

GHANA HEALTH SERVICE
GOMOA WEST DISTRICT HEALTH DIRECTORATE
REPORT ON CHILD HEALTH PROMOTION WEEK CELEBRATION
FROM 5TH - 16TH MAY 2025



THEME: 'EVERY CHILD DESERVES A HEALTHY FUTURE; INVEST IN YOUR CHILD, ATTEND 'WEIGHING' REGULARLY.'

INTRODUCTION

Child Health Promotion Week is a program organized annually to promote the health of children (0-59mths) in the country. The Gomoa West District celebrated its annual Child Health Promotion Week from 5TH - 16TH may 2025

under the Theme '**Every child deserves a healthy future; invest in your child. Attend 'weighing' regularly.'**

All facilities in the district comprising of one (1) Hospital, one (1) Polyclinic six (6) Health Centers, one (1) RCH and thirty (30) CHPS zones participated in the weeklong activities such as;

The 2025 annual African Vaccination Week and Child Health Promotion Week commemoration is scheduled from 5th to 16th May 2025. The **objective is to raise awareness about the essential child health services offered freely at various health centers and outreach points by the Ghana Health Service.** The commemoration of the Weeks seeks to highlight the value and importance of vaccination, the need to increase vaccination coverage, and other child health interventions as well as community ownership. While the African Vaccination Week highlights the importance of vaccination, the Child Health Promotion Week offers a platform to create awareness of life-saving interventions such as vitamin A supplementation, deworming, use of insecticide-treated nets for protection against malaria, growth monitoring and vaccination. With national support, Regions and Districts are encouraged to work with local partners to come up with innovative activities that will highlight the Weeks and ultimately, catch-up on children who have missed their vaccinations and other child health services.

Theme for Child Health Promotion Week:

'Every child deserves a healthy future; invest in your child. Attend 'weighing' regularly.'

Theme for African Vaccination Week:

'Immunization for all is humanly possible'

GROWTH MONITORING AND PROMOTION

Growth monitoring and promotion is aimed at assessing the weight/height of children under-fives (U5) regularly and using the information gained to counsel mothers and caregivers appropriately.

REGISTRANTS ASSESSED FOR STUNTING

No. weighed (U5)	Total measured for stunting	Severe	Moderate	normal
2775	1012	1	24	900

REGISTRANTS ASSESSED FOR UNDERWEIGHT

No. weighed (U5)	Total assessed for u-weight	Severe	Moderate	normal
2775	2775	307	73	54

VITAMIN A SUPPLEMENTATION

Vitamin A is a capsule given to children starting from six months, and is repeated every six months until the child attain age five (5). 100000IU is for children between 6-11 months and 200000IU for children 12-59 months to help compensate for the insufficient vitamin A in their meals.

- Eligible population for vitamin A in the district **25186**
- Blue capsule(100000IU) in stock was **1000**
- Red capsules (200000IU) in stock was **6400**

100000IU(dosed)	200000IU(dosed)	Total Chns Dosed	Coverage
1763	2228	3991	

The strategies used by the district was CWC services, home visits, school health services and outreaches.

IMUMUNIZATION SERVICES (EPI)

The following antigens were given during the week program through static, outreaches and home visit services.

Indicator	BCG	DPT/HEP/Hip	IPV	Measles	Yellow fever	Men A
No: of children	213	598	305	366	236	165

BIRTH REGISTRATION

The health directorate collaborated with the officials at the birth and death registry to send officers to some facilities for registration and assisted caregivers who visited the office with directive from health professional and at the extreme situation nurses accompanied caregivers to the registry during the program.

- The total number of children registered during the period were one hundred and ninety-six (283)

BREASTFEEDING

Caregivers were given education on the importance of exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months and continue breastfeeding till two (2) years and above, there were demonstration on proper breast positioning and attachment at maternity wards, CWC sessions, PNC and ANC as well.

- Number of mothers initiating breastfeeding within 30 minutes after delivery three hundred and twenty-four (324)
- Number of mothers practicing exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months four hundred and ten (410)
- Number of mothers practicing complementary feeding at exactly six (6) months three hundred and sixty-nine (369)

ANC AND PNC SERVICES

Activities carried out were routine check-ups for pregnant women; BP, sugar level, weight and laboratory investigation as well as talks on;

- Education on birth preparedness
- Education on anaemia prevention
- Additional meals for pregnant women
- Additional 2 meals for lactating mothers

- Appropriate cord care with chlorhexine 7.1% gel
- Neonatal care and dangers signs in new borns

One hundred and one (101) babies were delivered of which all the 101-used chlorhexidine gel for cord care representing 100%

FOOD DEMONSTRATION

During the week celebration, caregivers were taught how to prepare weanimix, food items from the four (4) star* grouping were displayed to mothers for them to know the benefits of taking food from the four star* Using the four (4 star diet) it was explained to the mothers that after feeding their children they should add fruits such as oranges, pineapple and pawpaw to improve the diet of children and growth development.

- Number of communities (food demonstration organized) **25**
- Number of participants **462**

SOCIAL MOBILIZATION

The district used the following channels in their social mobilization/awareness creation;

- Announcement using the community information centers available at the various communities
- Education at OPD, ANC maternity at the various facilities.

BEST PRACTICES

- Distribution of baby items to mothers who were regular and punctual at CWC (Baby show)
- Caregivers who have not missed routine services were given bowls and cups.
- As part of the food demonstration meals prepared were served to caregivers and their children.

CHALLENGES

- Inadequate funding for program implementation
- Some CWC sites are not conducive for sessions-chairs, benches not available

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The whole program came to an end on Friday 24th May 2023 with

- Birth registration 283
- BCG 213
- DPT/HEP/Hip 598
- IPV 305
- Yellow fever 236
- Men A 165
- Measles rubella 366
- Vitamin A coverage 9.6 %

Health workers at the various facilities have been encouraged to keep on with the social mobilization strategies and also intensify education on the importance of eating iron riched foods for the adolescent girls, in order to reduce the prevalence aneamia and improve coverages for other antigens, also all the three (3) malnourished children identified were given education and counselling on the 4-star diet and hygienic way of preparing food and nurses following up on the cases.

Based on the challenge during the program, it is recommended that;

- Funds to be made available by national level for such program
- Sub-districts should provide chairs and tables during CWC session to make counselling easily.

ATTACHED ARE PICTURES OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT DURING THE CHILD HEALTH PROMOTION WEEK.

PIC 1 Food demonstration at Mprumen Chps



PIC 2. Vitamin A Supplementation in Schools at Gomoa Denkyira



PIC 3: Weighing and immunization at Fomena chps during the Child health promotion week.



PIC 4: Food demonstration at Dago community center

