

VIRTUE OBORO

Tiny Hearts Technology Limited

2024 Global Fellow



BIG BOLD IDEA

Reduce deaths and disabilities for newborn babies in riverine and inaccessible communities in Nigeria by producing phototherapy devices and providing access to neonatal jaundice treatment.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Tiny Hearts Technology produces and deploys innovative medical devices for newborn babies. It's flagship product is a solar-powered phototherapy device —Crib A'glow — to treat jaundice in babies in hospitals, rural health centers, and at home. Tiny Hearts' mission is to reduce preventable and avoidable deaths and disabilities in infants. Phototherapy devices are generally expensive, difficult to import, and rarely powered by renewable energy. In addition to producing Crib A'glow, Tiny Hearts has a robust distribution system that ensures phototherapy treatment reaches every jaundiced baby in need.

PERSONAL BIO

Virtue Oboro is the co-founder of Tiny Hearts Technology, and designer of Crib A'glow. An engineer, a die-hard problem solver, and a mother who works keenly on healthcare innovations in Nigeria. Virtue's son had severe neonatal jaundice and deteriorating health. She swung into action to find a solution—despite not having a health-related background. To succeed, she broke barriers and designed solutions to support the health sector. She's won awards for her work, including the Johnson and Johnson African Innovation Awards and the Royal Academy of Engineering's Africa Prize for Engineering and Innovation. Virtue has a track record in healthcare, engineering, design, and health media spaces. She promotes maternal and infant health education in rural communities. Virtue also produced a movie, Sei Don, shown in rural and urban community centers and maternity clinics to educate about the silent killer that is neonatal jaundice.

Organization/Fellow Location

Yenagoa, Nigeria

Impact Location

Africa

Nigeria

Organization Structure

For-profit

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