

MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Promoting access to justice, safeguarding communities, and amplifying voices.



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Partners, Supporters, and Friends,

May was a month of strengthening systems, deepening community engagement, and investing in people. Across our programmes, we continued to build safer spaces, strengthen frontline capacity, and empower communities with knowledge and support.

From advancing safeguarding and organizational accountability to promoting menstrual health awareness, strengthening financial systems, and supporting community-based organizations under the RWVL project, our work this month reaffirmed the importance of collaboration, resilience, and intentional leadership in driving sustainable change.

As we move forward, we remain committed to building systems that are survivor-centred, accountable, and responsive to the needs of the communities we serve.

Thank you for standing with WRAHP and supporting our shared vision of a more just and equitable society.

Bose Ironsi

Executive Director,

WRAHP, Managers of Ireti Resource Centre

Local Affiliate Partner, Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub (RSH), Nigeria.

HIGHLIGHTS

**IRETI'S DATA
BOARD**

**STORIES OF
IMPACT**

ENGAGEMENTS

PARTNERSHIP

**KNOWLEDGE
CORNER**

**YOUTH
CORNER**

**UPCOMING
ACTIVITIES**

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Cases received at Ireti Resource Centre in May 2026

Total Walk-in: 90

 = 63

 = 27

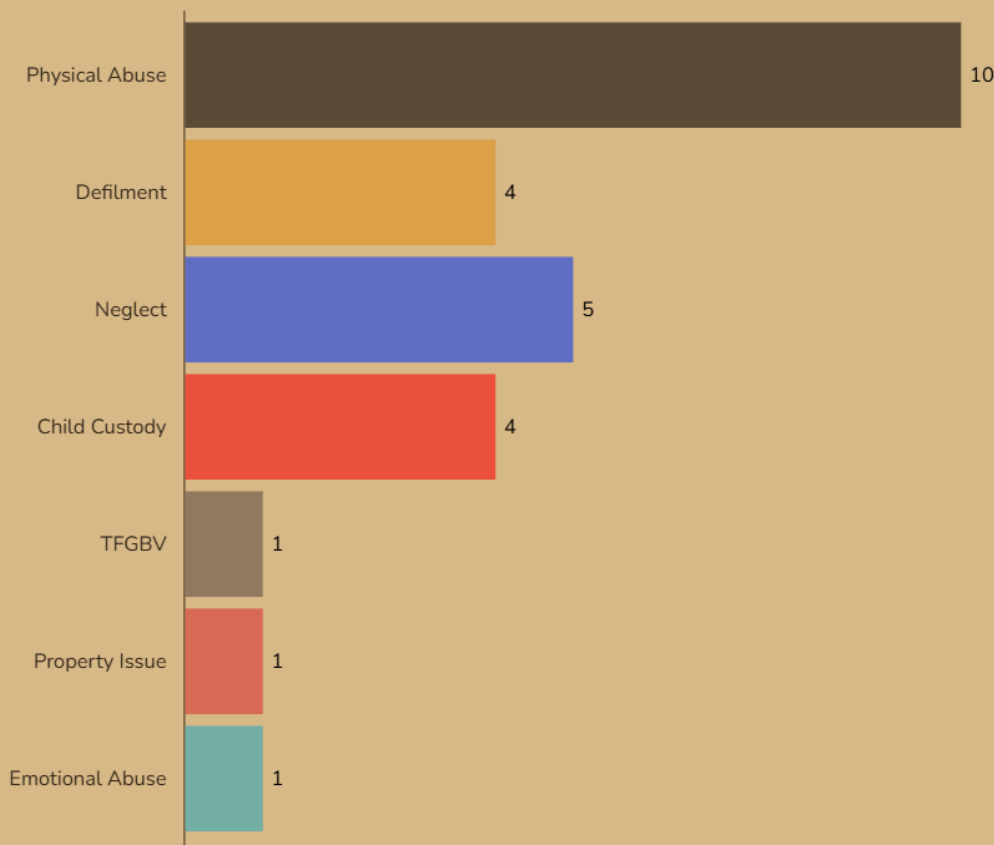
CASE BOARD

A total of 26 new cases were
received in May 2026.

TOTAL: 90

Female: 63

Male: 27



WHAT THE MAY 2026 DATA SHOWS

In May 2026, the Ireti Resource Centre received 26 new cases, with physical abuse recording the highest number of reports, followed by cases of neglect, child custody disputes, and defilement. The data continues to highlight the persistent realities of violence, abuse, and family-related conflicts affecting women, children, and vulnerable individuals within our communities.

The increase in physical abuse cases further emphasizes the urgent need for stronger prevention efforts, early intervention, and increased community awareness around violence and protection.

At WRAHP and the Ireti Resource Centre, we remain committed to providing safe, confidential, and survivor-centred support while continuing advocacy to promote safer homes and communities for all.

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REBUILDING SAFETY AND COMMUNICATION IN THE HOME

Ireti Resource Centre provided psychosocial support and therapeutic intervention to a family experiencing domestic violence, emotional disconnection, and recurring marital conflict. Through counselling sessions focused on safety, emotional regulation, communication, and conflict resolution, both parties were supported to reflect on unhealthy patterns and develop healthier ways of relating to one another.

As a result of the intervention, communication improved significantly, emotional accountability increased, and the family demonstrated renewed commitment to creating a safer and more supportive home environment. The family continues to engage in therapy, building on the positive changes achieved through the Centre's support.

This success story highlights the importance of timely counselling and psychosocial intervention in promoting safety, trust, and healthy family relationships.

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ENGAGEMENTS

STRENGTHENING SAFETY FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS ACROSS EDO AND LAGOS STATE

As civic spaces continue to shrink and pressures on human rights actors increase, the need for safety, resilience, and collective support has become more urgent than ever.

Against this backdrop, WRAHP convened a three-day training across Edo and Lagos States, bringing together 48 CSOs, CBOs, journalists, and activists to reflect, learn, and strengthen their capacity to navigate challenges such as harassment, surveillance, and restrictions affecting advocacy work in Nigeria.



Through sessions on risk assessment, legal compliance, mental health, and digital and physical safety, participants explored practical strategies for managing stress, trauma, and burnout, while also learning how to better protect sensitive information and strengthen personal and organizational security.

Beyond the sessions, the training created a space for connection, shared learning, and renewed commitment to sustaining safe, resilient, and effective human rights work.



RWVL NIGERIA PROJECT TAKES OFF IN LAGOS STATE

As part of the implementation of the ActionAid Nigeria, supported Renewed Women's Voice and Leadership Nigeria (RWVL) Project in Lagos State. WRAHP convened a 3-day Inception and Annual Planning Meeting for the 5 selected CBOs in Lagos State.



The meeting brought together executive directors, finance officers, and program officers to strengthen collaboration, enhance organizational capacity, and align strategies for advancing women's rights and leadership within communities.

Participants engaged in sessions on feminist leadership, human rights-based approaches, project management, organizational culture, safeguarding, and effective reporting systems.

The engagement also provided an opportunity for partners to reflect on assessment findings and develop stronger frameworks for sustainable and accountable implementation.



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SAFE SPACE: BREAKING THE SILENCE ON MENSTRUAL HEALTH AND MENOPAUSE

In May, WRAHP's Irete Resource Center provided a safe and inclusive space for women. The session which had 23 participants provided a safe and inclusive space for women and girls to openly discuss menstruation and menopause, helping to challenge stigma and misinformation surrounding both topics.

Participants gained practical knowledge on menstrual hygiene, menopause symptoms, and healthy coping strategies, including nutrition, exercise, stress management, and seeking medical support when necessary.

By encouraging open conversations and informed decision-making, the session empowered participants to better understand and manage their health and well-being with confidence.



Mrs. A shared that attending the Safe Space Session at the Irete Resource Center for the first time made her feel safe, heard, and hopeful, as she received trauma-informed psychosocial support, learned about gender-based violence, mental hygiene, and coping strategies through activities like the Butterfly Hug and Worry Jar, and gained new insight into how unresolved trauma affects her behaviour, leaving her better equipped to manage her emotions and begin her healing journey with confidence.

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ACTION AGAINST FGM IN EDO STATE.



Throughout May, WRAHP continued its UNICEF-supported activities focused on ending Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) through survivor engagement, school sensitizations, and community-based advocacy in Edo State.

Regular follow-up sessions were held with survivors, conducting reflective dialogues within their communities, while data from these engagements were continuously collected, reviewed, and documented to strengthen reporting and monitoring processes.

The team also sustained engagement with schools through sensitization sessions and peer-to-peer monitoring activities, encouraging students to become advocates against harmful practices such as FGM.

These ongoing efforts continue to strengthen awareness, encourage community conversations, and promote collective action toward protecting girls and ending FGM.



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BUILDING STRONG TEAMS THROUGH EFFECTIVE SYSTEMS

Over the month, a session on recruitment, orientation, and documentation, highlighting the importance of strong internal systems in building effective and sustainable organizations, was held at WRAHP's in-house training.



Joy Okorouga, WRAHP's Admin & Finance Assistant explored how transparent recruitment processes, structured onboarding, and proper documentation strengthen accountability, improve staff engagement, and support institutional growth. The session also emphasized the role of clear systems in preserving organizational memory, promoting compliance, and enhancing overall performance.

Overall, the engagement reinforced that strong organizations are built through intentional systems that support both people and processes.

TELLING OUR STORIES BETTER THROUGH MEDIA ENGAGEMENT



"If we don't tell our stories, who will?"

That question shaped a reflective and practical session on media engagement and content development, where staff explored the power of storytelling in advancing advocacy, visibility, and impact.

The session facilitated by our Communications and Partnership officer, Ayomide Okeleye focused on the effective use of traditional and digital media platforms while emphasizing safeguarding, informed consent, and responsible storytelling—particularly when engaging with survivors and vulnerable groups.

Participants also gained hands-on exposure to digital tools and emerging trends, reinforcing a shared understanding that every staff member has a role to play in telling WRAHP's stories effectively, ethically, and responsibly.

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PARTNERSHIP

RETHINKING HOW WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS FUND THEIR IMPACT

WRAHP as a Lead Women's Rights Organization participated in a three-day Grants Writing, Resource Mobilization and Funds Diversification Training (South) organized by ActionAid Nigeria through the Renewed Women's Voice and Leadership Nigeria Project from 18th-20th of May, 2026, with Finance Officers joining virtually.

The training brought together 50 participants, including Executive Directors, Programme Managers, and Finance Officers from Women's Rights Organizations (WROs) implementing the RWVL Nigeria Project. It focused on equipping participants with practical skills to rethink how their organizations approach funding, sustainability, and donor engagement.

Through interactive sessions, group exercises, and peer learning, participants explored diverse funding options beyond traditional donor grants, including corporate partnerships, individual giving, and crowdfunding.



A standout moment was the fundraising journey mapping exercise, which enabled organizations to reflect on their funding history, identify gaps, and uncover new opportunities for growth.

The training strengthened participants' ability to develop funding strategies and capability statements, setting the stage for more resilient, diversified, and sustainable organizations moving forward.

SETTING THE STAGE FOR EFFECTIVE PROJECT DELIVERY

The SSDO inception meeting in Enugu provided a clear foundation for the SGI III project, giving sub-grantees a solid understanding of its framework, objectives, and expected outcomes. Discussions clarified roles, responsibilities, reporting expectations, and compliance standards, while also aligning participants on timelines, deliverables, and key milestones. This shared clarity strengthened coordination and positioned all partners for a smooth project start from June 2026.



The meeting also outlined practical next steps, including finalizing grant agreements, setting up implementation structures, and commencing baseline surveys and community engagement activities. Sub-grantees were guided to maintain strong documentation, adhere to financial procedures, and submit timely reports throughout the fifteen-month implementation period. With no major challenges reported, the focus now shifts to sustained collaboration, technical support, and consistent monitoring to ensure effective delivery.



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KNOWLEDGE CORNER

AMARA'S RED DAY



Amara's morning begins with the quiet resilience many girls know too well: waking before dawn, managing pain, and preparing for school despite discomfort. While this routine is normal for her, it reflects a reality that remains out of reach for millions of girls who lack access to basic menstrual care. What is ordinary for Amara today was once impossible, shaped by a past where menstruation was shrouded in silence, shame, and misinformation, according to the story her grandmother shared with her each time.

Her grandmother's story revealed vividly that periods were hidden, misunderstood, and endured without guidance or dignity. Unfortunately, that silence still exists in many communities today. Girls continue to miss school due to a lack of sanitary products, safe facilities, or the confidence to manage their periods without fear of embarrassment. What should be a natural biological process often becomes a barrier to education, self-esteem, and opportunity.

Change began for Amara through something simple but powerful: honest education. A health worker visited her school and changed the narrative, reframing menstruation as a normal part of life, deserving of care and understanding. With that knowledge came confidence for Amara, replacing her fear and shame with awareness and self-respect. Amara learned to see her body not as something to hide but as something to understand and care for.

Menstrual Hygiene Day, marked every May 28, underscores the importance of making this transformation universal. It calls for an end to period poverty and stigma and for equal access to menstrual products, safe sanitation, and accurate information. Because when girls can manage their periods with dignity, they stay in school, participate fully, and build empowered futures.

Amara's story is a reminder that showing up, without fear or shame, is not a small thing, but a right every girl deserves.

Just like the health worker that visited Amara's school, be part of the change. Advocate for menstrual health education, support initiatives providing sanitary products, and speak up against stigma wherever you encounter it. Together, we can build communities where no girl feels ashamed of her body.

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STRENGTHENING SAFEGUARDING FOUNDATIONS ACROSS NORTHERN NIGERIA

WRAHP, the local affiliate partner for the Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub (RSH) Nigeria is set to deliver a safeguarding capacity strengthening program for civil society organizations (CSOs) in Northern Nigeria.

Following a competitive call for applications published in March 2026, 12 CSOs have been selected to participate in a three-day residential training taking place from 2-4 June 2026 in Abuja, Federal Capital Territory.

The program will focus on strengthening safeguarding knowledge, systems, practices, and supporting participating organisations in building robust frameworks that protect the communities they serve.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Therefore, we encourage organizations and practitioners to access free safeguarding tools, resources, and e-learning modules available on the RSH Nigeria Hub to support their safeguarding journey. [Click here.](#)



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Safeguarding Mentorship Programme for CSOs

For Organisations in Northern Nigeria

Are you a Civil Society Organisation working in the
North Central, North West or North East?

Are you interested in strengthening your organization's
safeguarding practices and systems?

- ✓ 8-month mentorship support
- ✓ Safeguarding Capacity assessment
- ✓ Strengthen policies & systems
- ✓ Access to safeguarding tools & resources
- ✓ Access to micro-grant (available to
7 less resourced CSOs based on performance)
Up to 10 hours monthly engagement

APPLY NOW

<https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/1UvGmX5k>



Deadline: 10th April, 2026

Only shortlisted organisations will be contacted.



RSH E-LEARNING

SAFEGUARDING MATTERS



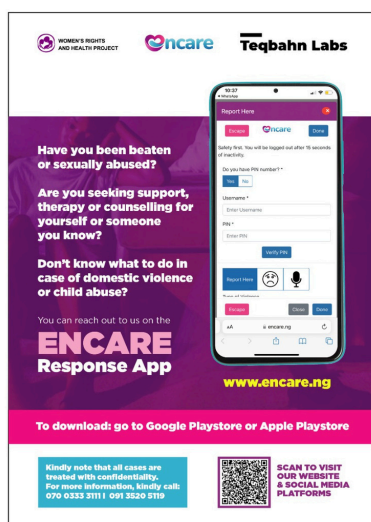
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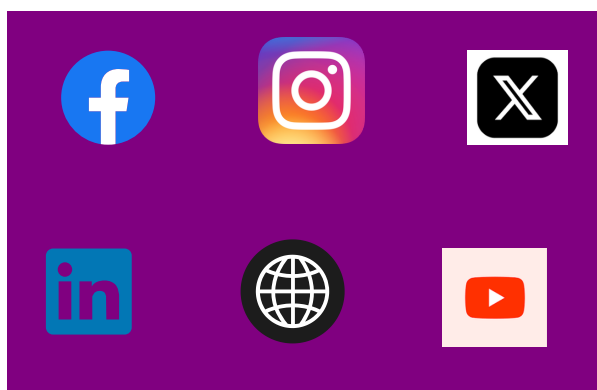
Do you know that your donation as little as #500 can help rebuild and restore hope to Survivor of SGBV?

Kindly go to any of our social media platforms @wrahpnigeria or click on this link www.wrahp.com to donate. Thank you as you support this dream of restoring hope in our communities.



Report cases of SGBV via the Encare App using www.encare.ng.

CLICK THE ICONS BELOW OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS



Upcoming Events

Stay tuned for our upcoming events:



- Safe Space Sessions
- Community Legal Clinics
- Training & Mentoring of CSOs in the North on safeguarding
- Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management in Public & Private Schools
- Baseline Survey Exercise on Mental Health among Community Members in 6 LGAs in Lagos State.
- Provision of psychosocial support and access to legal services for survivors of SGBV.

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Contact Us



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