

THE RISING STAR

Editor's Note

Greetings from all of us at **Fair Life Africa Foundation!** The boys send their greetings and enclose their messages also... This month has been unlike any other, as we have seen the practicalities of our vision and been faced with the challenges of running a transit home. We have many to thank again this month; friends, teachers, trainers, donors and colleagues. Fair Life Africa hosted the **UNICEF** initiated **Lagos Child Protection Network** Meeting on the 12th of April, and also held a training under the umbrella of the **Forum for Child Practitioners Concerned With Street Children**, on the **Child's Rights Act 2003** for members. The **Street Child Agenda** aired on **Radio Continental 102.3fm** with government representatives and street experts (two of our boys). Read more and get inspired too...



My name is Frank. I am 15 years old. I lived with my parents. I left my house because my father and my mother always fight. I like Fair Life Africa because my future is moulded here. The staff are good and caring...

Meet The Boys...

Eight boys introduce themselves...with nicknames they adopted;

My name is Jangu Boy, I am 15 years old. I lived at Ikotun. I ran away from home to Oshodi and I met Fair Life Africa Foundation, and they helped me. I like rice and stew 😊

My name is Goodluck, I am 13 years old. I was in JSS2. I want to go back home and finish school, be an engineer and a footballer. I like computer games, mostly Bike Racing and Mortal Combat. My best food is yam and egg.

My name is Wasin. I am 14 years old. I am from Abeokuta (Ogun State). My father is dead. I used to live with my aunty, where I was learning to barb hair, but I stole money from my boss. I met a friend who took me to Kuramo, where I met Fair Life Africa. I used to pack dirt there and made up to N500 daily. I like Fair Life Africa

My name is Yusuf. I am 13 years old. I come from Igbo-Ora (Oyo State) and lived with my parents. I ran to Oshodi, and did manual jobs, washing plates and selling pure water. One day, I saw Brother Ayo and Sister Tope, and they brought me to Fair Life Africa's home

My name is GG. I am 15 years old. I was in JSS1 at home. When I was playing at Kuramo, Brother Ayo called me. I ran away because of my father. My fave food is rice and beans. I want to finish school and be a journalist.

My name is Body Monk. I lived at Ebuta Metta. I am 16 years old. I left my home to Kuramo Beach, because they used to beat me. I want Fair Life Africa to help me go back home and to school and to learn work. I used to learn tailoring. God bless.

My name is Ted. I am 13 years old. I lived at Oworo. I ran away from my house because they beat me, so I stayed in the streets. When Fair Life Africa saw me, they take me away from the street. I want them to take me back home and send me to school. My best food is Indomie. God bless Fair Life Africa.



FAIR LIFE AFRICA FOUNDATION

THE RISING STAR

Mr Toyin Odugbemi teaches the children Tie and Dye on Friday afternoons...



Special visit from the Smiths with an inspirational message for the boys by one of their own, Tom, whom FLA rescued.



Fair Life Africa hosts the Child Protection Network Lagos Meeting

OUR OBJECTIVES

To enrich the lives of the most impoverished in society; To support and empower the most vulnerable members of society, enabling them to live a fair life; To effect positive changes in their lives through social initiatives and programs

www.fairlifeafrica.org

www.facebook.com/fairlifeafrica

Protecting and Empowering

The **CCC Respite Home** is open and operating, and offers children that have been on the streets shelter from the elements, protection from exploiters and empowers them with various training and tutoring provided at the centre daily. **Mr Toyin Odugbemi** has been coming weekly to teach them Tie and Dye, while **Mr Desmond Awere** comes to teach IT Literacy. **Mrs Chinyere Udoekwere** takes them twice weekly for English (Wednesdays) and Maths (Fridays). We appreciate all!

The children are first seen and interviewed by our support workers on the streets, and invited to the home for further assessments by our social workers weekly. When at the centre, they receive one to one counseling, participate in group counseling and competitions, and are supported on home tracing and visits by support and social workers. The eight children with us have received medical tests and necessary treatment. Their parents or guardians have been located, and most have visited the Home, some severally. We have the capacity to support twelve at a time, and are ready to receive referrals from other agencies, particularly for boys under 12 years old.

Hosting Old Friends

Tom, his grandmother and uncle, visited the Respite Home with plenty blessings in tow. They were pleased to see the centre, and encouraged the children to commit to the process of rehabilitation and reconciliation. Tom shared his story with the boys, and Mrs Smith prayed for them too. Fair Life Africa also hosted a gathering of friends, the Child Protection Network, inaugurated by UNICEF in Lagos. The monthly meeting was facilitated by **Barr. Taiwo Akinlami**, and enabled colleagues to discuss the wide ranging issues facing organizations supporting vulnerable children.

Advocacy Corner

The Child's Rights Acts 2003 Training organized by the Forum for the Forum held successfully on the 16th of April at the Staff Training Centre, **University of Lagos**. Representatives from the **National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons (NAPTIP)** and the **Lagos State Ministry of Justice** were present to contribute also.



WATCH THIS SPACE

FAIR LIFE AFRICA FOUNDATION

THE RISING STAR

To whom honour is due...

Supporters this month, whose contribution Fair Life Africa wishes to recognize, are:

Financial Contributions

- Standard Alliance Insurance Ltd
- Synetics Technologies Ltd
- Sule Otun
- Samuel Odusanya
- Orerhime Iwuagwu
- Funmi Momodu
- Uzo Onumonu
- Femi Adelekan
- Mr and Mrs Tunde Aliu
- Nelson Egboboh
- Ms T. Aiah
- Madam Cordelia
- Pastor Bankole and friends
- GGUK Anonymous

Friends With Initiative

- Jumoke Aliu
- Henry Nwoko
- Maro Majoroh
- Sharon Russel

Physical Donations

- Nonso Okpala
- Keeping It Real Foundation
- Toyin Odugbemi
- Chinyere Udoekwere

Professional Support

- Olanrewaju Fajimi
- Damola Modile
- Famino Bode, LAWMA
- Marcellina Ihenacho, NTA
- Novacom
- Tosh Design Solutions
- Juvenile Welfare Centre, Alakara
- University of Lagos
- Freedom Foundation
- The Reachout Team
- Taiwo Akinlami Inspires
- Nigeria Network of NGOs
- National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons
- Lagos State Ministry of Justice
- Lagos State Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation
- Street Child Care and Welfare Initiative
- LOTS Charity Foundation
- Care Trust Foundation

Teachers and Mentors

- Chinyere Udoekwere
- Toyin Odugbemi
- Desmond Awere
- Tom and Family

PLEASE DONATE ONLINE

<http://www.globalgiving.co.uk/pr/9200/proj9103a.html>

Corporate Partner and Sponsors



COLLABORATE WITH US!

Sponsor a Child with
Fair Life Africa Foundation
fairlifeafrica@gmail.com



At the Executive Table...with Mr Richie Dayo Johnson, Mr Ojekunle and Sammy of RC102.3fm

WANT TO HELP?

EMAIL: CCCINITIATIVE@GMAIL.COM

OR CALL US ON 08058711125



FAIR LIFE AFRICA FOUNDATION

THE RISING STAR

The Street Child Agenda

If you missed the Street Child Agenda this month, you really missed! It was a month packed with personalities and experts. The regional zonal head of NAPTIP, **Mr Taofeek A. Odetunde** attended to share his insights on child labour, while **Mrs Alaba Fadairo**, from the **Lagos State Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA)**, made the connection between child development and poverty. **Miss Tolulope Sangosanya** of **LOTS Charity Foundation**, **Miss Comfort Alli** of **Street Child Care and Welfare Initiative** and **Mr Olakunle Sanni** of **Care Trust Foundation** also joined **Ms Ufuoma Emerhor** to talk about the 'Youths Making a Difference' through social initiatives. Two boys from the Home, one from Oshodi and the other from Kuramo Beach, accompanied Ufuoma to talk about the issues from the child's perspective, on a show themed 'The Real Experts'. The **May 1st** episode will feature **Mrs Christianah Akindolie**, Founder of **Christianah Fate Foundation**, to discuss child sexual abuse. Do remember to tune in to RC102.3fm at 11am this Tuesday.



The Matron's Report

This report comes with smiles and tears, for the delights and the challenges of such a project. Looking after children is never easy, but several different children from different origins, and life experiences, who share the common anguish of having lived on the streets, is definitely a different ball game altogether. It has been a great learning experience for the team, as well as the boys. The first rule of the house, which has been tried and tested twice by one particular child is simple: *you are free to leave*. This presents a dilemma, but it is a true test of their commitment to the rehabilitation process. Faced with the disciplines of the home, children often runaway from rehabilitation homes, but when the door is *relatively* open, and the home conducive and caring, leaving is what is scary! Our 'No Fighting' rule and teaching on Conflict Resolution is also molding the boys to be gentler and less aggressive, which is their natural instinct, enhanced by street living. Each day we record progress, and our Good Behaviour Chart will soon be ripe for rewards. Tomorrow, they are looking forward to celebrating our first **Monthly Birthday Party** for April celebrants! We hope you'll celebrate with us soon ☺

Join Us Today!

We are growing on Facebook (www.facebook.com/fairlifeafrica), and are active on Twitter too... Get the latest news by following us or adding us to your blackberry messenger (**23BD744D**). Your donations (cash, kind or skills) are much needed. We are still committed to being an open and accountable organization for the people, and look forward to updating you on our progress. Have an inspired month!



Please Donate to
Fair Life Africa Foundation

Guaranty Trust Bank
214/795111/110 – Naira
214/795111/210 – US \$
214/795111/310 – UK £



Next issue out 25th May 2012

FAIR LIFE AFRICA FOUNDATION