

Annual Report 2022

Save Our Childhood

Save Our Future

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Detutu Ajibodu

The New Year has begun with a new dimension for the Cece Yara foundation. I recall beginning the previous year with high expectations to accomplish strategic goals and plans. It was challenging, but I'm glad we were able to achieve the most of it. We leveraged a number of programs, projects, partnerships, and collaborations to aid our work in sustaining a low rate of child abuse.

In April, we became a proud recipient of the ACT Foundation 2022 Grant Cycle that enabled us to implement the 'PREVENT IT AND UPSCALE SERVICE DELIVERY' (PUSD). The project aims to empower communities in the prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV) and its impact on child and maternal health.

In the third quarter of 2022, we launched our maiden edition of the First Medical Responders Training to train 100 proprietary and patent medicine vendors. Additionally, we secured SUBEB license to train students in Government schools and initiated our Safe Kids Awareness Program (SKAP) where over 2,000 pupils were taught about their body rights and body boundaries.

This year, we will work even harder and smarter to boost our productivity and set new milestones. Cheers to a great year.

OUR IMPACT SO FAR

70854 CHILDREN EMPOWERED SKAP	27979 CALLS HELPLINE	6474 PEOPLE COUNSELLING	7712 COMMUNITY CHANGE MAKERS ADULT AWARENESS PROGRAMME	190 CLIENTS MEDICAL SERVICES	80 CRIMINAL CASES INSTITUTED LEGAL ADVOCACY
149 SCHOOLS CHILD PROTECTION	150 PERPETRATORS NUMBER OF ARRESTS	3 CONVICTIONS	76 SURVIVORS SHELTER	1857 CASES RESPONDED TO	74 CHILDREN FORENSIC INTERVIEWS

OUR SERVICES

- Forensic Interview
- Shelter
- 24 Hour Child Helpline
- Legal Advocacy
- Psycho-therapy
- Medical Support

OUR PROGRAMMES

- Safe Kids Awareness Programme (SKAP)
- Adult Awareness Programme
- Child Protection Training for Professionals



THE CECE YARA FOUNDATION **CHILD HELPLINE 24 HOURS**
0800-800-8001
CALL FOR HELP



*"You are not the darkness you endured.
You are the light that refused to surrender."
— John Mark Green*

PRIMARY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FOR ONE OF OUR CHAMPIONS



O.C was trafficked and sold by his young mum in Lagos state to another family in Imo state. In partnership with the Nigeria Police force, he was rescued at 7 months from Imo state and brought to the Cece Yara Child Advocacy Centre.

O.C. is 3 years old now and with the support of our committed stakeholders he is enrolled in a private school on a scholarship till the end of his primary education. We could not have made this life transforming stride in his life without the help and support of our sponsors and donors.

RESCUED FROM ABUSE AND FOUND HAPPINESS AT THE FOUNDATION



Q.D was kidnapped from Maiduguri to Lagos. He lived with a woman who physically abused him, starved him of food, and made him sell hard drugs as well as alcoholic drinks. Q.D was rescued by the Local Government Authority and referred to the Cece Yara Shelter.

Prior to when he was admitted into our shelter, he was reserved and could not communicate fluently in English as he had not received any formal education. The Foundation ensured that he was home schooled, had access to psychotherapy, and other extracurricular activities. Q.D is now in another safe space where he is receiving full educational support. He left as a confident and happy child.

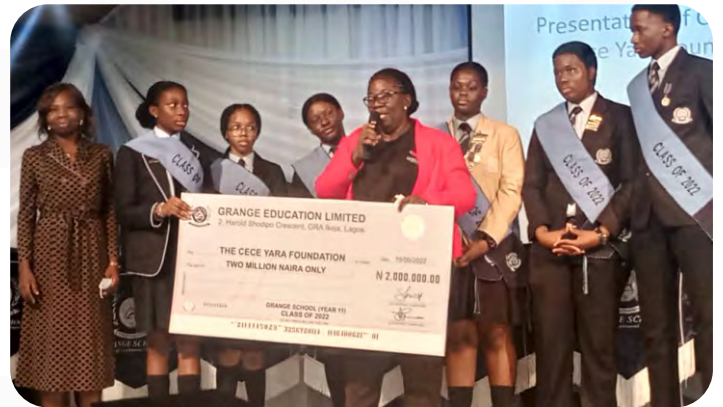


CECE YARA BECOMES AN ACT FOUNDATION GRANTEE (2022)



In April 2022, The Cece Yara Foundation became a proud grantee of the ACT Foundation 2022 Grant Cycle to implement the project, 'PREVENT IT AND UPSCALE SERVICE DELIVERY' (PUSD) which is aimed at empowering over 5000 school children and community stakeholders in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja with best practices in the prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV) and its impact on child and maternal health.

AWARD AS CHARITY OF THE YEAR BY GRANGE SCHOOLS



The Cece Yara Foundation was recognised as the Charity of the Year by Grange schools graduating class of 2022. Having benefitted from our Safe Kids Awareness Program (SKAP) and consequently, partnering with them on a charity drive to raise a voice and create awareness against child sexual abuse, they chose the Foundation as an exclusive beneficiary for their 2022 charity drive. We are super elated to be a part of this awesome alliance and honoured to be recognized for the work we do.

THE LAUNCH OF OUR CHILDREN'S BOOK "BISI IS THE BOSS"



On the 27th of May, 2022, we launched our Founder's book "Bisi is the boss". It is a story book written to teach children and their parents what they need to know about child protection, body boundaries, their rights and how they can stay safe from abuse.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR PROPRIETARY AND PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS



The Foundation launched its maiden edition of the First Medical Responders Training. We are glad to have achieved our goal of building the capacity of 100 Patent, and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVs) and medicine dealers in Lagos State to respond appropriately to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

Owing to the success of the pilot event, we look forward to future training with more communities of medicine vendors and dealers as we advance in our quest to end sexual violence in Nigeria. A special thanks to our partner, VWRTHY, for supporting us in making this event a success for the safety of every child.



*Everyone can make great childhood happen.
Especially you, especially now!*

POLICY REFORM AT THE SPEAKOUTSTANDOUT STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP



The Cece Yara Foundation joined other partners and stakeholders in social development focused on human rights, gender and child protection at a round table discussion on the protection of children in emergencies. The engagement, convened by the SpeakUpStandOut (SUSO) Activists, covered discussions around the existing policy frameworks on child protection, while examining an inclusive policy approach to creating safe spaces for vulnerable children and women.

Stakeholders present unequivocally made the following statements: **There is a humanitarian crisis for children in many communities of Lagos and; We cannot effectively protect children if women are not safe.**

ANOTHER CASE WON AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE



In 2022, the Cece Yara Foundation won a case in the conviction and sentencing of Blessing Okon (34 years) to life imprisonment by the Sexual Offences High Court Ikeja for sexually defiling a 14-year-old girl. Blessing Okon, who was the security guard at the child's parents' house, had serially defiled the survivor over a course of 5 years, starting from when she was age 9. The Cece Yara team received this case through our Child Helpline and facilitated access to justice for the survivor with documentation of the case with the police, medical advocacy and institution of the case in court wherein judgment was given.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SAFE KIDS AWARENESS PROGRAM IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN KOSOFÉ L.G.A, LAGOS



The Foundation got approval from the Lagos State Universal Basic Education Board (LASUBEB) to carry out its Safe Kids Awareness and Prevention Program (SKAP) across all government primary and secondary schools in Kosofé Local Government Area, Lagos. With the approval, we have been able to empower over 2,000 public school children (between 5-18 years old) on how to stay safe from abuse and set boundaries assertively in a child-friendly and appropriate manner.

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP WITH ROLAC



The Cece Yara Foundation was happy to host a consultative workshop on the adoption of child forensic interviews. The stakeholders present were representatives from the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency, Office of the Commissioner of Police, State CID, among others. The aim was to include all stakeholders in the criminal justice sector and policy makers to harness a legal framework for a standard child sexual abuse investigative and Interview protocol to facilitate a more effective investigation and prosecution of child sexual abuse cases. This was done in collaboration with the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption (RoLAC).

CECE YARA EMPOWERS 8 WOMEN WITH FINANCIAL AID



With the support of the Nigerian Diaspora Connect Association, the Cece Yara Foundation empowered 8 women with financial aid to support their businesses. Our goal is to help women become role models to their children and displace age-long gender biases while making them self-reliant.

THE CEO WAS A KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT THE NEW HALL SCHOOL LEKKI



The Cece Yara Foundation prides itself in having children safe and seeing them succeed. We participated in the graduation ceremony of the pupils at New Hall International School, Lekki where our CEO spoke on the theme, "Ignited for Possibilities". She inspired the graduating students to find their purpose, acquire knowledge continuously work hard to reach their goals, and believe in themselves. She also gifted a copy of our children's book, Bisi is the Boss, to one of the most outstanding pupils.

CECE YARA PRESENTS AT THE LAGOS STATE FORENSIC SYMPOSIUM



The Cece Yara Foundation educated participants at the Lagos Forensic Symposium (LFS) on "Child forensic interview as the best practice of investigating and prosecuting child sexual abuse cases" on October 19-20, 2022. The forensic interview process aids survivor and witness identification, interviewing, and evidence collection. The utilization of anatomical dolls during the process is for purposes of clarification, consistency, distancing, and communication beyond verbal details. It yields forensically relevant details to corroborate evidence. We are proud to be a leading organisation in the adoption of Child Forensic Interviews to facilitate the investigation and prosecution of child sexual abuse cases in Nigeria.

**Invest
in a
Child**
BUY A BOOK



Every copy you buy is an opportunity to help educate and protect a child from Sexual Abuse.

Visit: www.ceceyara.org/book

POLICY DIALOGUE TO SAFEGUARD WOMEN AND GIRLS AGAINST VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION



We participated in a policy dialogue/town hall forum organised by the Lagos cluster on Safeguarding against Violence and Exploitation of Women and Girls (SAVE) where our Chief Operations Officer gave insights on the rights of survivors of child sexual abuse to access forensic interviews, capacity building for law enforcement stakeholders, and inter-agency collaboration by Sexual and Gender-Based Response Agencies.

VALIDATION MEETING ON THE STATE OF SGBV IN NIGERIA



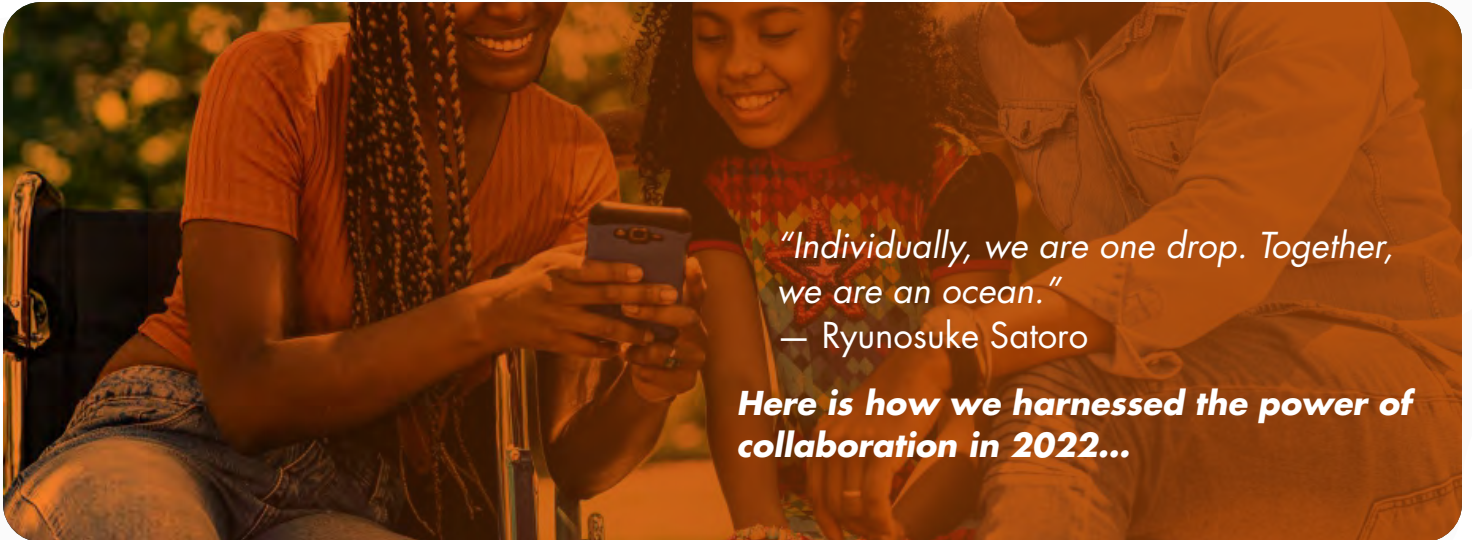
The Cece Yara Foundation contributed to the review of the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Barometer at a Validation Meeting that was organized by Women Initiative for Leadership Strategy & Innovation in Africa (Women Africa) through UNESCO, supported by the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative Programme. The GBV Barometer is a digital platform launched in 2020 that tracks the state of GBV across the country. The meeting also looked at the relevant laws and policies, support systems, services, and institutions on Gender-Based Violence.



Download for free

As a child her mother, Mrs. Joyce, has taught her early enough what private parts are, the need to always set boundaries and the danger of keeping unhealthy secrets. Would these be sufficient to protect her?

Visit: www.ceceyara.org/book



"Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean."

— Ryunosuke Satoro

Here is how we harnessed the power of collaboration in 2022...

PARTNERSHIP WITH TEACH FOR NIGERIA



In collaboration with Teach For Nigeria (TFN), the Cece Yara Team trained 359 fellows and educators on child protection and safeguarding at the 6th Pre-Service Training Institute organised by TFN. The purpose of the training is for participants to have a better understanding of the diverse ways children are exposed to danger, the need to pay attention to the children they work with, and the importance of equipping themselves with profound knowledge of child protection to ensure the safety of every child in their care.

CECE YARA IS AN AUTHORISED COMMUNITY PARTNER WITH TIKTOK



The Cece Yara Foundation is an authorized partner of TikTok on cases of child sexual abuse, safety features, and content. The interactive workshop highlighted the safety feature of the TikTok app, and the channels by which Cece Yara can flag content that might be harmful to individuals or a group of people. We are excited about emerging partnerships on essential issues ranging from Minor Safety, Mental Health, Suicide Self Harm, Digital literacy, Anti Gender-Based Violence, and Media Monitoring. As a result, the team participated in TikTok's Community Partner Channel Onboarding Training. Cece Yara is now authorised to escalate any case of child sexual abuse on TikTok.

COURTESY VISIT TO LAGOS STATE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE



The Cece Yara Foundation's Legal Team paid a courtesy visit to the Honorable Attorney General and Commissioner of Justice of Lagos State Mr. Moyosore Onigbanjo (SAN) to strengthen the pre-existing collaboration with the Lagos State Ministry of Justice on the adoption of child forensic interview as the best practice of investigating and prosecuting child sexual abuse cases. The Cece Yara Foundation is committed to partnering with all stakeholders to strengthen policies and strategies that curb the prevalence of child sexual abuse within the society.

COLLABORATION WITH LYPIX PHOTOGRAPHY



The Cece Yara Foundation collaborated with LyPIX Photography on a week-long photo exhibition themed "Time Will Tell". The convener, Ayoola Oluwatosin, shared his experience as a survivor of child sexual abuse, his struggles, and his journey of healing through the lens of photography. The goal of the collaboration was to raise the awareness of the Public that sexual abuse in male children is very real and equal attention needs to be paid to both the boy-child and the girl-child. Moreso, with a child-centred organisation like the Cece Yara Foundation, every child now has access to information, care, professional counselling, justice, and referral pathways.

COLLABORATION WITH ARDA DEVELOPMENT COMMUNICATION INC.



As an active stakeholder with extensive knowledge and a major contributor towards supporting survivors of GBV in Lagos, The Cece Yara Foundation took part in an Interactive Voice Response Design Workshop hosted by ARDA with the support of Grand Challenges Canada. The workshop's goal was to create pathways that will help survivors receive information, counselling, and referrals through mobile technology.



*Child Sexual Abuse is dynamic,
and so should learning...*

THE TRAINING OF SARCS BY THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION



The British High Commission held a two-day workshop which was implemented to share the findings from the Nigerian Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) Baseline Assessment with the relevant stakeholders and that the recommendations made in that document begins to be carried forward with multi-agency training to all the Agencies involved in delivering SARC services. Participants including the Cece Yara Foundation were trained on being Independent Sexual Advocates, impact of trauma on the brain, memory recall of events among others.

CECE YARA PARTICIPATES IN A DISABILITY-INCLUSION WORKSHOP



We have made it a point of duty to ensure our team is adequately equipped with the knowledge and skills to prevent and respond to diverse cases of sexual abuse among children and children living with disabilities are not left out. We were a part of an intensive disability-inclusion workshop organised by The Autism Awareness Foundation in collaboration with Mandela Washington Fellowship of the United States Department of State and the International Research and Exchanges Board. This is in furtherance of our goal of leaving no child behind.

INAUGURAL PARENTS' WEBINAR ON TRAUMA MANAGEMENT



As part of our projects and goals to sensitise parents and adults on all areas bothering on child sexual abuse, Cece Yara Foundation had a two-part webinar series on "helping children to heal from trauma". It was an interactive webinar series as our in-house experts were on ground to give out helpful tips on the concerns raised such as helping children manage their fears, guiding them through their grief, and helping them recover in a healthy way. We hope to have more sessions like this in future as we continue to advocate for sexually abused children.

ACT FOUNDATION'S BREAKFAST DIALOGUE AND 5TH ANNIVERSARY



The Cece Yara team, represented by the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operations Officer, and Communications Manager, attended the 5th Anniversary and Breakfast Dialogue of the Aspire Coronation Trust (ACT) Foundation themed "Shifting Paradigms: Transforming our approach to addressing Africa's Challenges". The event also featured the launch of the organisation's new non-profit guidebook series. The Cece Yara Foundation felicitates with ACT Foundation on hitting this big milestone.

THE CECE YARA VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY



The foundation inducted a new team of passionate child advocates. The induction instilled a deeper understanding of our program services and paved the way for aligning the volunteers with our cause. Having volunteers take the front rows in our fight against child sexual abuse has brought tremendous progress and impacted the communities we serve positively. We can do more with you. Are you interested in volunteering with us? Visit our website.

***In alignment with our hope for a peaceful and free world,
we commemorated some International Days...***

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



In commemoration of International Women's Day, the Eko 100 Women Awards recognised our founder, Mrs. Bola Tinubu for her unending commitment to ensuring a safe and happy childhood for every Nigerian child. The Lagos State Government also applauded her for her unequivocal support for women and girls and ensuring they have access to a more equal and equitable world.

Also, our CEO participated in a #BreakTheBias Brainstorm and Brunch, an intimate social mixer for influencers, champions, and advocates to connect, share ideas, and synergize to maximize advocacy for Gender Equality and Family Planning causes in Nigeria. It was an enlightening and insightful event which created an enabling opportunity for social innovators to connect.

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH



The month of April has been dedicated for the commemoration of the child sexual abuse prevention. We collaborated with the Lagos state children's parliament on a media tour to notable media outfits to discuss challenges faced by survivors of child sexual abuse and to raise more awareness on the prevention and response to Child Sexual Abuse. Among the media outfits visited were: Eko FM, UNILAG 103.1FM, TVC News, and Naija FM.

INTERNATIONAL CHILD HELPLINE DAY



The Cece Yara Foundation is a proud member of Child Helpline International and the first foundation to establish the first child helpline in Nigeria. To commemorate the International Child Helpline Day, the Cece Yara team documented a short video depicting the Foundation's helpline response in four different languages; English, Igbo, Yoruba, and Hausa. Every child in Nigeria now has access to our 24-hour toll-free line on 0808008001 without communication barrier and can receive professional counselling, information, care, emergency intervention and referral pathway.

[Click to view](#)

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD



We went to the streets of Lagos to ask girls what they knew about their rights. Quite a few knew about their rights while others were sensitized better about the rights they have as children, their body boundaries and our free child Helpline number should they need report any case of abuse. We are constantly doing our best to become excellent advocates of change.

[Click to view](#)

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



We kicked off the 16 Days of Activism against sexual and gender-based violence which lasted from Nov. 25- Dec. 10, 2022 with social conversations on the fight against sexual abuse and our collective responsibility Live on Radio Maria 91.3 Abuja.

We were also a part of the Global Citizen Roadmap to 36 Townhall meeting which was held at Ikoyi-Obalende LCDA, Lagos where we made active contributions to the dialogue centred on the implementation of Violence against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) act. We encouraged community members to support the Government in implementation of the VAPP Act by ending negative sociocultural norms that aid violence and by being active bystanders in reporting cases of violence to preserve the lives and safety of survivors.

In addition, the Cece Yara team joined other advocates and stakeholders in the child protection space to take a stand against violence in women and girls through the 'VARIF No Tolerance March' in both Lagos and Abuja. We were also invited as guest on RAVE TV to speak extensively on Child Sexual Abuse, its prevention, and reporting mechanisms. Together, we united to raise a voice against violence in women and children.



SUPPORT US

We Rescue, But We Need Your Support
To Nurture Them

You Can Contribute To The Fight Against Child Sexual Abuse
By Donating Food, Provision, Clothes & Toiletries.

Account Name: The Cece Yara Foundation
Bank: Zenith Bank Plc.
Account Number: 1015548576

You can also visit our donation page to give:
<https://ceceyara.org/donate/>
Or visit our Global Giving Page
<https://bit.ly/3dSwpm6>



THE CECE YARA
FOUNDATION

...save the child.

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