



15 November 2017
Abu Dhabi Global Market, Abu Dhabi
United Arab Emirates





OVERVIEW

On November 15, 2017, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, will recognize the recipients of the inaugural REACH (Recognizing Excellence around Champions of Health) Awards. The awards will be given out at a global health forum titled Reaching the Last Mile: Mobilizing Together to Eliminate Infectious Diseases taking place in Abu Dhabi.

The REACH Awards aim to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions toward eliminating infectious diseases. This year's awards will honor those who have been instrumental in eradicating Guinea worm disease over the past 30+ years.

The REACH Awards build on the HOPE (Heroes of Polio Eradication) Awards, launched by the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2015 to honor courageous individuals working to create a polio-free world. The awards recognized five heroes working across health, education, research and advocacy.

CATEGORIES

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Awarded to an individual who has been a longtime, vocal champion for Guinea worm disease eradication and whose contributions have made a significant global impact.

COURAGE AWARD

Awarded to an individual who has gone above and beyond to push forward progress against Guinea worm disease, at times at great personal risk.

LAST MILE AWARD

Awarded to an individual whose efforts directly contributed to reaching elimination of Guinea worm disease in a country.

UNSUNG HERO AWARD

Awarded to a frontline health worker who began as a volunteer, mobilized their community and made significant contributions to eliminating Guinea worm disease in their country.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Name: Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter

Title: Founder

Affiliation: The Carter Center

Country: United States

Summary Bio:

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter has dedicated his post-political life to promoting peace and fighting neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) around the world. In 1982, he and his wife, Rosalynn Carter, founded The Carter Center to resolve conflict, promote democracy, protect human rights and prevent disease. In 1986, The Carter Center began leading the international campaign to eradicate Guinea worm disease. It is estimated that the Guinea worm eradication campaign has averted at least 80 million cases of this devastating disease among the world's poorest and most neglected people.

COURAGE AWARD



Name: Dr. Nabil Aziz Awad Alla
Title: Former National Program Coordinator
Affiliation: Federal Ministry of Health
Country: Sudan

Summary Bio:

Dr. Nabil Aziz Awad Alla led the Sudan Guinea Worm Eradication Program from 1994 until 2002, and witnessed its last case of the disease in 2002. During his tenure, he was known to travel across the country to personally search for cases, at times at great personal risk due to the civil war in Sudan. Dr. Nabil Aziz Awad Alla helped convene a national conference in 1995 and invited both General Omar al-Bashir, president of Sudan, and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. This provided an opportunity for President Carter to negotiate a “Guinea worm cease-fire” that lasted almost six months and allowed the program to expand into areas formerly inaccessible due to civil conflict in the south.

LAST MILE AWARD



Name: Dr. Adamu Keana Sallau
Title: Director, Integrated Health Programs, Imo and Abia states
Affiliation: The Carter Center
Country: Nigeria

Summary Bio:

Dr. Adamu Keana Sallau was at the forefront of the Nigeria Guinea Worm Eradication Program in Nigeria for over a decade, until the disease was eliminated in the country in 2008. Dr. Sallau’s success was driven by the fact that he was the only zonal consultant (Nigeria was divided into five federal zones) who set up mobile case containment centers in endemic hotspots where Guinea worm disease could be quickly detected, treated and kept from spreading. In 2008, he was dispatched to southeast Nigeria to bring an outbreak under control, overseeing the efforts that brought an end to Guinea worm disease in Nigeria. Dr. Sallau was part of the team that pulled out the last Guinea worm from the last patient in Nigeria; that worm is preserved in a jar, which has been on display at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City as part of the Countdown to Zero: Defeating Disease exhibition.

UNsung HERO AWARD



Name: Regina Lotubai Lomare Lochilangole

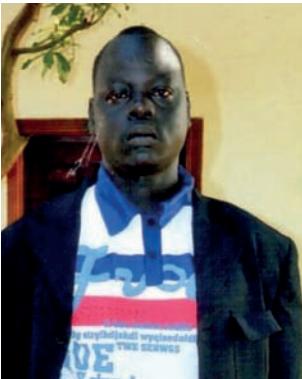
Title: Social Mobilizer

Affiliation: Federal Ministry of Health

Country: South Sudan

Summary Bio:

Regina Lotubai Lomare Lochilangole is a Guinea worm disease social mobilizer in her native South Sudan. She is credited with creating original Guinea worm songs and dances to teach her community about Guinea worm symptoms and prevention. Her approach was so effective that South Sudan's Ministry of Health created a position for her within the Guinea Worm Eradication Program, titled Social Mobilizer. Lochilangole now travels to different parts of the country to train other volunteers to become social mobilizers for Guinea worm disease. Lochilangole's dedication to Guinea worm disease eradication stems from her personal experience with the disease. At one time, she had at least 10 worms emerging from her body. That memory keeps her motivated.



Name: Daniel Madit Kuol Madut

Title: Senior Program Officer

Affiliation: Federal Ministry of Health

Country: South Sudan

Summary Bio:

Daniel Madit Kuol Madut is a frontline neglected tropical disease health worker from South Sudan who rose through the ranks from village volunteer in 1998 to senior program officer today. Over the past decade, the Guinea Worm Eradication Program has relied on Madut to move to different parts of the country to respond to outbreaks and enhance surveillance. When international organizations have evacuated foreign staff during periods of political upheaval and insecurity, Madut has always stayed at his post and courageously continued the work, unshaken by danger. Madut, who is currently covering one of the only remaining Guinea worm disease endemic areas in South Sudan, says his commitment to the eradication effort comes from a personal desire to see his compatriots unite to accomplish something positive.



R.E.A.C.H.
RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE AROUND CHAMPIONS OF HEALTH
**MOHAMMED BIN ZAYED
GLOBAL HEALTH AWARD**

ديوان ولي العهد
CROWN PRINCE COURT



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