

THE RISING STAR

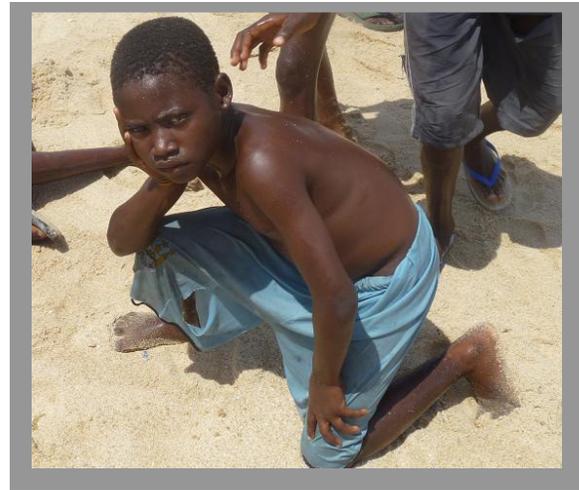
Editor's Note

The month of November has breezed on by... **The Street Child Agenda** continues to hit the airwaves at **11am every Tuesday** on **Radio Continental 102.3fm**, promoting positive attitudes and interventions towards these vulnerable children. **Fair Life Africa Foundation** received massive recognition from the **International Women's Society**, as they presented **Ms Ufuoma Emerhor** with the **Humanitarian of the Year Award!** We continue our visits to **Oregon** and **Kuramo**, and also made a visit to the **Juvenile Welfare Centre**, which has presented an opportunity for collaborative advocacy by the members of the **Forum For Child Practitioners Concerned With Street Children** (aka The Forum). Read on to learn more about our ongoing global challenge as well!

The Challenge Is On!

Last month, we told you about **GlobalGiving UK**, and their Open Challenge that Fair Life Africa has the privilege to participate in. Well, the challenge started at 00:00hrs on the **21st of November**, and despite a little hiccup on the GlobalGiving site, it is heating up by the day! For those who may have forgotten, this is a month-long challenge that ends on the **22nd of December**, and the goal for every participant is to earn their permanent spot on **globalgiving.co.uk**, by raising **£2000 from 50 donors**. This would be a great opportunity for Fair Life Africa, as it would open us up to donors worldwide, and give us access to training and capacity building, which would be greatly beneficial towards our growth and achievement of our objectives. For that, we really need your support.

You may not have a lot, but you've got something you can contribute...even if it is the hundreds of friends you know on **Facebook!** We would like to ask all our friends and supporters to help us champion the cause by spreading the word. We can send you email templates to use, or short blurbs to send out on BB or Facebook to help us get some awareness about the challenge. And please, **GIVE**. Any amount will help. It is an absolute truth that little drops fill a bucket, so even if it is just a pound, **THANK YOU!** Ultimately, our goal is to win the competition, thereby winning a bonus of up to £2000. Our target is to raise £10,000 online, which will enable us to provide support for 25 street children and their families, equipping them with resources and training to stand on their feet and rebuild their lives.



PROTECT AND EMPOWER NIGERIAN STREET KIDS – PLEASE DONATE NOW
<http://www.globalgiving.co.uk/pr/9200/proj9103a.html>

Taping Into Their Potential

Last month, we told you about Tom Smith*, a real street child with a fictional name. Tom is doing great at school, and Fair Life Africa continues to visit regularly and is putting in support for the family. Tom's granddad has severe arthritis on both knees and a heart condition, which have prevented him from continuing his Ocada (motorbike) business. Fair Life Africa supported him to receive medical treatment, and we are currently helping him to find alternative livelihood. Tom's grandma is really pleased with the progress he is making. She said, when we last saw her on the 22nd of November: **'He has cooled down now...doesn't run around as much. His book is in his mind. I can really see your hand in his life...'** Tom also shared his testimony with former peers from Kuramo Beach during our visit to The Correctional Centre for Boys, Oregon, this month.



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IWS President, Mrs Cecilia Aqua-Umoren, gives award to Ms Ufuoma Emerhor, while Miss Ify Oji gives a testimonial.



Mrs Bitebo Gogo, Mr Tokunbo Ojekunle and Ms Ufuoma Emerhor after the Street Child Agenda on Radio Continental 102.3fm

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

www.fairlifeafrica.org

IWS Awards FLA's CEO

On the 8th of November, 2011, The International Women's Society (IWS) in Nigeria, chose to award Ms Ufuoma Emerhor, Chief Executive Officer of Fair Life Africa Foundation, with their special category Humanitarian of the Year Award. This is a wonderful recognition for her, and for the growing organization. Friends and family attended to celebrate with her. The award was presented by the IWS president, **Mrs Cecilia Aqua-Umoren**, in the presence of several dignitaries including the **First Lady of Lagos State, Dame Abimbola Fashola** and **Lagos State's Deputy Governor, Mrs Orelope Adefulire**. **Miss Ify Oji**, a representative of the IWS, who had accompanied Fair Life Africa on one of their outreach visits to Oregon, gave a personal and passionate testimonial on Ms Emerhor. It was evident that she had been touched by what she had witnessed.

The Street Child Agenda

Every Tuesday at 11am on Radio Continental 102.3fm, we tell it as it is! With a different topic each week, we address the diverse issues facing the street child, with live discussions with professionals from the field. The four topics this month were '*The attraction of the streets*' with **Mr Charles Anyawike of Child to Child Network**; '*The role of education*' with **Mrs Bitebo Gogo of Keeping It Real Foundation**; '*Interventions that work*' with **Mrs Sikuade of Child Life Line**; and '*The Girl Child*' with **Mrs Tenidola Awoyemi of Freedom Foundation**. Listeners can call in and make contributions. Our aim is to host a long-running dialogue to keep these pertinent issues in the hearts of the public and policy makers, to prompt change and action at every level.

Research at Oregon

Fair Life Africa conducted a small anonymous study on 153 boys resident at the Correctional Facility on the 7th of Nov. When asked about their experience of abuse on the street, 78% identified that they had been abused. 12% noted sexual abuse, 17% cited violence and 25% said that they'd been exploited in some way.



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THE RISING STAR

To whom honour is due...

Supporters this month, whose contribution Fair Life Africa wishes to recognize, are:

Corporate Support

- Standard Alliance Group
- Heroes Furniture Limited
- Radio Continental 102.3fm
- GlobalGiving UK
- Strength Security Limited
- International Women's Society, Nigeria

Professional Support

- Mrs Bitebo Gogo
- Mr Charles Anyawike
- Mrs Tenidola Awoyemi
- Mrs Sikuade
- Mr Seth Reynolds
- Ms Carol Parker
- Mr Oyebisi Babatunde Oluseyi
- Mr Lukmon Oluwatoyin Kotun
- Mr Olanrewaju Fajimi
- Mr Nelson Egbdoh
- Mr Ifeanyi David Edge
- Mr Damola O'Deff
- Mr Victor Job
- Ms Josephine Ndao

Financial Sponsors

- Mr Stanley Akpudje
- Mr Emmanuel Haruna
- Miss Uzo Onumonu
- Mr Daniel Azike
- Ms Carol Parker
- Miss Onajite Emerhor
- Miss Tosin Jegede
- Ms Adebola Adepeju
- Mrs Kehinde Eduwuirofo

Volunteers

- Mr Godwin Sunday George
- Miss Peace Ejen Udo
- Mr Ayo Zaccheaus Akintimehin
- Mr Shawn Rapha

Friends With Initiative (FWI)

- Miss Peace Ejen Udo
- Mr Victor Awah



Miss Ify Oji joins Fair Life Africa in a visit to The Oregon Correctional Centre for Boys.



After a Career's Talk at the Street Child Care and Welfare Initiative's Home for Boys

WANT TO HELP?

EMAIL: CCCINITIATIVE@GMAIL.COM

OR CALL US ON 08058711125



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A Haven For Lost And Runaway Children?

Fair Life Africa Foundation and **Grace Springs Home** were invited to visit the **Juvenile Welfare Centre**, in Alakara, Lagos. At the entrance of the small bungalow, which houses children found on the streets, a sign reads 'A Haven For Lost Children'. But as we were escorted to the room where the children were accommodated, our hearts dropped to the floor. First, a key is required to open the gate that keeps the children in. The place is unclean, and the thirteen children we saw there (none older than 14 years old), were badly clothed in torn dirty garments and nothing on their feet. They looked seriously malnourished, and one boy in particular looked like his legs would snap any minute. They sleep on lumps of foam, too bad to be called mattresses, on steel bunks, and the only thing to keep their attention during the day is a TV set. We decided that we had to do something for these children. Besides provide some basic provisions for the centre to make it accommodating for children, we need to act to change the structures that permit the operation of such a place. Fair Life Africa will be visiting with provisions next month, supported by members of the Forum For Child Practitioners Concerned With Street Children.

Networking News

Child Protection Network Inaugurates Members

Today, the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** partnered with several Lagos State Ministries to officially inaugurate the **Child Protection Network (CPN)** and its members (made up of non-governmental organisations and representatives from the line ministries) to, amongst other things: '*enhance access and coordination between existing services...*'. Fair Life Africa is a member of CPN, belonging to the Media and Advocacy Committee, and was represented by Ms Ufuoma Emerhor. CPN holds meetings every second Thursday of the month, and share reports on child's rights abuses.

What Next?

If you like our vision, why not join us on **Facebook** (www.facebook.com/fairlifeafrica)? We are also building our team of dedicated staff and volunteers, so please send in your CVs and introductory letters to fairlifeafrica@gmail.com. As always, we are committed to being an open and accountable organization for the people, and look forward to updating you on our progress over the upcoming months. Have a blessed month ahead!



Next issue out 30th December 2011

FAIR LIFE AFRICA FOUNDATION

Career's Talk at SCCWI

Ms Ufuoma Emerhor was invited to speak at a Career's Talk for youths at the **Street Child Care and Welfare Initiative**, Lagos on the 11th of November. She encouraged the children to resist peer pressure, and identify their true potentials.

Dec 3rd Charity Fair

Fair Life Africa will hold a stand at **The 1st Annual December Charity Fair** hosted by Keeping It Real Foundation on **Saturday, the 3rd of December**. The event will hold at **Terra Kulture**, 1376, Tiamiyu Savage Street, Victoria Island, Lagos. There will be cocktails, live performances, music and a raffle draw. We invite all our friends and supporters to come and support the event. **Dress code:** A touch of green, gold or silver.

