



Child Life Line

Newsletter
Q1 2023

3, Karimu Street, off Sholuyi, Gbagada, Lagos

The first quarter of the year saw 66 children coming to the drop-in centre, 25 for the first time, to receive support in the form of 2 meals a day, a place to bathe and wash their clothes, receive basic literacy and numeracy lessons and take part in extra-curricular activities, and most importantly, to receive counselling and help with family tracing and reunification.

CLL participated, as a member of the Lagos State Child Protection Network, in discussions held by the Ministry of Youth and Social Development with stakeholders, on ways to strengthen policies and ensure the well-being of children in the State. CLL spoke about the challenges of bureaucratic bottlenecks and delays in rescuing children from the streets. The discussions were useful and productive.

PHOTOS FROM OUR DROP-IN CENTER



REUNIFICATION:

M ran away from home and had been living on the street for a month before he visited our drop-in center. After several counselling sessions, it was discovered that he came from a broken home and had been suffering neglect. CLL was able to contact his father and invite him for a meeting where he disclosed that he had been searching everywhere for his son. Father and child were given counselling and reunited.



R, 13, had been on the streets for a year and two months before visiting our drop-in-center in February. She told us she had run away from home due to poverty and abuse. CLL intervened by reuniting her with her mother, placing her in vocational training (tailoring) and providing a monthly stipend for her upkeep to enable her to stay at home.

J had been missing from home for 3 weeks before he visited our centre and we were able to reunite him with his father and grandmother, who was overwhelmed with joy at finding him.



REUNIFICATION

Others reunited with family during the period include:

D, who had run away from school. After several days, he visited our drop-in centre. Counselling revealed that he had been on and off the streets for one year. We were able to contact his mother, discuss issues surrounding his truancy and proffer solutions and D was happy to be reunited with her and to go home.

M, came from a broken home and did not know his father, growing up. His mother applied to the family court when he was giving her trouble, and the Magistrate gave custody to his father. M ran away from his poverty-stricken father two years ago and had been living on the streets since then. Through home tracing, we were able to locate his maternal grandfather in Ogun State, who he was happy to go to, and who promised to enroll him back in school.

K visited our drop-in-centre where we discovered that the child was a victim of drug abuse and needed rehabilitation. His parents were contacted and during discussions, it was obvious they had run out of ideas on how to help him and he did not want to go home. CLL was able to persuade him to go into a drug rehabilitation facility and referred him to one. They can't admit him till May, but after much counselling, K agreed to go home while waiting for admission. CLL is providing support and regular follow-up with the family.

STAFF TRAINING

Job Ayuba David, an alumnus of CLL and recipient of the National Civic Responsibility Award, who founded and successfully runs the Tomruk iHub Multiverse social innovation hub, connecting entrepreneurs with the skills, network and funding they need to succeed, and providing training on digital skills, spent a day training CLL staff on the use of social media as a tool to create awareness.

The session was also attended by CLL's former Vice-President, Dr Jytte Oladapo.



Valentine's Day Visit

The pupils and teachers of Garris Wisdom Montessori School visited the Centre on the 14th of February to celebrate with street-connected children and brought donations.

One of the teachers explained the importance of education and encouraged our children to prioritize education and they were interested to learn about CLL and what we do.



ADVOCACY VISIT TO CHILD PROTECTION NETWORK (CPN)

The children at the Ibeshe residential home went through advocacy training using a resource pack developed by the UK-based Consortium for Street Children (CSC). The children, accompanied by some staff members, paid an advocacy visit to the Lagos State Child Protection Network (CPN) to advocate for the Rights of Street-Connected Children, specifically the Right to Free and Compulsory Universal Basic Education, the Right to Freedom of Association and the Right to Protection and Safety.

They were well received by the executives of the CPN who applauded the children for being a voice for street children and encouraged them to do more with a promise to take forward the issues raised and present them to the relevant authorities.



ALUMNI VISIT

Two alumni members of CLL: Job Ayuba and Godswill Onuoha, accompanied by their friends, paid a visit to the Ibeshe home in February. They expressed their joy at coming back to the place that used to be their home.

Job Ayuba had a training session with the children on identifying their visions and the skills needed to pursue their goals.

The alumni members shared their experiences with the children to encourage them.



VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION

Wise Ville International School visited the residential home on the 14th of February to celebrate Valentine's Day.

They presented different gift items as donations to express their love.



FISAYO HND ADMISSION

Fisayo, one of our beneficiaries who finished her National Diploma in 2021 has been given admission into Higher National Diploma at Moshood Abiola Polytechnic. She has started the program and Child Life Line paid her fees and gives her monthly upkeep.



CODING SCHOLARSHIP

Thank you to Epeetechsolution for their regular coding scholarship to our boys at the Ibeshe home. It was an amazing introductory session in the month of March. The children paid attention and showed great interest. The boys were able to grasp HTML, CSS, Web development and other packages in no time!



BACK-TO-SCHOOL PROJECT, OWORONSHOKI



OWORO REMEDIAL CLASSES

Oworo Back-to-school project which was sponsored by Consortium for Street Children (CSC) with funds from Red Nose Day has placed 100 out of school children back to school. Out of this number, five (5) of them will be sitting for National Common Entrance Examination. The children have improved remarkably in their academics as they keep attending the remedial classes.

We are currently in the sustainability stage with the aim to see all of these children graduate with at least Primary School Leaving Certificate. CLL keeps engaging them in remedial classes and extracurricular activities as we continue to seek support to keep them in school.



THIS IS HOW YOU CAN HELP.



- #15,000 - Two sets of school uniform
- #35,000 - Books for the session
- #15,000 - School sandal and tennis shoe
- #3,500 - Stationery
- #60,000 - Pay for a child's lesson fees for 12 months (#5000 monthly).

NEWS DONORS THIS QUARTER



Child Life Line would like to thank those individuals and firms who have given GENEROUSLY this quarter, in the form of money, basic necessities such as food and healthcare, or services. WE EXTEND OUR THANKS TO THE INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS LISTED BELOW

CASH DONORS

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Sumbo Sulimon Lateef
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HOW YOU CAN HELP



WE NEED

- **Sponsors for education/vocational training for individual children**
- **MONEY**
- **Art materials (especially plain fabric or T shirts for tie-and-dye and batik work)**
- **Foodstuff**
- **Toiletries**
- **Books (educational or novels)**
- **Clothing**
- **Project Financing/Support: Help with road repairs to the track leading to the Ibeshe Home; renovation of the staff quarters and kitchen/dining block**
- **Diesel for the generators at Gbagada and Ibeshe**
- **Volunteers to teach and conduct activities with the children (art, craftwork, music, other learning activities)**

CONTACT US

For all enquiries, please contact:

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