

PPAG

PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION OF GHANA

(Incorporated under the Companies Code, 1963, Act. 179)

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For Immediate Release

September 4, 2024

To All Media Houses

PRESS RELEASE

PPAG COMMEMORATES WORLD SEXUAL HEALTH DAY 2024: ADVANCING SEXUAL WELL-BEING AND UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL

In observance of World Sexual Health Day 2024, the Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG) reaffirms its commitment to championing the sexual well-being of every individual. As we join the global community in recognizing the significance of sexual health, we emphasize that sexual health is integral to overall health and quality of life.

This year, World Sexual Health Day is celebrated under the global theme, "Positive Relationships," which underscores the importance of sexual well-being as a cornerstone for enhancing the quality of life. Our focus remains on ensuring that every person in Ghana has unhindered access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) information and services, empowering them to make informed choices regarding their sexual and reproductive health.

Promoting Awareness and Access to Sexual Health

Despite the strides made in sexual and reproductive health, PPAG remains deeply concerned about the persistent gaps in awareness and access to sexual health services. Many individuals in Ghana still face barriers to accessing essential sexual health information, including knowledge about sexually transmitted infections (STIs), modern contraception, and safe sexual practices. Stigma and discrimination against those seeking sexual health care continue to be significant obstacles that hinder the realization of sexual health for all.

Sexual health is healthcare, and as such, it must be prioritized in national health strategies. PPAG calls for enhanced efforts to improve access to essential sexual and reproductive health resources across Ghana. We believe that by doing so, we contribute not only to the well-being of individuals but also to the broader goal of achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC), to which Ghana is committed. Universal Health Coverage ensures that all individuals and communities receive the health services they need without suffering financial hardship. Integrating sexual and reproductive health into UHC is crucial to achieving health equity and improving the overall health outcomes of the population.

The Role of Quality, Safety, and Respect in Sexual Health

The sexual health of individuals is intricately linked to the quality and safety of the services they receive, as well as the societal norms and gender roles that shape their experiences. PPAG advocates for a positive and respectful approach to sexual health, one that is free from coercion, discrimination, and violence. To attain and maintain sexual health, the sexual rights of all persons must be respected, protected, and upheld. This is essential not only for individual well-being but also for the overall quality of life in our communities.

A Call to Action

On this World Sexual Health Day, PPAG calls on the Government of Ghana, Media Houses, Civil Society Organizations, and all stakeholders to recommit to ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of sexual health and well-being. We must collectively work towards a future where every person, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to lead a healthy, fulfilling life.

PPAG remains dedicated to its mission of providing comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and advocating for the rights of all individuals. Together, let us continue to promote sexual health, well-being, and rights nationwide, ensuring that these fundamental aspects of life are accessible to all, particularly the most vulnerable in our society.

END

Signed

Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG)

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