



*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.*

*We are thankful to every person, group and organisation who has continued to support us prayerfully, financially and with words of encouragement towards keeping our work going. May God reward you immeasurably more. Amen.*

*As part of LHF's family, we would like to share with you, our work in the last academic year, 2023-2024, as well as our commitments/undertakings in continuing to support children's education, health and values in the upcoming 2024-2025 academic year, starting this September.*

*With the understanding of the times that we are in, LHF is profoundly grateful for your commitment to support the children we serve the best you can.*

*Please keep sharing – **THANK YOU!***

*Yours faithfully,*

*Efe FARINRE*

*Founder, Linking Hands Foundation (LHF)*



**SUMMARY OF 2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

S/NO	PROJECT/ ACTIVITY	RESULTS
1.	<b>Continued Education for our No Limits Education Project (NLEP) Children in Primary School</b>	6 children in public primary schools received needed school supplies for the academic session.
2.	<b>Continued Education for our NLEP Children in Secondary School</b>	30 children in public secondary school and 6 children in community secondary school received needed school supplies for the academic session.
3.	<b>“Stop Open Defecation” in 3 public primary schools by keeping their toilets clean</b>	Financed the monthly purchase of toilet cleaning and hygiene supplies & consumables for 3 schools/~3,000 pupils, and salaries for 3 toilet cleaners.
4.	<b>Sports Support to 3 public primary schools</b>	Provided financial support for interhouse sports competitions.
5.	<b>Sports Support to 1 public secondary school</b>	Provided financial support for interhouse sports competitions.
6.	<b>National Orthopaedic Hospital Igbobi Christmas Outreach</b>	LHF children & adult volunteers, along with Santa & his daughter, visited the paediatric wards & outpatients at Igbobi Hospital to sing carols (with a drummer among our volunteer children) & share gifts (nicely packed by our volunteer children) and Ribena drinks to children there during the festive season.
7.	<b>Canoe hand over for entrepreneurship</b>	Towards encouraging entrepreneurship in our NLEP children and creating an opportunity for them to meet some of their financial needs, LHF built and presented a canoe to them in December 2023, to be used for “transportation business” after school hours and at the weekends
8.	<b>End-of-Year Celebration</b>	Supported the 2023 Community of Sant’Egidio Christmas Lunch for 1,500 indigent children in the Makoko, Sogunro and Oko-Agbon communities.
9.	<b>Rebuild Topgoodness School Jakande Initiative</b>	Following the demolition of the primary and secondary schools of these 261 children in April, 2024, LHF kicked off this campaign to get these children back to school and learning again.
10.	<b>Hospitals for Humanity Saving Little Hearts Gala 2023</b>	LHF children volunteers participated in the fundraising gala as instrumentalists for the Nigerian National Anthem and presenter of the bios of awardees
11.	<b>Children’s Day Celebration</b>	This year’s Children’s Day event was held to encourage the pupils of Topgoodness Schools, Jakande. LHF appreciates the donations of water bottles & school socks from PriceWise.

Please view photos on our social media platforms: [@linkinghandsfoundation](#) on IG & FB



**SUMMARY OF 2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR GOALS**

S/NO	PROJECT/ ACTIVITY	EST. COST
1.	<b>Continued Education for our No Limits Education Project (NLEP) Children in Senior Secondary School – 10 students at N120,000 each</b> – 8 students in public secondary school and 2 students in community secondary school, 7 of them starting a new school <i>This amount covers school uniforms &amp; berets/caps, shoes &amp; socks, bags, stationery &amp; supplies, sports-wear, books and any dues</i>	<b>N1,200,000</b>
2.	<b>Continued Education for our No Limits Education Project (NLEP) Children in Junior Secondary School – 32 students at N100,000 each</b> – 28 Students in public school (6 of them starting a new school) and 4 students in community secondary school <i>This amount covers school uniforms &amp; berets/caps, shoes &amp; socks, bags, stationery &amp; supplies, sports-wear, books and any dues</i>	<b>N3,200,000</b>
4.	<b>Vocational Education for our NLEP Children in Secondary School – 36 Students in public secondary school at N75,000 each</b> <i>The available options as at now from which the children will choose based on their interests are tailoring, shoemaking and hairdressing</i>	<b>N2,700,000</b>
5.	<b>Installation of White Boards in 3 public primary schools – 50 units at N150,000 each</b>	<b>N7,500,000</b>
6.	<b>Other LHF and partnership charity projects &amp; activities in alignment with our vision &amp; mission and 3 focus areas of Education, Health and Values:</b> Outreaches to orphanages, indigent communities and hospitals, education and health support to past LHF beneficiaries and other children in need, relevant/impactful conferences, sports support, food drives, LHF's H3 Initiative , BooksForME, PassOnTheBooks, etc.	<b>N20,000,000</b>
7.	<b>Canoes for entrepreneurship for our NLEP Children</b> <i>This amount covers the cost of building 5 canoes</i>	<b>N900,000</b>
8.	<b>BuildingME Initiative for NLEP Children</b> <i>This amount covers the cost of planning and holding at least 6 mentorship meetings, events and programmes</i>	<b>N1,500,000</b>
9.	<b>Rebuild Topgoodness Schools Jakande</b> <i>This amount covers land lease for one year, building supplies &amp; materials, school furniture, laboratory equipment, school books, logistics, workmanship etc.</i> <i>Please click on the link below to watch our campaign video created by one of our LHF children volunteers, with background music “Cry For Help” &amp; voice over by her, and additional voice over by pupils and students of Topgoodness Schools, Jakande</i> <a href="#">LHF's Rebuild Topgoodness Schools Jakande Project Campaign Video</a>	<b>N15,000,000</b>
10.	<b>Life-saving paediatric open-heart surgery in partnership with Hospitals for Humanity (HfH) – At least 8 children at N5,000,000 each</b>	<b>N40,000,000</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**
- **Sponsor** one or more projects/activities **in full or in part**
- **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**

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 2024 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.

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

***Please scroll back to our 2024-2025 academic year goals’ summary list as well as tips on how you can support and TAKE ACTION! 😊***



## GLOSSARY

### **NO LIMITS EDUCATION PROJECT (NLEP) CHILDREN**

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 and the support of The Education Partnership (TEP) Centre, Corona School Victoria Island and NauNau Foods, these children were given FREE 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 with the support of Lagos State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) in September, 2018, to continue with their education.

We are immensely proud of the champions who have prioritised their education, and who continue to excel in character and academics at their schools.

### **VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

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. This also allows us to continue to “make a case for education” with their parents, who mostly see it as an opportunity cost to the pursuit of added family income through trading, fishing etc. We are therefore including this vocational education opportunity in support of our 36 public secondary school students.

### **“STOP OPEN DEFECTION” WITH CLEAN TOILETS**

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 and hygienic for use. Aside dilapidation and limited to no running water, 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 5 academic sessions, we have taken on the financial responsibility associated with keeping the toilets in these 3 schools clean and usable for the ~3,000 pupils daily. This includes purchase of cleaning and water storage equipment and materials, monthly payments of salaries of 3 toilet cleaners as well as payment for the supply of soap and antiseptic for washing the 3 school toilets.

**WHITE BOARDS IN CLASSROOMS**

Most of the classrooms in the 3 primary schools our NLEP children attended 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.

**OTHER LHF AND PARTNERSHIP CHARITY PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES IN ALIGNMENT WITH OUR VISION & MISSION**

**\*Children's Day & Christmas Outreaches**

This is part of 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.

**\*BooksForME**

This is part of our Readers-are-Leaders Initiative which places libraries made of metal cabinets and filled with reading books in indigent communities. **Our goal is to place 4-6 this session.**

**\*Head, Heart & Hands (H3) Initiative**

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

**\*Pass on the Books**

This is aimed at passing on used and in excellent condition text books to low cost/community school owners and teachers for use in their lessons and classroom.

**\*Others/General**

Initiating, supporting and partnering in programmes that touch, transform and add value to the lives of children, like health outreaches, education support, conferences, character building, self & improvement initiatives, food drives, sports, notable celebrations etc. Also supporting the education and health of past LHF beneficiaries and other children in need.

**CANOE DONATION FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Many of us have never had reason to think of the "opportunity cost of getting an education." Should children go to school today for the hope of a bright tomorrow, or can that "bright tomorrow" start today? For most children with uneducated parents, this is a constant struggle. This reality has made it one of our goals to ensure that our NLEP children learn a skill alongside their formal education. While it has been challenging raising the needed funds, our children and their needs e.g., personal pocket money, are growing.





In 2023, we were able to build our first canoe & present it to them. In enabling them to develop entrepreneurial skills, they take turns (only children who placed top 15 in exams) after homework during the week & weekends to use the canoe for “transportation business.” For each day, they hand over an agreed amount to our community oversight person c/o Mr. James aka “Baba Ile-iwe,” and they keep the rest as profit.

**BuildingME INITIATIVE FOR NLEP CHILDREN**

Manners Matter and Ethics Empower; LHF is introducing a mentorship programme for our NLEP children under our BuildingME Initiative. Our goal is to ensure our children can fit and function excellently well anywhere in society. As such, we intend to connect each of them to volunteers who will support their character formation, overall growth and achievement of their goals through moral guidance, academic advisory etc. BUT no required financial responsibility.

**If you would like to volunteer to be a mentor, please reach out to us.**

**REBUILD TOPGOODNESS SCHOOLS, JAKANDE**

LHF has for years been supporting Mr. James’ (Baba Ile-iwe) unwavering commitment to give Otodogbame and other indigent children the advantage of education at Topgoodness Schools (Otodogbame slum community before its demolition, Jakande, Oke Ira Nla, Badore, Ikorodu). In April, 2024, 261 children of Topgoodness Schools, Jakande lost their homes and schools when their slum community was demolished. While we may not be able to build homes for the affected families, we can link hands to restore the hope of these precious ones through education, by rebuilding their school – land, building materials, school furniture, equipment and infrastructure etc.

**SAVING LITTLE HEARTS**

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

HfH’s Paediatric Cardiothoracic Surgical Initiative (PCSI), has significantly reduced the cost of surgery per child by over 90% of the cost obtainable in the United States, through innovative cost saving measures and working with a team of experts who volunteer to perform these surgeries at no cost.

LHF is introducing the **From My Heart For Your Heart Initiative**, which will be a dedicated fundraising drive primarily in partnership with schools/educational institutions/pupils/students for life saving surgeries for children during HfH’s annual surgical programmes and later on, at the first FREE Paediatric Cardiology Hospital in Africa, being built by HfH in FCT Abuja.