

PETITION FOR THE RECOGNITION AND INCLUSION OF RURAL NURSES AND MIDWIVES IN ALL RURAL INCENTIVE POLICIES IN GHANA

To:

1. The President of the Republic of Ghana
2. The Parliament of Ghana
3. The Ministry of Health
4. The Ministry of Finance

From:

Eyram Davordzi-Banini

(Midwife / Rural Health Worker)

SUBJECT: WHY ARE RURAL NURSES AND MIDWIVES FORGOTTEN? ■

Working in a CHPS compound in the rural communities of Ghana is one of the most challenging health postings, yet it remains one of the least recognized and least supported.

When you visit many CHPS facilities, you may see only one Nurse or Midwife on duty. What most people do not realize is that this single person is carrying the responsibilities of many professionals.

The Nurse or Midwife becomes:

- The Cleaner
- The Records Officer
- The OPD Nurse
- The Emergency Nurse
- The “Doctor” in the consulting room
- The Laboratory Technician
- The Dispensary Assistant
- The Revenue/Cashier Officer
- The Store / GHiLMIS Focal person
- The NHIS Claims Officer
- The HIV & TB Counsellor
- The Wellness Clinic Nurse
- The e-Tracker Data Officer
- The Wound Dressing Nurse
- And sometimes even the facility security

And the work does not stop there.

They also:

- Conduct Antenatal Care (ANC)
- Conduct Deliveries
- Provide Postnatal Care (PNC)
- Run 24-hour services
- Go on home visits, sometimes walking long distances and even pleading with clients to come for care.

Meanwhile, the same community expects the Nurse or Midwife to be available every minute of the day. The moment they are not seen at the facility, complaints are quickly sent to the Assembly Member, as if the health worker is not supposed to have rest, privacy, or a personal life.

To make matters more difficult, many rural communities lack basic social amenities compared to the cities, such as:

- Good schools for our children
- Recreational centres
- Libraries
- Good roads
- Reliable transportation

These are the silent struggles of rural health workers that many people do not see.

Yet, when discussions about Rural Incentives arise, some CHPS zones and compounds are still excluded.

This is deeply unfair.

If Ghana truly wants to strengthen primary healthcare, then rural incentives must cover ALL CHPS zones and compounds, not just a selected few.

Because the truth is simple:

Without rural Nurses and Midwives, many communities would have no healthcare at all.

It is time for our sacrifices to be recognized.

Rural health workers deserve support.

Rural health workers deserve incentives.

Rural health workers deserve respect.

Let our voices be heard.

APPEAL TO AUTHORITIES

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Signed:

Eyram Davordzi-Banini

(Midwife / Rural Health Worker)

#RuralIncentivesNow

#SupportCHPSWorkers

#RespectNursesAndMidwives

#HealthcareForAll