

## **Brief Report on the Advocacy visit to the Village Heads in Akwa Ibom State.**

**Date of Event: August 29, 2024**

**Location: Uyo Traditional Rulers Council, Akwa Ibom State**

**Organized by: Africa Faith and Justice Network Nigeria**

**Total Participants: 47 (21 women, 21 men, AFJN Members 5)**



As a follow-up to the recently concluded stakeholders meeting, In alignment with this commitment, the Africa Faith and Justice Network Nigeria Akwa Ibom team engaged with the village heads and their wives, collectively known as "Mboho Mme Ette Idung" in Akwa Ibom State, The Village Heads Pledge Action Against Domestic Servitude, Child Labour and Child Marriage.

The recent Advocacy visit with the Village Heads and

Wives in Akwa Ibom has yielded promising results. The council's commitment to prioritize discussions on domestic servitude, Child Labour and child marriage during their next meeting with their community members is a positive step forward.

The council's decision to establish caretaker committees within each community demonstrates a willingness to take ownership of the problem and work towards finding solutions. This



grassroots approach, led by the Village Heads, has the potential to create lasting change. The inclusion of both the chiefs their wives, youth leaders and women leaders in the discussions ensures that the issue is addressed from multiple perspectives and that women's voices are heard.

The Africa Faith and Justice Network Nigeria Akwa Ibom team has successfully leveraged its influence to initiate a dialogue with

Village Heads. The council's pledge to make domestic servitude, early and forced marriage, Child Labour the main subject of discussion in their next meeting is a significant milestone. By empowering village heads to establish caretaker committees, the council has taken a crucial step towards addressing these issues at the community level.

As we move forward, it is essential to maintain momentum and ensure that the council's commitments translate into tangible actions. Regular follow-ups, community engagement, and collaboration with local authorities will be key to ensuring the success of this initiative. With the support of Village Heads and the active participation of community members, we can work towards eradicating domestic servitude and child marriage in Akwa Ibom.

