



19th November, 2021.

## Greetings!

You are receiving this mail because you are a friend (or a friend of a friend ☺) of Linking Hands Foundation (LHF).

This is to again **THANK YOU** for believing in and supporting our charity efforts to promote Solid Education, Sound Health and Strong Values across Nigerian children.

Yes, it's been a while, but be rest assured that you have remained in our thoughts and prayers. We are mindful of the times that we are in, and the great impact and multiple adjustments it has brought to us as individuals, families, groups and organisations. This is the primary reason we did not have any "donation drive" or fund raisers in 2020.

We are thankful to everyone who has continued to support us prayerfully and financially towards keeping our work going. Our prayer is for God's continued mercy and grace to keep upholding us and the works of our hands.

As part of LHF's family, we would like to share with you, what we have been "quietly up to" in the last one year, and our major commitments/ undertakings to support children's education, health and values in the 2021-2022 academic year, which started in September, 2021.

Please see summaries below for a quick read (Pages 1 - 4), with details provided in the appendix.



## SUMMARY OF 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

S/NO	PROJECT/ ACTIVITY	RESULTS
1.	<b>COVID-19 Lockdown Support</b>	<p>* Financial support was given to the 40 families of our No Limits Education Project (NLEP) children and 10 families of children whose medical and other urgent needs had been supported by LHF in the past</p> <p>* Between April and October, 2020, LHF provided succor to ~1,800 families/9,000 people across 18 communities. Relief bags containing foodstuff and hygiene materials were distributed across 16 indigent communities in Lagos and daily feeding was provided for 2 weeks to 2 IDP communities in Abuja through LBI's Feeding Project</p>
2.	<b>Continued Education for our No Limits Education Project (NLEP) Children in Primary School</b>	45 in public primary schools and 5 in community primary school
3.	<b>Continued Education for our NLEP Children in Secondary School</b>	2 in public secondary schools and 1 in community secondary school
4	<b>"Stop Open Defecation" in 3 public primary schools by keeping their toilets clean</b>	Monthly purchase of toilet cleaning and hygiene supplies & consumables for 3 schools, and salaries for 3 toilet cleaners
5.	<b>Education Support for Internally Displaced Children</b>	50 internally displaced children sponsored in partnership with Life Builders' Initiative for Education and Societal Integration (LBI) to her School Without Walls (SWW)
6.	<b>Urgent school repairs</b>	LHF repaired the broken pipes and taps across 3 public primary schools, the wiring required for running water in one of the schools' toilets and a broken fence within the schools' compound
7.	<b>LHF'S Head, Heart &amp; Hands (H3) Initiative</b>	Supported the very impactful community service initiatives of 2 teenagers
8	<b>2019: Saving Children's Hearts</b>	Facilitated the donation of \$5,500 for life-saving heart surgery for 1 child by Hospitals for Humanity (HfH)



## SUMMARY OF 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR GOALS

S/NO	PROJECT/ ACTIVITY	AMOUNT
1.	Continued Education for our No Limits Education Project (NLEP) Children in Primary School – 42 Pupils at N35,000 each	N1,470,000
2.	* Continued Education for our NLEP Children in Secondary School – 11 Students at N45,000 each * Vocational Education for our NLEP Children in Secondary School – 11 Students at N40,000 each	N495,000 N440,000
3.	“Stop Open Defecation” in 3 public primary schools by keeping their toilets clean – one-time purchase of cleaning equipment & materials, monthly purchase of cleaning & hygiene consumables, monthly salaries of 3 cleaners	N1,170,000
4.	Education of internally displaced children to Life Builders’ Initiative’s (LBI) School Without Walls (SWW), Kuchingoro IDP Camp & Area 1, FCT, Abuja – At least 50 children at N45,000 each	N2,250,000
5.	Installation of White Boards in 3 public primary schools – 50 units at N35,000 each	N1,750,000
6.	Teaching assistants in 3 public primary schools – 3 employees at N25,000 each monthly	N900,000
7.	Life-saving open-heart surgery in partnership with Hospitals for Humanity (HfH) – 2 children at N2,000,000 each	N4,000,000
8.	Other LHF and partnership charity projects & activities in alignment with our vision & mission like LHF’s H3 Initiative, BooksForME, Volunteer children’s outreaches to orphanages, indigent communities & hospitals, conferences, sports, food drives	N2,500,000
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>N14,975,000</b>

### HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT:

- **Join in!** TOGETHER, we can do much more
- **Reach out** to your friends and family to also join in
- **Make** one-time or periodic (monthly, quarterly, bi-annually) **donations**
- **Donate** as an individual, a group/ team or an organisation
- **Create your own drive/ campaign** with any of the needs mentioned above on behalf of LHF with your friends, family, colleagues etc.: **you can pull a team/ group together to support as one**

**LINKING HANDS FOUNDATION**



As we say at LHF, “Your bit makes up the BIG”! Please do not hold back; your support in any way goes a long way to make positive & lasting impacts on the lives of these precious children. Please include them in your immediate, end-of-year 2021 and/or short-term or long-term financial plans.

**Kindly make your donations to:**

Account Name - Linking Hands Foundation  
Bank Name – GT Bank, Adetokunbo Ademola Branch  
Branch Sort Code – 058152146  
NGN Account Number – 0210438649  
USD Account Number – 0226925937  
GBP Account Number – 0226925951

Please reach out via email or telephone for any clarification and/ or additional information.

These children are counting on us; with your giving, **TOGETHER**, let’s continue to invest in them today, and give them hope of a bright tomorrow.

We **THANK YOU** and look forward to your invaluable support.

***Please scroll back to our 2021-2022 academic year goals’ summary list as well as tips on how you can support and TAKE ACTION! 😊***

**Efe FARINRE (Mrs.)**

**Founder, Linking Hands Foundation – LHF**

LINKING HANDS FOUNDATION



# APPENDIX



## 1. COVID-19 LOCKDOWN SUPPORT

LHF deeply appreciates the people and organisations that enabled us to provide financial and feeding support to indigent children and their families during the Covid-19 lockdown period. Through your giving, families did not have to go to bed hungry or worry about where their next meals would come from.

Financial support was given to the 40 families of our No Limits Education Project (NLEP) children and 10 families of children whose medical and other urgent needs had been supported by LHF in the past.

Through the generous giving of our friends, as well as foodstuff and hygiene material donations from WIMBIZ (Women in Management, Business and Public Service), Funtana Eggs Nigeria and Lagos Food Bank Initiative (LFBI), between April and October, 2020, LHF provided succor to ~1,800 families/9,000 people across 18 communities. Relief bags containing foodstuff and hygiene materials were distributed across 16 indigent communities in Lagos and daily feeding was provided for 2 weeks to 2 IDP communities in Abuja through Life Builders' Initiative for Education and Societal Integration's (LBI) Feeding Project.

## 2. CONTINUED EDUCATION FOR OUR NO LIMITS EDUCATION PROJECT (NLEP) CHILDREN

### 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR UPDATE

You will recall that 60 of the out-of-school children whose families were violently displaced from their Otodo-Gbame slum community to Makoko in 2017, and 1 child-mechanic, who had never been to school, were enrolled at our NLEP Learning Centre in February, 2018.

With a generous anonymous donation, these children were given intensive academic and etiquette classes over 6 months, including free daily snacks, a healthy meal-a-day, uniforms, bags & water bottles, shoes & socks, books & stationery etc. They were then integrated successfully into Lagos State Public Primary Schools in September, 2018, to continue with their education.

We are immensely proud of these champions, who continue to excel in academics and character at their schools.



In the 2020-2021 school year, 2 of them moved up to secondary school and 8 more have joined them this 2021-2022 school year, making 10 secondary school NLEP children.

We now have 53 children (37 in public primary schools, 10 in public secondary schools as well as 5 in a community primary school and 1 in a community secondary school) under our NLEP umbrella. Some of our children have moved away with their families and we are working on getting a couple of them back to school after the break in their education during the COVID-19 lockdown.

We have realised that as the children get older, it is more enriching for them to be formally enrolled in skill-based trainings, in addition to their academic pursuits. We are therefore including this vocational education opportunity in support of our 11 secondary school students.

### **2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR PLAN/ GOAL**

N35,000 per child is therefore needed for our 42 children, in primary school, **totaling N1,470,000.00**

and

N45,000 per child is needed for our 11 children in secondary school, **totaling N495,000.00**

*This amount covers school uniforms & berets, shoes & socks, bags, stationery & supplies, sports-wear, books and any dues.*

also

N40,000 per child is needed for our 11 secondary school students' vocational education/skill-based trainings, **totaling N440,000.00**

*The available options as at now from which the children will choose based on their interests are tailoring, shoemaking and hairdressing.*

### **3. "STOP OPEN DEFECACTION" WITH CLEAN TOILETS IN 3 PRIMARY SCHOOLS 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR UPDATE**

On 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2019, LHF took Shalina Healthcare Nigeria's "The Child Project" to the 3 public primary schools our NLEP children attend, which occupy the same compound. The Child Project is aimed at keeping Nigeria worm free through health and awareness talks, and deworming. At our outing at these 3 schools, about 3,000 children were dewormed.





*Note: Worms infect more than one third of the world's population, with the most intense infections in children and the poor. Worms are everywhere and contaminate public areas such as schools and playgrounds. The infection is long-term and chronic, and can negatively affect all aspects of a child's development: health, nutrition, cognitive development, learning and educational access and achievement.*

One of the major causes of worms is open defecation. We found out that the pupils in these 3 schools struggle with this, both at home due to a lack of toilets in indigent communities where most of them live, and at school where the toilets were not well maintained. Aside dilapidation, none of the 3 schools had dedicated cleaners for the toilets.

As LHF's way to "walk the talk", and with the generosity of our donors, in the last 2 academic sessions, we have taken on the financial responsibility associated with keeping the toilets in these 3 schools clean and usable for the pupils, which includes purchase of cleaning and water storage equipment and materials, monthly payments of salaries of 3 toilet cleaners as well as for the supply of soap and antiseptic for washing the 3 school toilets.

Also, just before resumption in September 2021 for this academic session, LHF repaired the broken pipes and taps across the 3 schools, the wiring required for running water in one of the schools' toilets and a broken fence within the schools' compound.

### **2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR PLAN/ GOAL**

For the session, the amount needed to continue with our Stop Open Defecation campaign includes:

- \* Purchase of cleaning and storage equipment & materials for 3 schools: **N150,000**
- \* Monthly Salary for 3 Cleaners: **N540,000.00**
- \* Monthly purchase of toilet cleaning and hygiene supplies & consumables for 3 schools: **N480,000.00**

**Totalling N1,170,000.00** to keep the toilets in all 3 schools clean for the 2021-2022 academic year.





#### **4. EDUCATION SUPPORT FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED CHILDREN 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR UPDATE**

After our visit to IDP Communities in Nasarawa and FCT Abuja, in 2016, LHF started to sponsor the education of children internally displaced by insurgents, in partnership with Life Builders Initiative for Education and Societal Integration (LBI). These children attend LBI's School Without Walls (SWW) at New Kuchingoro IDP Camp and Area 1, FCT, Abuja.

This 2021-2022 academic session will mark our 6<sup>th</sup> cycle of this endeavour.

In the 2020-2021, through another yard sale by a friend of LHF dedicated to raising funds for this initiative and a donation received from another friend of LHF specifically for this, LHF was able to sponsor the education of 50 internally displaced children to LBI's SWW.

#### **2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR PLAN/ GOAL**

The cost of sponsoring an internally displaced child to SWW's Kindergarten or Primary School for the 2021-2022 academic session is **N45,000.**

*This amount covers school supplies – books, stationery, uniforms, a meal-a-day, skill-based training and healthcare.*

For the 2021-2022 academic session, LHF's goal is to sponsor at least 50 internally displaced to SWW, **totaling N2,250,000.00.**

**\*Please note that for this support, donations will be received till 31st December, 2021.**

#### **5. WHITE VS BLACK BOARDS IN CLASSROOMS**

Most of the classrooms in the 3 primary schools our NLEP children attend have aged or broken black boards. Aside struggling to wipe them after each use, the chalk particles are a health concern to the pupils, especially those with allergies and respiratory issues.

For this academic session, LHF's goal is to place 50 white boards across these 3 schools according to their needs, at a cost of N35,000.00 each, **totaling N1,750,000.00.**



## 6. TEACHING SUPPORT IN 3 PRIMARY SCHOOLS

As is well known about Nigerian public schools, the teacher-student ratio is very high. It is therefore common for schools to seek support from NGOs and parents in volunteering time and/or making financial provisions for teaching assistants.

The 3 primary schools our NLEP children attend all need this support, and starting this session, our goal is to place one teaching assistant in each of the 3 schools at a cost of N25,000 per person monthly, **totaling N900,000.00** for the entire session.

## 7. SAVING CHILDREN'S HEARTS

LHF has been friends with Hospital for Humanity (HfH) since we started operations in 2016. HfH is a non-profit healthcare organisation headquartered in Georgia, USA and also registered in Nigeria as an NGO.

LHF partners with HfH in addressing Congenital Heart Defects (CHD), which affects a significant portion of children in Nigeria.

To reduce the number of children living with CHD in Nigeria, in the first quarter of 2022, HfH will be having the Grand Opening of her Paediatric Cardiac Hospital in FCT, Abuja where children would be offered free open-heart surgery, a first of its kind in Africa.

Since 2014, HfH has collaborated with Nigerian hospitals to locally provide open heart corrective surgeries to children born with congenital cardiac defects. In Nigeria, over 1500 children have been screened and Pediatric Cardiothoracic (open heart) surgeries and Cardiac Catheterizations have been performed on fifty-nine (59) patients with a 96% success rate at care & management rate, comparable to any first-class institution in the world. Currently, HfH has a revolving list of over 1500 children with congenital heart disease.

HfH has reduced the cost of surgery from \$112,000 per child as obtainable in the United States to \$5,500 performing it in Nigeria, through innovative cost saving measures and working with a team of experts who volunteer to perform these surgeries at no cost.

In 2019, LHF facilitated the donation of \$5,500 for 1 of the 14 children who received life-saving heart surgery by HfH.



### 2021-2022 PLAN/ GOAL

As HfH returns to Nigeria in the first quarter of 2022 for another round of paediatric open-heart surgeries, LHF's goal is to raise the funds required to give 2 children a new lease on life by saving their hearts. **N4,000,000.00 is required in total** so that together, we can help these children enjoy a healthy childhood and live out their full potentials.

### 8. LHF'S HEAD, HEART & HANDS (H3) INITIATIVE

This initiative supports projects and programmes created by teenagers to give of themselves to humanity and the world, from their skills and abilities (Head), passion (Heart) and works (Hands).

LHF's H3 Initiative has had two impactful outings so far:

- Flourishma (Flourish My Abilities) Art & Craft Outreach by Fara Farinre, on 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2021
- LoveMySkin™ Campaign and Education Outreach by Dolapo Audrey Ajakaye, on 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2021

Details and pictures of these events will be shared on our official communication platforms.

### 2021-2022 PLAN/ GOAL

In alignment with our vision to equip today's children to become tomorrow's leaders, and our mission to make positive and lasting impacts on humanity and society, it is LHF's commitment to connect with more children, as well as engage more children volunteers in our charity projects and activities. We therefore look forward to:

- Welcoming and supporting the community service projects of more teenagers through LHF's H3 Initiative
- Placing more LHF BooksForME Library Cabinets in indigent communities
- Continuing in our efforts to bridge the gaps across classes of Nigerian children through our Adopt-A-Buddy and Share-A-Snack Initiatives, as we take our children volunteers on outreaches to orphanages, indigent communities and hospitals
- Partnering in programmes that touch, transform & add value to the lives of children like health outreaches, education support, conferences, character building self & improvement initiatives, food drives, sports, notable celebrations etc.

For 2021-2022, LHF's goal is to raise a sum **totaling N2,500,000.00** to finance our other charity projects and activities, in addition to those in numbers 2 - 7 above.