

Juliette Tuakli

United Way Worldwide's Chair of Governance Committee



Dr. Juliette Tuakli, an internationally acclaimed medical doctor, founder and medical director of CHILDAccra, has more than 30 years of pediatric, family medicine and public health care experience. She was on the Harvard and Boston Medical School faculties, and was also Pediatric/Adolescent director of the Children's Hospital of Boston affiliated community health center at which she initiated seminal cross cultural, service directed, operations research (CHILD), for many years.

Results from the CHILD research led to the establishment of an acclaimed Community Pediatric Department at Children's Hospital of Boston. As Deputy Director of Family Health International in Africa, she supervised highly successful national HIV/AIDS program development in Ghana, Kenya and Rwanda. The successful involvement of traditional and political leadership as community change agents stimulated her passionate interest in the health and rights of women and children in African countries.

After Dr. Tuakli conducted a review of PMTCT services (2000-2005) and a situational analysis of vulnerable children in Ghana, she wrote a clinical manual on the Management of HIV/AIDS and a Nutritional Guide for Families of HIV/AIDS affected persons. Within UNICEF, her work has helped to develop national child health policies for the governments of USA, Ghana, Rwanda and Kenya. She currently spearheads innovative anti-malaria efforts in West Africa.

Dr. Tuakli has been a WHO advisor in tropical disease knowledge management in Africa and has taught an innovative Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation supported course (Child Health in Africa) at the School of Public Health (Ghana) and Kofi Annan International Peace Training Center and Wheelock College, Boston, MA. She is also an advisor to the African Union on women's issues. Dr. Tuakli received Best Pediatric Practitioner of the year (2017), an award presented by West African Clinical Alliance for demonstrating sustained commitment to patient care and wellbeing as well as sustaining high standards of both technical and clinical aspects of service while providing patient-focused care.

CEO Global (South Africa) awarded Dr. Tuakli as the Most Influential Woman in Business and Governance (2017) for her outstanding work and contribution to communities and economies across the African continent. She was also awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award in South Africa by African Union.

Rotary Club's special citations (2016, 2017) for her commitment to children through the facilitation of multiple projects including one that provided empowerment and vocational skill training to freed Trokosi sexual slaves; the building of a fully equipped playground for sick children at the main Korle Bu Teaching Hospital and arranging the use of Rotarian's frequent flyer miles to transport children with heart disease for care in USA and South Africa; the Gift of Life project. In 2018, Rotary International awarded her the Lacy Bomar Award of Excellence for her medical services.

Supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Dr. Tuakli co-developed Child Health in Africa, an electronic rights-based child health curriculum for various Schools of Public Health in Ghana, Nigeria and Ethiopia.

Among her many awards is the Boston Healthy Start Annual Award bestowed on her in 1996 for dedication and outstanding healthcare provided to Boston's children, the Nigerian Eagle Society's Outstanding Service Award in 1996, for her work as National Secretary of the Nigerian Peoples Forum, a US-based Diaspora organization.

In 1996 she also received an award for Outstanding Service from the National Council of Negro Women. A United Nations Citizen of the World Award was conferred on her in 1998 and she was featured in Tall Drums- a book recognizing the contributions of outstanding Africans in the world.

In Africa, she has been conferred the Pan African Women Innovators Special Recognition Award (2005) for her multinational horticultural programme for youth and the Sankofa Annual Award for Outstanding Community Service (Ghana) in 2006.

Currently Dr. Tuakli serves as United Way Worldwide's Chair of Governance Committee and she is on the Leadership Council. She serves as a Trustee for both Mercy Ships and United Way Worldwide. She is also a Board Member for CHRI (Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative) and a Member of CHIFA (Child Healthcare Information for All – formerly CHILD2015).