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## 50 community care givers get training in Enugu

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Enugu – Over 50 community care givers working with orphans and vulnerable children in Enugu state are gaining much-needed skills at a week-long workshop at Crystal Springs Hotel, Enugu.

With 58 participants in attendance, the training workshop was declared open by the wife of Enugu State governor, Mrs Clara Chime, in the state capital weekend, and the participants included social workers and parasocial workers.

The pilot training, titled “Developing Skills to Assist Vulnerable Children and their Households”, is being conducted by HIV/AIDS Twinning Center partners at the Federal School of Social Work in Enugu and the Department of Social Work at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka and their US counterparts from Hunter College School of Social Work, Howard University School of Social Work, the Nigerian Social Workers Association, the National Association of Social Workers, and the National Association of Black Social Workers.

With funding from the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), partners are providing in-service training for PEPFAR implementing partners, local Kids Club workers, child welfare officers, social work educators, and other caregivers who work with vulnerable children and families at the grassroots level.

The trainings are designed to upgrade the knowledge and skills of individuals providing care and support to children who have been orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS and their families or caregivers.

Trainees, according to the organisers, will learn key skills that will help them identify these children, assess their needs and strengths, improve and expand delivery of key psycho-social services, and better engage communities to provide a network of care, support, and protection.

The organisers said a similar training course will be conducted at Grace Point Resort Hotel in Abuja August 17-21.

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