



**AKWA IBOM STATE ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA, USA INC.  
NATIONAL SECRETARIAT  
P.O. BOX 651, WARREN, MICHIGAN 48090**

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**Obong E. Umana, National President , Akwa Ibom State Association, USA Inc. names "Children Relief Actions" Czar.**

In order to coordinate and effectively manage all Association efforts toward enabling relief to the Akwa Ibom State children accused of possession by witchcraft, abused and/or abandoned, the Akwa Ibom Association President and the National Executive appointed Attorney Michael Essien of Minnesota Chapter as the National Relief Actions Coordinator.

The National Children Relief Actions Coordinator's Charter include:

- Immediate material and financial support for children in the CRARN facility in Ibaka area of Akwa Ibom State.
- Collaboration with Akwa Ibom State government on strategies and actions to eliminate the root cause of children accusations, abuse, and/or abandonment.
- Collaboration with Akwa Ibom State government and functional NGOs in enabling the return and reuniting of abused children in CRARN facility (or any such facility in Akwa Ibom State) with their families.
- Facilitating a simplified adoption process for abused children where no family is identified or where family condition poses material danger to a child if returned.

It is the hope of the Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria, USA Inc. that children will not be warehoused in holding facilities for the long term, but rather, that all such holding facilities serve only as a short term salvage and transition point, to an abuse free family situation.

The National President, in his remarks, acknowledged and commended the actions of the Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly in extending the Child Rights Act to provide protection for children accused of possession by witchcraft.

The National President commended Akwa Ibom State Government Executive Council for actions and policy decisions intended to provide care for abused and abandoned children. "It is our hope that the Akwa Ibom State government's efforts will extend well beyond the children in the CRARN facility, and provide Statewide safe heavens for abused and abandoned children", said the National President, Obong Umana.

"We have seen images; we have read about the abused children, we have listened; now it is time for action.

Let's lead for for Akwa Ibom children", said the National President as he thanked Chapter Presidents for approving a five thousand dollars (\$5000.00) supplementary budget for children relief actions.

Each of the Association's Chapters was urged to contribute additional five hundred dollars (\$500.00) minimum, toward the children relief actions.

**Akwa Ibom Isongo ooo!**

**###**

Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria, USA Inc. is a 501C(3) non-profit organization with the following sets of [objectives](#):

1. To promote, encourage and [foster unity](#) among the citizen of Akwa Ibom State of Nigeria both at home and abroad
2. To promote economic, educational, [cultural](#), scientific and [social progress](#) of Akwa Ibom State within the framework of one Nigeria
3. To cooperate with and [support bona-fide Nigerian Associations](#) in the United States of America and encourage members of the Association to join Nigerian Associations and participate in promoting the interest of Nigeria both at home and abroad.
4. To encourage and [support the educational](#), professional and legitimate business aspirations of all Akwa Ibom State citizens, provided those aspirations are consistent with the best interest of Akwa Ibom State of Nigeria and its citizens
5. To [act as a liaison](#) between our government, and others, including other organizations both government and non-governmental, and the members of this Association and citizens of Akwa Ibom State of Nigeria in the United States of America
6. To support and promote various [charitable organizations](#) by cooperating with any such organization, participating in its activities or contributing to such an organization.

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