

Two-storey building collapses on occupants in Lagos

By Evelyn Usman

TRAGEDY struck in the early hours of yesterday, when a two-storey building at No. 54, Cole Street, in the Oyingbo area of Lagos, collapsed on its sleeping occupants, leaving several people trapped beneath the rubble, killing one person.

At press time, 15 residents, including four children, had been rescued with varying degrees of injuries.

Residents of the area described the incident as "a disaster waiting to happen," noting that the building had long shown cracks and visible structural weaknesses before it finally caved in. Vanguard also gathered that the building had earlier been marked as distressed.

The Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service said it received the distress call at 12:20 a.m., with first responders from the Sari-Iganmu Fire Station arriving at

the scene nine minutes later to commence a full-scale rescue operation.

Controller General of the Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service, Mrs. Margaret Adeseye, noted that the collapsed structure had shown visible signs of distress before the tragic incident occurred.

According to her: "So far, 15 persons, comprising seven adult males, four adult females, and four children, have been rescued with varying degrees of injuries. They have been taken to the Federal Medical Centre, Ebute Meta, and the General Hospital, Odan, Lagos Island, for urgent medical attention."

She added that rescue operations were still ongoing under the supervision of emergency responders, including personnel from the Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service, who worked painstakingly through the night.