

FAUCET FOR THE VULNERABLE CHILD INITIATIVE

GLOBAL GIVING FUNDRAISING

KEEP A CHILD IN SCHOOL

Project Concept Note

Duration: 12-month pilot

Location: Selected rural communities in Nasarawa State

Direct beneficiaries: 150 children

Education materials reach: Up to 300 children

Funding request: US\$5,000

Background

For years, our work with children in rural communities has shown us that getting a child into school is only part of the challenge. Through our **Education for the Rural Child** initiative, we have supported **1,000 rural children with educational supplies**, helping children who often lacked the basic materials needed to participate confidently in school.

That experience has brought us closer to the realities families face. We have seen that a child can want to learn and still struggle to remain in school when poverty makes school supplies unaffordable, when children are pushed into work, or when families lack the support needed to keep them enrolled.

The need in Nasarawa is significant. UNICEF's Nigeria Education Fact Sheets report that **26% of primary school age children, 25% of junior secondary school age children and 31% of senior secondary school age children in Nasarawa are out of school.**

These figures represent children whose education is being interrupted at different stages of their lives. The problem is not simply access to a classroom. It is the ability to **enter, participate and remain in school.**

A 2024 Associated Press report from **Pasali, Nasarawa State**, brought this reality into sharp focus. Six-year-old **Juliet Samaniya** was working in a lithium mine instead of attending school. Her mother, Abigail Samaniya, explained that the family could not afford to send both Juliet and her older brother to school. The report also documented a ₦5,000 (\$3.60) -per-term PTA levy at the local school, an amount that was difficult for families like theirs to afford.

Juliet's story reflects the kind of vulnerability we encounter in rural communities: when families have to choose between immediate survival and education, children can be the ones who lose their opportunity to learn.

The Project

Keep a Child in School will build on our experience supporting rural children by moving from one-off education support to a more sustained **enrollment and retention model.**

Over 12 months, the project will identify out of school and vulnerable children in selected rural communities, support their enrollment, provide essential learning materials and connect them to mentorship and continued follow-up.

The project will directly support **150 children**, while educational materials will reach **up to 300 children**, extending the benefit beyond the core enrollment and retention group.

Key Activities

1. Community identification and enrollment

Identify children who are out of school or at risk of dropping out and support their enrollment.

2. Educational materials

Provide essential books, writing materials, school supplies and other learning resources.

3. Learning and mentorship support

Provide continued learning support and mentorship to encourage participation and confidence.

4. Retention follow-up

Track attendance and follow up with children and families when barriers begin to affect school participation.

5. Family support

Engage parents and caregivers to strengthen their role in keeping children in school.

Expected Outcomes

By the end of the pilot, the project aims to:

- Support **150 children** to enroll or remain enrolled in school.
- Reach **up to 300 children** with educational materials.
- Improve school attendance and retention among participating children.
- Provide vulnerable children with continued mentorship and learning support.
- Strengthen family support for children's education.
- Generate practical evidence for expanding the model to more rural communities.

One Year Pilot and Scale

The first year will serve as a **pilot phase**. We will document the children reached, barriers affecting their attendance, support provided and changes in enrollment and retention.

The lessons and evidence generated will be used to strengthen the model and develop a larger programme for additional rural communities across Nasarawa State.

The goal is simple: **not only to help a child enter school, but to make it more possible for that child to stay.**

Brief Budget

The pilot requires **US\$5,000**:

Activity	Amount
School enrollment support	\$1,000
School supplies and learning materials	\$1,500
Learning support	\$650
Mentorship	\$550
Retention follow-up	\$450
Family support	\$450
Communication and coordination	\$200
Monitoring and documentation	\$200
Total	\$5,000