TITLE: ENSURING THE BEST INTEREST OF THE NIGERIAN CHILD

With your support, in the period under review, we carried out the following initiatives:

CECE YARA'S SAFE KIDS AWARENESS TRAINING PROGRAMME (SKAP)

We trained a total of 2,134 school children aged 5-18 in the following low-income public schools in Abuja, Nigeria:

- LEA Primary School, Ubosharu
- Junior Secondary School, Wako

The children were taught to identify their private parts, enforce body boundaries, case reporting, how to establish safe relationships, and how to use community resources to protect themselves from abuse. In attendance were officials from Ministry of Education, Universal Basic Education Board (UBEB), Junior/Senior Education Board (JSEB) Abuja Municipal Area Council and Kwali Area Council.

- LEA Primary School, Koroko
- Junior Secondary School, Kwaita.



CECE YARA'S ADULT AWARENESS TRAINING

A total of **213** key community stakeholders were trained in our Adults Awareness Programme, across the following low-income communities in Abuja, Nigeria:

- Kwaita-Hausa Community
- Ijah-Dabuta Community
- Piri Community
- Koroko Community

- Wako Community
- Ubosharu-Awawa Community
- Anguwandadi Community

The Key stakeholders were trained on the 5 Steps to protect children from Child Sexual Abuse, and extensive teaching on Child Abuse/different types of abuse, the laws relating to Child Sexual Abuse, the punishment for Sexual Abuse offenses, and the mode of reporting Child Sexual Abuse to the appropriate authorities. Sessions were conducted in English/Pidgin/Gbagi, and Hausa Languages. The project implementation took place at the Chief's Palace in each community.



LAUNCH OF A MEDICAL CENTER AT OUR CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER IN LAGOS



We launched our in-house satellite clinic in collaboration with Women at Risk International Foundation (WARIF) on January 31st, 2023. The clinic will provide free medical aid, comprehensive care and restoration to sexually abused children. The clinic aims to be a single point of assistance for young survivors in Nigeria. This is a significant milestone for our goal of becoming a one-stop center.

TRAINING OF THE LAGOS STATE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ON FORENSIC INTERVIEWING

Our team of forensic experts led by Mrs. Bisi Ajayi-Kayode trained staff of the Lagos State Judiciary on Forensic Interview. During the training, judges, lawyers and court assessors were enlightened about the conduct and approach to interviewing children for forensic purposes. Our experts spoke about the appropriate questions to ask and the warning signs to look out for. Additionally, the team recommended the integration of forensic interviews into the courtroom setting for prompt outcomes and a faster investigation process.





ENGAGEMENT AT THE TAINTED CANVAS MOVIE SCREENING

We attended the premiere of "Tainted Canvas," a film that depicts the harsh reality of sexual abuse and its impact on victims. The event hosted secondary school girls who learned about the dangers of sexual abuse and were encouraged to speak out against it. We interacted with the attendees and continued to promote our cause against child sexual abuse, while sharing information about our 24 hours toll-free child helpline.



COLLABORATION WITH BABCOCK UNIVERSITY TO ADDRESS SEXUAL VIOLENCE



The Cece Yara team had a one-day training session with Babcock University's Law Student Association of Nigeria (LAWSAN) to discuss the best practices of sexual response. We stressed the importance of sexual having violence response ambassadors in all educational institutions, including Law schools and emphasised the need to integrate Sexual Gender Based Violence prevention and management into university curriculums to equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills to combat this menace.

RECOGNISING AND PREVENTING GROOMING: AN INSTAGRAM LIVE INITIATIVE

We hosted our first Instagram Live Session of the year, where we delved into the topic of grooming. Our inhouse psychotherapist provided valuable insights on how grooming can be used as a tool by predators to exploit vulnerabilities and gain control over victims. During the session, she explained how grooming involves a gradual process of building a relationship with the victim through seemingly harmless acts of kindness or flattery, followed by increasingly invasive and manipulative behaviours. To help prevent abuse, the psychotherapist shared important information on how to recognize the signs of grooming and protect oneself from potential predators. The session was highly informative and engaging, with illustrative examples provided, to make the subject matter easier to understand.

