

THE RISING STAR

Editor's Note

Hello friends! It is that time of the month again, when we report on what we have been up to. Well, do we have news for you! **Fair Life Africa Foundation** is working with **Radio Continental 102.3fm** on a new talk show to raise awareness on the street child agenda. We have also made efforts to work with the **Ministry of Youth, Sports and Social Development (MYSSD)**, in the rehabilitation process. With the opening of our bank account, we look forward to the completion of our renovation work and opening of the **Respite Centre** for the first set of children we rescue. Do stay connected and get involved.

The Practical Rescue

Last month, we concluded **Breakfast and Talk (B+T)** at **Kuramo Beach**, a strategy which helped us to learn quickly about street life, and familiarise ourselves with those we seek to assist. In August, we sought other avenues to meet with these vulnerable children, and began to collaborate our efforts with the **Oregun Rehabilitation Centre**, set up by MYSSD. During the month, we made several visits to the centre, seeking out those, for whom, we have already completed *Child Data Forms*. In the spirit of B+T, we engaged the boys in discussion, and inspired them to see beyond their present challenges, into what the future holds for them. The boys shared that our visits encouraged them to stay on, rather than run from the facility back to Kuramo.

We decided to visit Kuramo from time to time, and did so on the 18th of August. At this visit, four boys agreed to follow us to the Oregun facility, saying that they were ready to leave Kuramo. Fair Life Africa will be working with the Rehabilitation Centre's Principal, **Mr L.O. Kotun**, to trace their families, and put appropriate support in place for them. Today, another visit was made to Kuramo Beach, following reports of fatalities and closure of the beach, due to ocean surges during the week. We observed that the beach is actually uninhabitable now, as much of the shore is eroded and property is destroyed. However, the report of deaths was denied by the locals. Five street boys accepted our offer of rescue, and followed us to Oregun, where they will be provided with secure accommodation, regular meals and education.



The Street Child Agenda

What is the **Street Child Agenda**? It is a representation of the diverse issues facing children who live and/or work on the streets, conveying the issues from their perspective. In our bid to keep the agenda of the street child on the forefront of public consciousness and priority for government action, Fair Life Africa Foundation decided to continue in the success of the **Street Child Awareness Seminar 10.05.11**, with the creation of a radio talk show about same. The 30 minutes weekly programme will engage the public and professionals, civil servants and other stakeholders in discussion about the problems leading to and arising from the street child phenomenon. Radio Continental 102.3fm, through **Presenter Tokunbo Ojekunle (Mr. T)**, is promoting the programme, which will commence from the first week of October, 2011. Tune in every Tuesday from 10:15am, and call in to share your views too.



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Soup Kitchen at Ajegunle, organized by 'This Is How We Do'. Friends prepare an Indomie noodle meal because every little helps!



OUR OBJECTIVES

To enrich the lives of the most impoverished in society; To support and empower the most vulnerable members of society, enabling them to live a fair life; To effect positive changes in their lives through social initiatives and programs

Progress Report

Though slow to start, the **Forum For Child Practitioners Concerned With Street Children** is now actively engaging in discussions, towards agreement of best practices. Discussions this month included '*Pathological Liars?*', '*Talk Shop?*' and '*Child Abuse Cum Elderly Exceses*'.

Following the submission of the report by the **Committee for the Rehabilitation of Kuramo Beach**, we have been waiting for the effective response of the **Eti-Osa Local Government**. However, in light of this week's ocean surges, destruction of livelihood and risk to life, Lagos State Government have closed down Kuramo Beach, pending further action.

Fair Life Africa was featured on **TV Continental** on 6th August, with **Presenter Yori Folarin**. We were grateful for the opportunity to engage the public in discussion about the street child agenda and our work at Kuramo Beach.

There continues to be a slow but steady progress with the renovations at our Lekki site. We are set to complete in the upcoming month, and hopefully open our doors in October.

As members of the **Nigeria Network of NGOs**, we were privileged to attend a fundraising workshop by **Global Giving**. This was part of NNNGOs capacity building efforts, and we benefitted in no small way from our participation.

We opened our official bank account this month, and are ready to receive donations towards our Care Continuity Challenge Initiative for Street Children. We hope to have your support, and have high aspirations for the next few months.

Our door-to-door campaign commenced this month, and will continue over the next few months, as we seek out clothing and material donations. Please share what you can. Every little helps!



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To whom honour is due...

Other supporters who have made valuable contributions worthy of recognition are:

- **Standard Alliance Group**, our Corporate Partners for their continual support
- **Mrs Onome Imoyin-Omene** for her professional assistance in financial matters
- **Mr Oyebisi Babatunde Oluseyi** of **Nigeria Network of NGOs** for his professional assistance in capacity building
- **Mr Richie Dayo Johnson** of **Radio Continental** for consulting on and supporting the Street Child Agenda
- **Mr Yori Folarin** of **TV Continental** for creating awareness for the organisation and **CCC Initiative**.
- **Mrs Clara Ibirogba** of **Directorate of Citizen's Rights** for supporting the Street Child Agenda
- **Mr L.O. Kotun** of **MYSSD Rehabilitation Centre Oregun** for supporting our collaborative efforts
- **Mr Seth Reynolds** of **Global Giving UK**, for his professional consultation
- **Mr and Mrs Taiwo Asaju** for their clothing donation
- **Mrs Folake Wright** for her clothing donation
- **Mr Ayodele Zaccheaus Akintimehin** of **Makoko Youth Movement**, our being a diligent volunteer for the organisation
- **Mr Godwin George** for being a diligent volunteer for the organisation
- **Miss Grace Chinonye Okorocho** for her voluntary assistance with various aspects of our work
- **Miss Peace Odu** for her voluntary administrative assistance
- **Miss Rasheedat Olayemi Arogunade** for her voluntary assistance



Fair Life Africa Foundation gave out baby clothes to the poor mothers at Ajegunle.



Do you share our passion? Can you spare some time? Call **08058711125**

PLEASE DONATE

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Sharing the Passion

Fair Life Africa Foundation supported 'This Is How We Do', a group of friends committed to giving back to society. They organised a **Soup Kitchen** in the heart of Ajegunle with the local poor community, providing clothing and a hot meal to hundreds of children and men and women. The successful outing, which held on Saturday the 20th of August, brought smiles to the faces of the needy, as well as the helpers. We also visited the **Street Child Care and Welfare Initiative (SCCWI)** at Yaba, where some former Kuramo boys are taking respite and receiving support.

We have been much encouraged by the number of friends joining our community on **Facebook!** We are almost 150 strong now. Thank you so much for believing in us and inspiring us to go on. We know that you share our passion and are counting on your support. Please invite your friends and family to add us too, by clicking www.facebook.com/Fairlifeafrica. Let them know they can sign up for our newsletters too, via our website at www.fairlifeafrica.org. Thank you!

We Need Your Sponsorship

Very soon, we will be taking in our first set of 25 children for the CCC Respite Project. Through this project, each child enters a 12 week programme of rehabilitation and reconciliation with their families, with the support of social workers, counsellors, mentors and support workers. They will need sponsorship for vocational training, continuation of education, family counselling, financial and medical intervention as the case may be. The project will offer high standards in care and service, as we work to redeem the lost childhood of every street child, towards reintegration back into society. For this great mission, we need your financial sponsorship. We also seek support from professionals, who can offer their skilful input. What can you do to help?

Get in Touch!

If you would like to be part of our team of hard-working, inspired and enthusiastic staff, please send your CVs and introductory letters in to fairlifeafrica@gmail.com. If you are interested in financial sponsorship or partnership, please call us on **08058711125** or send us an email. Don't hesitate to get in touch if you have ideas and/or resources to share. We can do so much more together. Fair Life Africa Foundation is committed to being an open and accountable organization for the people, and we look forward to updating you on our progress over the upcoming months. Have a blessed month ahead!



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