# GLOBAL SUPPORT FOR KIDS' INITIATIVE NIGERIA

# **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2020**

2020

www.gskinitiative.org

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#### **ABOUT US**

Global Support for Kids Initiative (GSKi) was established in 2003 with a mission to support children in street situations, at-risk youths, orphans, and vulnerable children in Nigeria, Africa, and worldwide. Recognized by the Ministries of Women Affairs and Education in Ekiti and Ogun states, GSKi has made a significant impact through:

- Advocacy
- Home tracing and reintegration
- Empowerment programs for children and parents
- Public awareness campaigns
- Feeding programs for children in street situations
- Educational opportunities for underprivileged children
- Counseling sessions

Our efforts prioritize the most vulnerable children, promoting their interests and listening to their voices. We strive to make a positive difference in their lives, aligning with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Our goal is to ensure every child has access to:

- Survival
- Protection
- Development
- Participation

"The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little." - Franklin D. Roosevelt

Join us in our mission to create a better future for all children!

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**



"The best way to find your self is to lose yourself in the service of others." - Mahatma Gandhi

As the President and Executive Director of GSK Initiative, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone, especially our dedicated staff, for their tireless efforts during the challenging year of 2020. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, we remained steadfast in our mission to support children in street situations and at-risk youth. We ensured they received essential care and resources, including food, clothing, and hygiene products, even during lockdowns. Our commitment to their safety, welfare, and well-being has never wavered, and we continue to prioritize their voices and interests.

In 2020, we also strengthened our working relationship with the MDA's to work in synergy and advocate for children's rights. I encourage everyone to join us in this vital cause. Together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of vulnerable children.

Thank you for your support and dedication. Let's continue to work together to create a better future for all children!

Opeyemi Olajide Olowookere

President/Executive Director, GSKi

#### **Mentorship Programme Outreach**

In March 2020, the initiative successfully held a mentorship program at A.U.D. Comprehensive High School, Shammah Group of Schools, and Moferere Community Primary School. This outreach was a significant achievement, especially considering the challenging circumstances posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, which was ravaging the state at the time.

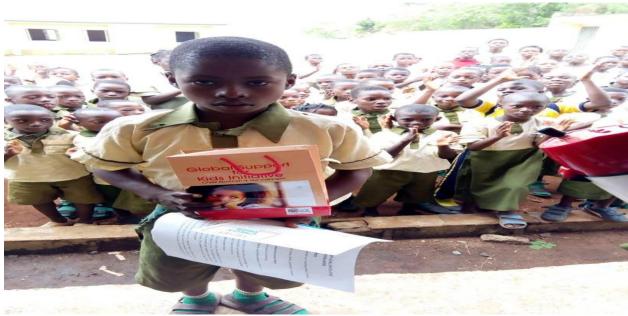
As the renowned Abraham Lincoln once said, "The best way to predict your future is to create it." We firmly believe that by investing in the lives of these young individuals, we are creating a brighter future for them and our society at large. Our dedication to empowering young minds remains unwavering, even in the face of adversity.

Just before the total lockdown in the state, our team worked tirelessly to ensure the success of this mentorship program, providing guidance, support, and inspiration to the students. Despite the obstacles presented by the pandemic, we remained committed to our mission, and our efforts have made a positive impact on the lives of these young individuals.









### Supporting Vulnerable Children in Times of Crisis: GSKi Nigeria's COVID-19 Intervention

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed significant challenges for everyone, especially street-connected children in Ogun State, Nigeria. The lockdown measures implemented by the government to curb the spread of the virus have made it difficult for these children to survive, as they rely on daily activities to earn a living.

As Mahatma Gandhi once said, "The true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members." This quote resonates with GSKi Nigeria's intervention in the lives of street children and at-risk youths during the pandemic.

GSKi Nigeria intervened in the lives of these children, providing them with essential items such as food, sanitizers, and nose masks. The organization also educated the children on the dangers of the virus, how it can be contracted, and how they can prevent its spread. By doing so, GSKi Nigeria has demonstrated its commitment to supporting vulnerable children during times of crisis, thereby upholding the true measure of society.

During the lockdown, GSKi Nigeria fed the street children thirteen times, providing them with cooked food, instant noodles, and other essentials. Here is a summary of the food distribution:

Dates	Type of food served	quantity	Number of street children feed
09/04/2020	Instant Noodles	90 pieces	Distributed to 30 children (3 pieces each)
11/04/2020	jollof rice & instant noodles	50 packs of jollof rice&50 pieces of noodles	
13/04/2020	jollof rice & instant noodles	50 packs of jollof rice&50 pieces of	

		noodles	children
15/04/2020	white rice& Noddle's	50 packs of white rice& Noddle's	one pack of white rice& one noodles each for 50 children
17/04/2020	jollof rice & instant noodles	50 packs of jollof rice&50 pieces of noodles	one pack of jollof rice& one noodles each for 50 children
20//04/2020	Eba &efo riro	50 packs	for 50 children
22/04/2020	Eba and Egusi	50 packs	50 children
24/04/2020	Fufu and egusi	50 packs	50 children
27/04/2020	Jollof rice	50 packs	50 children
29/04/2020	Jollof rice	50packs	50 children
07/05/2020	Fufu and Egusi	50 packs	50 children
20/05/2020	Bread &beans	40 packs	37 children
27/05/2020	Egusi & Eba	40 packs	39 children

The children were also educated on hygiene, social distancing and the use of nose mask.

After every enlightened and educative session, the team ensured social distancing was effectively practiced among the children as they assembled uniformly giving themselves enough space to receive their food.

Our intervention in Nigeria has to say the least, made a significant impact on the lives of these children, helping them to cope and survive during the pandemic.























# **Empowering Street-Connected Children: Hair-Cream and Liquid Soap Production Training and Entrepreneurship**

In a world where street-connected children are often marginalized and overlooked, a beacon of hope emerged on September 11, 2020. On this day, a pioneering initiative took place, in transforming the lives of these children forever.

On the said day, the initiative embarked on an exciting venture, empowering street-connected children by teaching them the art of hair-cream and liquid soap production. This engaging training session was led by Miss Elizabeth Odion, who expertly guided the children through the process of creating their own nourishing hair-cream.

Through active participation in the training, the children learned valuable skills such as hard work, creativity, and self-sufficiency. As they witnessed their efforts transform into a tangible product, a sense of accomplishment and pride filled the air. The produced hair-cream was then distributed among the children in small containers, providing them with a sense of ownership and confidence.

This initiative not only equipped the children with a valuable skill but also instilled in them the confidence to become entrepreneurs. By learning how to produce hair-cream and liquid soap, the children gained a sense of self-worth and the potential to generate income, thereby breaking the cycle of poverty.

In the words of Abraham Lincoln, "The best way to predict your future is to create it." This quote resonates with the spirit of the initiative, as these street-connected children have taken the first step in creating their own future, one that is filled with hope, promise, and endless possibilities.









#### **Building Bridges: Collaborating with Key Stakeholders**

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." - Helen Keller

This quote resonates with the heart of our initiative, where we believe that collaboration and partnership are essential in creating a meaningful impact. We took a significant step forward by paying courtesy visits to key stakeholders in the child development services sector.

In our efforts to transform the lives of street-connected children, we recognize the importance of building relationships with those who share our passion and commitment. We, on December 11th, 2020, paid courtesy visits to Mr. Akinola Toyin Kayode, Director of Child Development Services at the Governor's Office, Oke-Mosan, Mrs. Ajamolaya, Director of Juvenile Welfare Centre (J.W.C) at Lafenwa Police Station, and Officers at the Railway Police Station.

These visits provided valuable opportunities for us to foster collaborations and partnerships, raise awareness about our initiative and its impact, explore potential areas of support and resource sharing, and strengthen our network and reach more street-connected children. By building bridges with these stakeholders, we aim to amplify our efforts and create a broader positive impact on the lives of street-connected children. Together, we can make a difference!





#### JOIN the Movement:

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention." - Oscar Wilde

We welcome your participation and support in our initiative to transform the lives of street-connected children. Your involvement can bring about a significant positive impact on their lives.

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As we work together to empower street-connected children, we create a ripple effect of kindness, compassion, and hope. We look forward to hearing from you and exploring ways to work together.