

## **Title: "Empowering Peacebuilders: First Aid Training for Crisis Response in Plateau State"**

The Justice Development and Peace Commission (JDPC), in collaboration with Mission 21, orchestrated a transformative first aid training initiative on December 13th, 2023, across Plateau State's 17 Local Government Areas (LGAs). This groundbreaking training equipped 50 dedicated volunteers of the Local Emergency and Preparedness Team (EPRT) with critical skills in first aid, essential for peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and humanitarian intervention in crises.

Conducted simultaneously in three strategic zones—Northern Zone at Faith Baptist Hall Bukuru, Southern Zone at MDG Hall Shendam, and Central Zone at Holy Cross Hall Pankshin—the training witnessed enthusiastic participation from a diverse group of volunteers representing various LGAs. Comprising 29 males and 21 females, these committed individuals, aged between 30 and 55, seized the opportunity to enhance their abilities to serve communities in dire need.

Participants unanimously praised the comprehensive nature of the training, expressing profound gratitude for the hands-on practical skills and in-depth knowledge gained. They highlighted the immense value of this specialized training, affirming its direct relevance in amplifying their capacity as EPRT volunteers. Their acquired skills, from safety protocols and diagnosis to treatment priorities and aftercare, are instrumental in ensuring effective crisis response.

The immediate impact of this initiative is palpable. Empowered by newfound proficiency, EPRT volunteers stand resilient and ready to deliver timely and efficient first aid assistance during emergencies across the region. Their elevated preparedness serves as a beacon of hope for affected communities, promising swift and effective aid during distress.

Looking to the future, the long-term impact of this initiative is profound. By mitigating casualties and injuries during crises, these skilled volunteers will foster a safer environment conducive to peaceful coexistence among diverse communities. Strengthening the fabric of stability and sustainable development, the continued dedication of EPRT volunteers will undoubtedly contribute to lasting peace and prosperity across Plateau State.

Field photos

