

## NA REGISTERED NURSES

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## PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE GHANA REGISTERED NURSES AND MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION (GRNMA) ON ISSUES AFFECTING NURSE/MIDWIFE TRAINEES, INTERNS AND UNEMPLOYED NURSES AND MIDWIVES.

Ladies and gentlemen of the press, we have invited you here today to share with you our concerns about the plight of our younger colleagues who are in training, those who are doing their internship or rotation and those who have completed their rotation and waiting to be employed. The issues are as follows:

- 1. Delay in the payment of trainee allowances of up to 11 months.
- 2. Delay in the posting of the 10,727 Nurse Assistant Clinical (NAC) and Nurse Assistant Preventive (NAP) belonging to the 2019 batch who have already been registered on the MoH recruitment portal.
- 3. Delay in the issuance of Financial Clearance for permanent recruitment of the 2019 Diploma and Degree referred group who completed their rotation or national service in September, 2021.
- 4. Delay in the issuance of Financial Clearance for the permanent recruitment of the 2020 NAC and NAP.
- 5. Delay in the issuance of Financial Clearance for the permanent recruitment of the 2020 batch of diploma and degree holders who completed their rotation or national service in January, 2022 with about 4,015 of them who were never paid their 12 months rotation allowance.
- 6. Delay in the payment of eight (8) months Rotation Allowance for the 2020 diploma referred group who started the National Service in December, 2021 and will be done in November, 2022.



7. The 2021 diploma nurses and midwives who started their rotation in July, 2022 and will complete in June, 2023 need their financial clearance to be made ready so that they can receive their rotation allowances.

In as much as we recognize the effort of the current government in employing the backlog of unemployed nurses and midwives in the past, government has not been able to prevent the creation of new backlogs and that has brought us to where we are today.

We have seen and heard on television and on radio, very unpleasant statements from our younger colleagues in describing their plight which for many of us has dented the image of the nursing and midwifery professions because it does not reflect who we are as professionals.

Although we are very much aware of the hardships our younger colleagues go through as they wait for posting or their allowances to be paid, we wish to state emphatically that we have never left them to their fate. The GRNMA has consistently engaged the office of the Director Human Resource at the Ministry of Health (MOH) and the Ministry of Finance to address their challenges. The issues of demonstrations and picketing had almost been a thing of the past until some of our younger colleagues decided to go ahead and do their own thing without recourse to the GRNMA. The outcome of which we all know.

In view of all the above, the leadership of the Ghana Registered Nurses and Midwives Association (GRNMA) wish to state as follows:

- Government as a matter of urgency must issue the needed Financial Clearance for the payment
  of all outstanding allowances of trainees and rotation nurses and midwives and for the provision
  of permanent employment for those awaiting employment in the health sector of Ghana.
- 2. We call on the Ministry of Health to do the needful by directing the Ghana Health Service, Teaching Hospitals, Christian Health Association of Ghana (CHAG) and all other agencies responsible for the posting of the 2019 Nurse Assistant Clinical (NAC) and Nurse Assistant Preventive (NAP) who have already been registered on the MoH recruitment portal to do so immediately.

- 3. We admonish all nurses and midwives awaiting employment by government to trust their group leaders and accept in good faith the periodic updates they relay to them from our engagements with the ministries of health and finance and desist from any acts that will affect the image of the nursing and midwifery professions in Ghana negatively. We want all of you to remember this quote in our pledge "I promise that my personal life shall at all times bring credit to my profession". We wish to state emphatically that, Ms Lydia Amankwa's choice of sleeping with multiple men to survive is her choice and does not reflect in anyway the nature or attitude of our younger colleagues or the generality of nurses and midwives in Ghana.
- 4. We need the Regulator of the nursing and midwifery professions in Ghana that is the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Ghana to take disciplinary actions against these individuals who resort to social media to dent the image of the profession. On our part as a professional nursing and midwifery association and a trade union, we are going to enforce our recently developed disciplinary code of conduct to ensure that members of the association project a good image of nursing and midwifery and desist from unnecessary social media post whiles in their uniforms.
- 5. We call on the Ministry of Health to investigate all allegations of corrupt practices in the posting of nurses and midwives and further call on the Ministry to refrain from arresting nurses and midwives who come to the Ministry of Health to demand for their posting.
- 6. We call on all trainees, rotation nurses and midwives and all categories of unemployed nurses and midwives to remain calm as the leadership of GRNMA work with your group leaders and the ministries of health and finance to find a lasting solution to your issues.

Long live the dignity of the Nursing and Midwifery professions in Ghana!

Long Live GRNMA!

Long Live Ghana!

PERPETUAL OFORI-AMPOFO (FWACN, FGCNM)

PRESIDENT

DAVID TENKORANG-TWUM (FGCNM) GENERAL SECRETARY

3