



JULIE HELPING HANDS FOUNDATION (JHF)

THEMATIC AREAS: Education, Empowerment, Health, Gender Based Violence, Child Protection
www. <https://jhfoundationng.org>, juliehelpinghand2016@gmail.com

Project Title:

Give Joy and Hope to IDP Camp Children in Benue

Implementing Organization:

Julie Helping Hands Foundation (JHF)

Project Location:

IDP Mega Camp, Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria

Budget:

\$95,000

Project Duration:

6 months

Target Beneficiaries:

Direct: 1,245 displaced children

Indirect: 8,000+ IDP camp residents

Contact Information:

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Background / Problem Statement:

In Nigeria's Middle Belt, Benue State has endured a relentless wave of violence. Attacks by armed herders and gunmen have driven over **500,000 people** into displacement, trapped in precarious camps. [Amnesty International+1](#) Among the victims are mothers and children forced from their homes as villages are overrun and huts reduced to ashes. [saharanews247.com+1](#)

One such site, the IDP Mega Camp Makurdi, shelters **8,000 internally displaced persons**, including approximately **1,245 children**. These young lives have escaped death only to face new threats: overcrowded tents, inadequate sanitation, no proper school or play space, and little to no access to psychosocial support. In such conditions, daily survival takes precedence over childhood. Many children show signs of trauma, while education has stalled and families live under fear rather than rebuilding hope.

The absence of safe environments for these children not only disrupts their learning and growth today, but also jeopardizes their future. Without intervention, a generation at risk of emotional damage, ill- health and lost educational opportunities may emerge.

Our project addresses this urgent gap. By providing a dedicated Child- Friendly Space, we will create a safe haven where children can learn, play and heal; caregivers will be trained to support psychological recovery; and the broader camp community will gain a stabilising resource within the turmoil. This is not merely a stop- gap—it's an investment in the resilience of displaced children and their families, offering them a chance to reclaim hope, rebuild childhoods and participate in positive futures.



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Project Goal:

The goal of this project is to restore hope, joy, and a sense of normalcy to displaced children living in the IDP Mega Camp Makurdi, who have been severely affected by violence and forced displacement in Benue State. By creating a safe, nurturing, and child-friendly environment, the project aims to provide a space where children can reclaim their childhood through learning, play, and emotional healing.

Within this supportive setting, children will have access to educational activities that help bridge gaps caused by disrupted schooling, while also engaging in structured play and recreational opportunities that promote social development and relieve stress. Trained caregivers and child protection volunteers will offer psychosocial support and counseling, helping children process trauma and build resilience.

Beyond the immediate benefits to children, the project will also support families and the wider camp community by fostering cohesion, improving awareness of child protection, and creating a sense of stability within the camp. Ultimately, this initiative seeks not only to address the urgent emotional and educational needs of displaced children but also to lay the foundation for their long-term well-being, resilience, and ability to thrive despite the challenges of displacement.



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Project Objectives

Establish a Safe and Child-Friendly Learning Environment

- Specific: Construct and furnish a temporary Child-Friendly Space in IDP Mega Camp Makurdi
- Measurable: One fully equipped learning/play space serving 1,245 children.
- Achievable: Materials and construction teams procured within project resources.
- Relevant: Provides a secure environment for education, play, and psychosocial support.
- Time-bound: Completed within the first 2 months of the 6-month project duration.

Provide Learning and Educational Support

- Specific: Supply learning materials and conduct structured educational sessions.
- Measurable: At least 1,245 children participate in weekly educational activities.
- Time-bound: Learning sessions run throughout the 6-month project period.

Promote Play and Recreational Activities

- Specific: Distribute recreational materials and organize play sessions.
- Measurable: 1,245 children engage in daily structured play at least 5 days per week.
- Time-bound: Recreational activities implemented continuously for the 6-month duration.

Deliver Psychosocial Support and Counseling

- Specific: Train caregivers/volunteers and provide psychosocial support sessions.
- Measurable: 50 caregivers/volunteers trained; at least 1,245 children receive counseling/support.
- Time-bound: Training completed within the first month; support sessions run weekly.



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Empower Caregivers and Volunteers

- Specific: Strengthen skills of caregivers in child protection and trauma-informed care.
- Measurable: At least 50 trained caregivers actively engaging children.
- Time-bound: Training and mentorship conducted within the first 2 months.

Raise Awareness on Child Protection and Well-being

- Specific: Conduct community campaigns using IEC materials.
- Measurable: Distribute 3,000 IEC materials; reach 8,000 camp residents through sessions.
- Time-bound: Campaigns carried out within months 2–5 of the project.

Strengthen Community Resilience and Cohesion

- Specific: Foster unity and protection through shared child-centered activities.
- Measurable: 8,000 camp residents participate indirectly; reduced reports of child neglect/trauma incidents.
- Time-bound: Monitored and evaluated throughout the 6-month project period.

Project Activities

Activity 1: Construct and Furnish a Temporary Child-Friendly Learning Space

This activity will involve setting up a secure, weatherproof temporary structure within the IDP Mega Camp, designed to serve as a safe haven for children. The space will be furnished with tables, chairs, mats, shelves, and partitions to create zones for learning, play, and counseling. The environment will be colorful, inclusive, and child-centered to foster a sense of belonging and comfort. Local artisans and camp residents will be engaged during construction to enhance



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community ownership and sustainability.

Expected Output: One fully functional Child-Friendly Space established and accessible to 1,245 displaced children.

Activity 2: Distribute Learning and Play Materials

To promote education, creativity, and recreation, the project will procure and distribute learning materials (books, colors, writing kits) and play resources (toys, footballs, art supplies). These materials will support both structured educational sessions and free play periods that enhance children's social skills, creativity, and emotional well-being. Distribution will be equitable, prioritizing the most vulnerable children such as orphans and those showing signs of trauma.

Expected Output: 1,245 children provided with learning and recreational materials for use in the Child-Friendly Space.

Activity 3: Conduct Training Sessions for Child Protection Volunteers and Caregivers

A series of intensive training sessions will be organized for selected volunteers, teachers, and caregivers from the camp community. The training will focus on child protection principles, trauma-informed care, psychosocial first aid, and techniques for supporting children's emotional recovery. Participants will also learn how to identify and refer children showing severe distress. Continuous mentorship and refresher sessions will ensure the sustainability of these skills beyond the project period.

Expected Output: 50 volunteers and caregivers trained and actively providing psychosocial support and protection services to children.



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Activity 4: Organize Awareness Campaigns Using Printed IEC Materials

The project will develop and distribute Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials to raise awareness on child protection, mental health, and the importance of education and play for displaced children. Community sensitization sessions will be held through posters, leaflets, and interactive discussions involving parents, youth, and camp leaders. These campaigns will encourage community-wide participation in protecting children from exploitation and abuse.

Expected Output: Over 8,000 camp residents sensitized on child protection, wellbeing, and the role of community in supporting displaced children.

Expected Results

1. **1,245 Children Gain Access to a Safe and Supportive Learning and Play Space.** A fully established and equipped Child-Friendly Space will provide 1,245 displaced children with a safe, welcoming environment where they can learn, play, and socialize. The space will serve as a vital refuge for children to rebuild confidence, engage in structured learning, and rediscover joy after enduring trauma and displacement.
2. **Improved Psychosocial Wellbeing and Resilience Among Children**
Through regular play, learning sessions, and psychosocial support, children will experience reduced anxiety, improved emotional stability, and a stronger sense of belonging. The project will nurture coping mechanisms and resilience, helping them recover from the trauma of violence and displacement.



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3. **Strengthened Capacity of Caregivers and Volunteers to Provide Emotional and Psychosocial Support**

Caregivers and child protection volunteers will gain knowledge and practical skills to identify, support, and manage the emotional needs of children in crisis situations. This will create a lasting network of trained individuals who can continue providing psychosocial support beyond the project's duration.

4. **Enhanced Community Awareness and Engagement in Child Protection and Wellbeing**

Awareness campaigns and Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials will increase understanding among 8,000 camp residents about children's rights, protection needs, and the importance of nurturing environments. This will lead to greater community participation in safeguarding children and fostering a culture of empathy, inclusion, and collective responsibility.

Long-Term Impact:

This project will rebuild the confidence and emotional health of displaced children, promote peace, and foster community resilience. **8,000** camp residents will benefit indirectly as children regain hope and stability, contributing to a more cohesive and optimistic IDP community.



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Estimated Budget:

Total: \$95,000USD

Item	Description	Amount (USD)
1	Will buy packet of colors for 5 children	\$10
2	Will buy 5 toys for for 5 children	\$25
3	Will buy 5 Learning tables for 5 children	\$50
4	Will buy 6 soccer balls for 66 children	\$100
5	Will provide awareness Education and Information Materials to support sensitization of Child protection to 8000 persons in IDPs Camp	\$200
6	Can buy a table tennis board and equipment	\$500
7	Can buy a bundle of zinc to roof a temporal safe space for 30 children to learn	\$800
8	Will buy 20 pieces of woods to support temporal roof for 30 children	\$1000



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