



GLOBAL SUPPORT FOR KIDS INITIATIVE NIGERIA

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2022

2022

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ABOUT US

GLOBAL SUPPORT FOR KIDS INITIATIVE is a community based non-governmental, non-profit organization that is poised to minimize the incessant increase of child abuse in our society and give hope to street children. Article 27 of the Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC) declares that “States Parties recognize the right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child’s physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development”. Our children on the street are denied each of those rights, and that is why we work to make sure they are adequately cared for. GSK Initiative continuously strives to provide life-saving services to street children and at-risk youths. We are committed to providing food, clothing, and hygiene products, giving resource information and referrals. We have been operating since 2003 in Nigeria and our activities and campaign have recorded tremendous effects.

Global Support for Kids Initiative (GSK Initiative) aims to influence and initiate broad, positive change of children through:

- ❖ Researching and monitoring trends into children’s welfare, safety, well-being, peace and right.
- ❖ Informing and educating children on things that will help them to grow happily.
- ❖ Making children important when discussing issue related to their welfare.
- ❖ Conducting inquiries into issues important to children.
- ❖ Advising government, non-governmental agencies, organizations, partners and parents on issues relating to children development.

Our Vision:

Every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation.

Our Mission:

Support individuals and organizations working to protect children from Abuse and Neglect in Africa and the world in general.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



I extend my heartfelt gratitude for an incredibly productive year at GSKi. The dedication and commitment from everyone involved have been pivotal in achieving our goals. GSKi prioritizes the interests and safety of children, and our team remains deeply committed to this vision, striving to reach new heights together.

This annual report embodies the spirit of teamwork, which, as Andrew Carnegie once said, "is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." Through our collective efforts, we have propelled the organization forward.

Over the past year, we have forged strong connections with government ministries and law enforcement agencies to protect children's rights and ensure appropriate interventions in special cases. This progress would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our board of trustees, partners, dedicated staff, and volunteers.

As we enter the New Year, I am optimistic about our continued success. While the path may present challenges, I am confident that with your support and

determination, we will overcome them and make a significant impact on the lives of vulnerable children.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment and for being part of our journey in championing the cause of children.

Yours sincerely,

Opeyemi Olajide Olowookere

President / Executive Director

GSK INITIATIVE

COUNSELLING SESSION WITH THE COMMUNITIES AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN

The initiative is dedicated to reducing the rampant increase in child abuse and providing hope to street-connected children, has actively engaged the community to foster love, care, and attention towards these vulnerable children. In addition, on the 22nd January, GSKi organized counseling sessions aimed at addressing the effects of drug abuse and providing career and vocational guidance. The initiative recognizes the importance of empowering street-connected children to build a better present and future. Encourage them to develop an interest in learning a vocation that'll not only provide a source of income while in the street, but would have also empowered them for a more secured future. This approach has helped reduce crime rates among street-connected children. We envisioned a society where every street child can walk freely without being wrongfully accused of any crime.



EMPOWERING STREET-CONNECTED CHILDREN THROUGH EDUCATION

Many street-connected children have never had the opportunity to benefit from traditional schooling. To address this, GSKi on February 9th, 2022, launched a "school without walls" Programme. This is a groundbreaking literacy class aimed at tackling illiteracy and lack of formal education among street-connected children and youths at risk.

This deliberate attempt to address significant gaps in Nigeria's education sector, particularly for street children, is in line with the child rights law, which states that "every child deserves a better education." The literacy class covers essential subjects such as Mathematics, English language and Moral education

This provides a foundation for formal education and exposure to fundamental concepts.

The impact of the literacy class has been remarkable, with street-connected children now able to speak fluently in English language and demonstrate improved calculation skills

Through this continuous program, GSKi is committed to creating a supportive environment that fosters growth, well-being, and success for street-connected children, helping them overcome the challenges of illiteracy and reach their full potential for a brighter future.



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR STREET CHILDREN CELEBRATION (IDSC)

On April 12th, 2022, GSKi joined forces with organizations worldwide to commemorate the International Day for Street Children (IDSC). This year's theme, "Stories from the Street: Building Trust, Building Future," shone a light on the strength and resilience of millions of street children globally, as well as the dedicated front-line workers who support them.

To mark this special day, GSKi celebrated with our street-connected children at Lafenwa, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria. The event was a resounding success, featuring a range of activities that showcased the talents and skills of our young friends. Highlights of the IDSC celebration included entrepreneurial skills training (liquid soap and hand wash production); display of skills by our OVCs (Orphans and Vulnerable Children) in training; presentation of gifts to outstanding students in literacy class and vocational trainings and distribution of hygiene products

The event was graced by distinguished guests, including:

- Mrs. Adenike Ajala (Director of Child Development, Ministry of Women Affairs, Abeokuta, Ogun State)
- O/C Magret Kotiku, Inspector Sidikat Yakub, and Sergeant Modinat (Juvenile Welfare Centre, Lafenwa Police Station, Abeokuta)
- Mr. Soley Akingside (CPN Coordinator)

The program was a heartwarming and transformative experience, filled with joy, laughter, and a sense of community. We are grateful for the support and partnership of our guests and look forward to continuing our work with street-connected children.



GSK INI

OBOT GLORY GRADUATION FROM FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC ADO EKITI

We are thrilled to announce the graduation of Obot Glory, one of our Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVC) beneficiaries, from the Federal Polytechnic Ado Ekiti. Glory completed her Ordinary National Diploma (OND) in Science Laboratory Technology on November 15th, 2022.

Glory's academic journey with us began on May 26th, 2017, when she was in JSS2. We provided full sponsorship for her education, recognizing her potential and determination. Despite facing challenges, including the separation of her parents and the loss of her mother at a tender age, Glory persevered. Our organization supported her throughout her academic pursuits, paying school fees, providing educational materials, and assisting her grandmother financially to ensure her well-being.

Glory's hard work and dedication paid off when she excelled in her SSCE/WAEC exams in 2020. We continued to support her, covering tuition fees, accommodation, clothing, feeding, and providing a monthly stipend for her upkeep until she completed her OND.

We celebrate Glory's achievement and are proud to have played a part in her educational journey. Her success is a testament to the impact of our initiative and the potential of our OVC beneficiaries.



GSK INITIATIVE

TRAIN THE TRAINER

GSK Initiative organized a comprehensive three-day training session for its staff to enhance their knowledge and broaden their skills. The training, which took place from June 15th to 17th, 2022, was expertly facilitated by Mr. Akin Soley.

Key Training Highlights

Case Management

The staff learned effective strategies for managing cases, ensuring comprehensive support for beneficiaries.

Monitoring and Evaluation Participants gained insights into monitoring and evaluation techniques, enabling data-driven decision-making.

Developing a Plan of Action

Skills to create actionable plans, promoting efficient program implementation were equally acquired.

This training session demonstrated GSK Initiative's commitment to staff development and excellence in programming.





GSK INITIAL

IGNITING HOPE: REUNITING STREET-CONNECTED CHILDREN WITH THEIR FAMILIES

As an organization committed to our vision and mission, a key focus for 2022 was the reintegration of street-connected children back to their homes and families. Through research and physical evidence, we identified that not all cases require continued street involvement. Often, lack of parental care, love, and attention drove these children to the streets.

In response, we intensified our interventions; ensuring minor cases resulted in successful reintegration with adequate follow-up schedules by our staff. In 2022, GSKi proudly reconnected 20 children with their families!

This achievement was made possible through collaborative efforts with the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development and JWC units of Lafenwa Police stations, as many of these children were rescued from Lafenwa's streets.

Our dedication to reintegration continues, fueled by the belief that every child deserves a loving and supportive family environment.





GSK INITIATIVE

EMPOWERING FAMILIES, ENRICHING LIVES: GSKI'S PARENTAL EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

In 2022, GSKI empowered seven (7) parents of our Orphaned and Vulnerable Children (OVCs) with grinding and tailoring machines, marking a significant milestone in our efforts to support vulnerable families. This impactful program was graced by distinguished guests, including:

- Deputy Director, Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Development, Ekiti State
- CISHAN (Civil Society for HIV/AIDS in Nigeria)
- EKSACA (Ekiti State Agency for the Control of AIDS)
- Child Protection Network, Ekiti Chapter

The provision of grinding and tailoring machines will provide a sustainable financial livelihood for the families of our beneficiaries, enabling them to become self-sufficient and secure a brighter future for their children. This initiative is a testament to GSKI's commitment to empowering families and enriching lives.



FOSTERING COLLABORATION WITH MDAs AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

One of the core strengths of our organization is our ability to work in synergy with Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) and law enforcement agencies. We recognize that some of the children in our care may transgress against the law or misbehave, requiring police intervention. To ensure a harmonious relationship with our host communities and relevant organizations, we embark on advocacy visits. These visits have significantly contributed to the smooth running of our activities with the children.

We have had the privilege of visiting various police stations and ministries, and the receptions have always been tremendous. Our collaborative efforts have been met with enthusiasm, as these agencies and departments also believe in the power of partnerships. By working together, we can create a supportive environment for the children in our care and ensure their well-being.



CLIMATE CHANGE AWARENESS FOR STREET-CONNECTED CHILDREN

Climate change is a pressing global issue that affects everyone, including street-connected children. To address this, we have initiated a quarterly educational program to raise awareness among these children about the impacts of climate change on their well-being. The program aims to empower them with knowledge and skills to reduce the adverse effects of climate change on their lives.

By conducting this program on a quarterly basis, we aim to educate street-connected children about the causes and effects of climate change; inform them about simple actions they can take to reduce their carbon footprint encourage them to adopt sustainable practices in their daily lives and support them in developing resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Through this program, we hope to make a positive impact on the lives of street-connected children and contribute to a more sustainable future for all.



ADDRESSING SEXUAL GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV) AND TEENAGE PREGNANCY

In July 2022, GSKi collaborated with media personnel in Ekiti State to organize a program focusing on Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and teenage pregnancy. Recognizing the alarming rate of teenage pregnancy in our society, the initiative aimed to take prompt action to mitigate its effects.

During the program, media representatives from across the city were trained on how to report and capture stories related to children and develop educative programs to enlighten the public about SGBV, particularly in aspects affecting the girl child.

As a result of this program, GSKi successfully rescued five (5) teenage girls who were victims of teenage pregnancy.



AYOMIDE'S JOURNEY FROM VULNERABILITY TO VICTORY THROUGH GSKI'S SUPPORT

As part of our core functions at GSKI, we provided hope and support to street children and vulnerable individuals. One such individual is Akinwunmi Ayomide, an 18-year-old who was arrested and charged with stealing chin chin in Lafenwa, Abeokuta, Ogun State on August 30, 2022. With our support, Ayomide was discharged on November 7, 2022.

Ayomide had been living on the streets since he was a child and had turned to scavenging to survive. GSKI identified him and engaged him in our daily activities, and he showed an interest in learning a vocational skill - barbing. We enrolled him in a vocational center where he is currently undergoing training.

However, on August 30, 2022, Ayomide was scavenging near an incinerator when security agencies found a pack of stolen chin chin. He was arrested and charged with stealing. GSKI sprang into action, and with the help of the Child Protection Network Ogun Chapter, represented by Barrister Ademola Lapite, we appealed for his bail, which was granted.



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AS TWO INDIVIDUALS BENEFITED FROM OUR SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

September 28th marked a significant day for two deserving individuals, as our sponsorship program welcomed them back to school and assumed full responsibility for their academic advancement.



GSKI'S COMMITMENT TO ADVANCING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE (SDG4)

GSKi is steadfast in its dedication to supporting disadvantaged children in our society, with a keen focus on bridging the educational gap. Our initiative ensures that beneficiaries receive essential school materials, thereby aligning with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4). This goal underscores the significance of inclusive and equitable quality education, guaranteeing that no child is left behind. By providing vital educational resources, we reaffirm our belief in the fundamental right to quality education for all children. We are resolute in our commitment to creating a positive impact and fostering a brighter future for generations to come.



COMMEMORATION OF INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD (IDGC)

This year's International Day of the Girl Child (IDGC) was commemorated by our initiative, with the theme "Our Time is Now - Our Rights, Our Future" being celebrated at two schools: Trinity Comprehensive High School, Ijaiye, Abeokuta, Ogun State and United High School, Ilawe Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State.

The event aimed to sensitize girls about their rights in society and inspire them to become future leaders, policy makers, and responsible mothers.

The Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development Services was represented, along with other prominent women who encouraged the girls to be intentional in all their endeavors.



WORLD AIDS DAY 2022 CELEBRATION

The GSK Initiative, as a member of the Civil Society on HIV and AIDS (CiSHAN) Ekiti Chapter, joined forces with other member societies to commemorate World AIDS Day, 2022. This year's theme, "Equalize," was marked by awareness campaigns, sensitization of the general public about AIDS, and free testing for members of the society.

Observed annually on December 1st, World AIDS Day (WAD) is a global event that aims to promote awareness, reduce stigma, and advocate for people living with HIV and AIDS.

By participating in this year's commemoration, the GSK Initiative reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the global response to HIV and AIDS, and promoting health and well-being for all





GSK INTL

APPRENTICESHIP GRADUATION CEREMONY 2022

GSK Initiative celebrated the apprenticeship graduation of five of its beneficiaries in December 2022 at Providence Event Center, Abeokuta, Ogun State. The event was attended by distinguished guests, including Representative of the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Mrs. Ibrahim K.O., Child Protection Network (CPN NATIONAL) board member, Mrs. Peju Osoba, Representative of the Nigeria Police Force, Lafenwa, Abeokuta, SP Siraj Bello, NSCDC Ogun State representative, Officer Osho, and other friend organizations.

The graduating students, Olawale Pelumi, Oluwaferanmi Wasiu, Akinwunmi Ayomide, and Adeyemi Lekan, were prayed for by their bosses and family members. They received their certificates and tools from the GSK Initiative President, marking a significant milestone in their lives.





GET INVOLVED AS YOU GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

Join our community of change-makers and stay updated on our latest initiatives, events, and impact stories. We'd love to hear from you and explore ways to collaborate and make a difference together!

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