance of immunization.



The Executive Governor of Niger State, His Excellency Mohammed Umaru Bago, vaccinating a child to demonstrate leadership and reinforce the importance of immunization



District 9126 Governor, Rotarian Batife Funkeakpo, alongside his dedicated team, paid a courtesy visit to the Governor of Ondo State, H. E. Dr. Lucky Orimisan Aiyedatiwa, at the Governor's Office in Akure.