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TITLE

Assessing and Addressing Fire Safety Awareness of Isheri-North Residents in Lagos, Nigeria

ABSTRACT

Background/Objective: In Isheri-North, a residential border-town community in Lagos, Nigeria, there is limited data on the fire safety knowledge and practices of residents.

We sought to i) assess Isheri-North residents' knowledge of preventative and mitigative fire safety practices; and ii) disseminate fire safety information within the community.

Community Partner: Isheri Estates Community (ISECOM), Lagos, Nigeria.

Methods/Approach: We administered a cross-sectional, door-to-door survey to 80 households in the Isheri-North community assessing possession and maintenance of fire safety equipment, and other safety practices such as first aid kit possession and knowledge of the state emergency telephone number. Survey respondents who indicated not having a fire extinguisher were entered into a raffle to receive one of 24 six-kilogram multi-purpose fire extinguishers. After conducting the survey, we developed an informational resource sheet including fire safety recommendations and emergency telephone numbers provided by the Lagos State Fire Prevention and Inspectorate Services. This resource was distributed to households in Isheri-North through local businesses and stores.

Results: Of the 80 surveyed households, 29 (36.3%) were in possession of fire extinguishers. Only 7 (8.8%) households had one or more smoke detectors and 48.8% of survey respondents knew the state emergency telephone number. More than one in four households (28.8%) surveyed did not have a fire extinguisher or know where to purchase fire safety equipment. Fifty-two (65.0%) households were in possession of a first aid kit.

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COMMUNITY PARTNER

Isheri Estates Community (ISECOM), Lagos, Nigeria

CATEGORY

Promotion of Health Awareness and Healthcare Access Through Education