 **AJOKE AYISAT AFOLABI FOUNDATION**

**FIELD REPORT ABIA TEENAHE MOTHERS PROGRAMME**

**Overview**

Week 7 of the Knitting Empowerment Program in Abia State saw continued progress among the participating teenager mothers. The program, aimed at providing these young mothers with valuable skills to support their financial independence and personal growth, remains ongoing.

**Attendance and Participation**

Trainees’ regular attendance reflects a strong commitment to the program and a clear desire to learn and master knitting skills. This week was characterized with constant rainfall affecting the participation of two teen mothers, whose babies are still tender.

**Observations**

1. Engagement: Observations indicate that the participants are highly motivated and open-minded. They are eager to acquire new skills and demonstrate a positive attitude towards the training sessions.

2. Skill Development: The participants have shown noticeable improvement in their knitting abilities. They are increasingly confident in their work and are beginning to experiment with more complex patterns and techniques.

**Challenges**

1. Insufficient Training Machines: The training center is currently under-equipped with knitting machines. This limitation has caused delays and reduced hands-on practice time for the participants, as they must share the available machines.

2. Transportation Costs: Many of the teenager mothers face financial challenges in affording transportation to the training center. This issue has the potential to affect their consistent attendance and overall participation in the program.

**Recommendations**

1. Increase Equipment Availability: Efforts should be made to secure additional knitting machines to ensure that all participants have adequate access to the necessary tools for their training.

2. Support for Transportation: Consider providing stipends or arranging transportation solutions to assist the participants with their travel costs. This support could improve attendance and alleviate one of the significant barriers they face.

Conclusion

Week 7 has been a productive period for the Knitting Empowerment Program, with the teenager mothers showing significant dedication and progress. Addressing the challenges of insufficient equipment and transportation costs will be crucial in maintaining and enhancing the effectiveness of the program. The continued commitment of the participants is a positive indicator of the program's potential impact on their lives. Please see photos of field visit documenting the monitoring of project progress below:

**PHOTO SPEAKS**

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