

## **CWGH wins Africa NGO Leadership Award - Press Statement**

Date: 13/12/2016

The Community Working Group on Health (CWGH), Zimbabwe's leading health advocacy group, was conferred with this year's glamorous Africa NGO Leadership Award for its outstanding achievements in the health sector at the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Africa Leadership Award held at Le Meridian Hotel in Mauritius last week.

The award, which is given to those that make a difference to the lives of others, was received by CWGH Executive Director, Mr Itai Rusike.

The CWGH, which was established in 1998, was recognised for leading and giving visibility to community processes in health in Zimbabwe. Over the years, the organisation has positioned itself as a voice in the health sector and built community power, organizing involvement of communities in health actions within their communities and around Primary Health Care (PHC). It has also empowered communities through health literacy to meaningfully participate and contribute towards health governance, environmental health, and mobilizing resources to support health centres. This is being done through community level initiatives with limited external support.

The Africa Leadership Awards are presented by the World CSR and the STARS OF THE INDUSTRY GROUP. The event, which was attended by about 150 senior leaders and decision makers, recognise the achievements made by selected high profile corporate business in Africa and honour their contributions towards their countries' economic development.

The Jury decided to honour Community Working Group on Health (CWGH) with the Africa NGO Leadership Award. The award is conferred on "Outstanding professionals who have the vision, flair, acumen and professionalism to demonstrate excellent Leadership and Management skills in an organisation, making changes and achieving results.

**Criteria:** Those who can make a difference to the lives of others are chosen. For the quality of their work, global reach and outlook and ability to contribute value of social change. Change can be quantified - especially since it impacts the lives of many. If it does then it is positive change. But the main is Making A Difference (MAD).

**Process:** The NGO Leadership Award is intensely researched process undertaken by the research cell which consists of Post Graduates in History & Management with over 5 years research experience posts their studies. It is the iconic job of the research cell to produce a shortlist of Individuals who are doing extraordinary work and track the record of their achievements. The shortlist is then reviewed by a Jury comprising of senior professionals from across the globe.

The Community Working Group on Health (CWGH) is a network of national membership based civil society and community based organisations who aim to collectively enhance community participation in health in Zimbabwe.

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