

**GIRLS' POWER INITIATIVE  
(GPI) NIGERIA**

*Towards An Empowered Womanhood*

# NATIONAL REPORT 2019

CELEBRATES



25 YEARS OF EMPOWERING THE GIRL CHILD

GPI GAVE ME THE  
CONFIDENCE TO  
CHALLENGE BOUDARIES  
AND GROW INTO THE  
PHENOMENAL WOMAN  
OF MY DREAMS



**PEARL OSAMUDIAME - GAA 1997**

\*GAA – GPI Alumnae Association

## ABOUT GIRLS' POWER INITIATIVE (GPI), NIGERIA

Girls' Power Initiative (GPI) is a Nigerian nongovernmental, non-sectarian, not-for-profit, youth development organisation founded in 1993 by Bene Madunagu and Grace Osakue committed to the mission of empowering girls for the realisation of a future where women are visible and valued actors in society. They began the GPI Centres for young girls in 1994.

### PHILOSOPHY

GPI recognises the right of children especially girls to survival, effective protection, development and participation. The organisation believes that these rights cannot be achieved in the present circumstance where the Nigerian society hardly acknowledges their relevance.

She further believe that achievement of the over-all goal of women's emancipation from their present problems of poverty, ignorance, disease and subjugation can only be fully realised if the rights of girls are protected, girls are healthy and mobilized for development.

### VISION

A sustainable feminist institution leading transformation of patriarchal values in Nigeria

### MISSION

To empower children and young females with accurate information and skills from a gender perspective for self-reliance and social action

### VALUES

Teamwork, Passion, Upholding Feminist Ideology, Integrity, Equal Opportunities for all.

Website: [www.gpinigeria.org](http://www.gpinigeria.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gpi.nigeria/>

Instagram: [@gpisocial](https://www.instagram.com/gpisocial)

YouTube: [Girls Power Initiative GPI](https://www.youtube.com/GirlsPowerInitiativeGPI)

Twitter: [@girlspowerinit](https://twitter.com/girlspowerinit)



## GOVERNANCE

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Prof Ayo Atsenuwa (Chairperson)
- Dr Gloria Archibong
- Barr Dorothy Ihaza
- Faith Nwadishi
- Elizabeth Enakhimion
- Joyce Ahmadu
- Prof Bene Madunagu - Co-founder GPI
- Grace Osakue - Co-founder GPI (Secretary)

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Grace Osakue - Co-ordinator Edo State (Chairperson)
- Ehita Aikpitanyi – Co-ordinator Delta State
- Comfort Ikpeme – Co-ordinator Cross River State
- Jacinta Cocodia – Acting Co-ordinator Bayelsa State
- Loretta Enofe-Laurel Head of Programs Abuja FCT
- Ukeme Okon – Co-ordinator Akwa-Ibom (Secretary)

### OFFICES

**National/Edo State:** 67 New Road, Ugbiyoko, P.O. Box 7400, Benin City. Tel: 234-8073042499  
[gpiabenin@gpinigeria.org](mailto:gpiabenin@gpinigeria.org)

**Cross River State:** Anyamura Estate, Atimboh Road, P.O. Box 3663 UNICAL Post office Calabar  
 Tel: 234-8033578595 [gpihqcal@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gpihqcal@yahoo.co.uk)  
[gpicabar@gpinigeria.org](mailto:gpicabar@gpinigeria.org)

**Delta State:** 61, Ezenei Avenue, Asaba.  
 Tel: 234-8036335215 [gpiasaba@yahoo.com](mailto:gpiasaba@yahoo.com)  
[gpiasaba@gpinigeria.org](mailto:gpiasaba@gpinigeria.org)

**Akwa Ibom State:** 210, Abak Road, Uyo.  
 Tel: 234-8133429288 [gpiuyo@gpinigeria.org](mailto:gpiuyo@gpinigeria.org)

**Bayelsa State:** C/o Jacinta Cocodia,  
 Tel: +234-8039096752 [gpiyenagoa@gpinigeria.org.ng](mailto:gpiyenagoa@gpinigeria.org.ng)

**National Liaison/FCT Office:** Block 52, Agbede Close, Off Igubeben Road, Federal Housing, Kubwa, Tel: 234-8143089095  
[gpiabuja@gpinigeria.org.ng](mailto:gpiabuja@gpinigeria.org.ng)



Co-Founder GPI, Prof Bene Madunagu



Co-Founder GPI, Grace Osakue

## FOREWORD

The year 2019 marked Girls' Power Initiative (GPI) Nigeria Silver Jubilee (1994 – 2019) of empowering the girl child. A [journey](#) which began with friends and daughters of the co-founders in Calabar and Benin with the concept of 'catching them young' to fill in the vacuum of women realising their potentials free from disease and subjugation has blossomed and can be likely compared to the proverbial mustard seed with 5 Centres in South-South Nigeria and a National Liaison Office in Abuja as at 2019. The GPI at 25 [documentary](#) gives more insight.

Over the years, the organisation has recorded remarkable success in her empowerment programmes from the first set of 13 adolescent girls trained on personal empowerment, SRHR, leadership skills, community mobilisation, policy analysis, advocacy and community intervention which earned the mantra ***every GPI girl is a girl with a difference***. We recognise the importance of a right enhancing environment for the girls to be visible and valued actors, and this steers our works on policy reform advocacy that contributes to the development and implementation of major national and state policies on adolescents and women's health and rights such as the integration of sexuality education into school curriculum nationally in the year 2000 (under the leadership of Action Health Incorporated); Law against FGM and Early Marriage (2000), Gender Policy (2019) in Cross River State; Simplification of the Edo State Law against Trafficking in Persons ([2019](#)); Implementation of FGM Laws in Delta State (2019) and many more.

The strength of GPI lies in the inter-generational knowledge and skills transfer from the visionaries to adolescent beneficiaries of our gender and human rights based 3 years Sexuality Education Programme: the younger generation which is a focus of the United Nations (UN) Women Beijing plus 25 multigenerational campaign: **"Generation Equality: Realising women's rights for an equal future"**. Having started this one full year before the Beijing Conference adoption of the Girl Child as a Critical Area of Concern in 1995, GPI was a step ahead of the UN in identifying girl child empowerment as a mechanism for the building of women rights activists to achieve gender equality. The success of this strategy is clearly visible in the calibre of women our alumnae have grown into and the headship of our Centre in Calabar by one of them – Comfort Ikpeme. This drives our sustainability!

With the expansion of our programme areas to orphans and vulnerable children (OVC), children thus became incorporated into our strategic plan and reflected in our interventions but with adolescent girls as primary beneficiaries. GPI's primary focus since inception has been leading transformation of patriarchal values in Nigeria and all programme areas are directed to this vision which has led us from a direct reach of 13 girls in 1994 to 60235 persons (31045 females, 20382 males, 8808 non disaggregated by sex) in 2019 (in just the Edo State Centre), and indirect reach



of millions in Nigeria and diaspora through our radio & TV broadcasts as well as electronic media platforms of which our highest post reach on Facebook in 2019 was 81,642 with 2096 followers, twitter – 4333 followers and Instagram - 113 followers.

The 2019 report herein gives details of activities carried out in the 5 Centres and National Liaison Office by a team of staff working with passion to achieve the organisation's goals. The year 2020 will begin our journey to a golden jubilee for the next 25 years and the GPI team anticipates a change in the narrative on the plight of women and girls while we push towards self-sustainability to drive the outcomes we desire.

**Grace Osakue**

**Co-founder & Chairperson GPI Executive Board**



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# Girls' Power Initiative (GPI)

Abuja – National Liaison Office

## Annual Report

*"Towards an empowered womanhood"*



**JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019**

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## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
GPI	Girls' Power Initiative
GBV	Gender Based Violence
JSS	Junior Secondary School
HIV	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
UN	United Nations
VAGW	Violence Against Girls and Women



## Executive Summary

The year 2019 recorded greater strides for Girls' Power Initiative Abuja as implemented activities in line with the strategic plan (2015 – 2019) had more reach since the office opening in 2017.

This report highlights the key achievements – activities, outputs, outcomes and impact of the activities in line with set objectives centred at girlchild empowerment, as well as challenging all forms of inequality and discrimination against girls and women having a direct reach of 749 beneficiaries.

**TABLE OF BENEFICIARIES**

S/N	Activity	Direct Beneficiaries			Indirect Beneficiaries	Remark
		Male	Female	Total		
1	Pet Meeting	1	4	5		
2	Centre Meeting	0	21	21		
3	School Outreach	0	270	270		
4	In house training	0	3	3		
5	Visitation	3	6	9		
6	Menstrual Hygiene Day	0	81	81		
7	Advocacy	0	2	2		
8	Intensive Sexuality Educ	0	42	42		
9	Skills Training for girls	0	45	45		
10	Youth talent festival	1	54	55		
11	School Video Watch on Trafficking	39	77	116		
12	Community intervention – trafficking sensitisation	-	-	100		<b>Non segregated</b>
13	On Air Reach (2)				500,000	<b>Nationwide programmes</b>
14	Billboard (1)				250,00	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>750,000</b>	



## 1.0 Educational Programme for the Girls

### 1.1 CENTRE MEETING

The weekly GPI Centre Meetings tagged AMBASSADORS FOR DEVELOPMENT held during the period covered. The meeting is a safe spaced sexuality education program aimed at empowering adolescent girls with accurate information and skills from a gender perspective on their sexuality, health and rights; leadership and entrepreneurship; life and economic skills so as to be self-reliant and geared to take actions for social change and development.

The year recorded registration of more girls into the Centre. Sadly, most had to discontinue the program as a result of relocation, and admission into boarding school and the university.

The 2018/2019 session commenced on September 8, 2018 for the and ended on August 7, 2019.

Number of girls reached	<b>36</b>
Active girls	6
Girls promoted to Year 2	5
Number of meetings	32
Lessons covered	25
Skills training	4 (3 in Dec 2018 – pastries, fascinators, liquid wash; 1 in May 2019 – hairband)

The 2019/2020 session began on September 14, 2019 and closed for the reporting year on December 14, 2019 to resume on January 11, 2020.

	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 1</b>
Number of girls	5	16
Number of drop-offs	4	4
Reason	Boarding school; further education	Relocation, boarding school
Active girls	1	4
Number of meetings	14	
Lessons covered	1	9
Skills Training	2 (Bridal hand fan, mini flowerpots)	

#### Outcome:

The girls express themselves more and use lessons learnt to overcome challenges which they share during the meetings.





*Centre Meeting Session*



*Display of hairbands made by the girls*

**Voices:**

*15 years:* a friend was pressuring me to say yes to a relationship with a boy who is a cultist, asking why, she said for protection. I said NO, stood my ground and turned against them.

*15 years:* I assertively told a boy requesting for me to be his girlfriend I wasn't interested as it could lead to sexual relationship and we should be just friends.

*12 years:* a girl I met at holiday lessons sexually approached a senior male student; despite my speaking with her on the consequences of her actions, his refusal and insults, she persisted. I disassociated myself from her when I realized we had different values.

*15 years:* my friend had requested I walked to an opposite junction from mine after computer class, knowing fully well I had a deadline to be home, I used knowledge of decision-making skills and negotiation skills to state my opinion and reach an agreement.

## 1.2 SCHOOL'S OUTREACH

The weekly School Outreach Meeting is an abridged session of the Centre Meeting which gives more girls the opportunity to be informed on their sexuality, human rights, leadership, gender, SRHR and life skills.

Within the reporting year,

- i. the 2018/2019 session continued in JSS Kubwa III. 168 girls were reached with an average attendance of 68 girls.
- ii. the outreach activity was expanded to three more schools (JSS Gbazango, JSS Gwarimpa and JSS Galadinma) to reach out to more girls. JSS Gbazango and JSS Galadinma started in the 2019/2020 session, but for late approval from FCTUBEB & School for outreach activities in JSS Gwarimpa as well as examinations, lessons would begin in 2020.

### 2019/2020 Session Review

	JSS Kubwa III	JSS Gbazango	JSS Galadinma
<b>Number of girls reached</b>	155	100	15
<b>Lessons covered</b>	4	3	3
<b>Average attendance</b>	63	65	12





### Voices:

I am happy there is a Club like GPI in the school it is different from other clubs and we enjoy having you here that closing for the term we would miss you greatly – **Mrs. Ronke, JSS Galadinma Contact Teacher**

I now know that body shaming someone is bad. I don't think I would ever do it again. - **Oladele Bolanle JSS Galadinma**

I heard from my friend about the GPI Club I wanted to be part of it. I learnt so much about myself how to speak up and not be someone with low self Esteem. I wasn't here when you talked about Body Image but I enjoyed learning the song. - **Chinonso Eyinnaya JSS Galadinma**

I am happy we are getting a club like this in the school as it would make the girl child more aware of their environment. I would not want GPI to stop halfway but would want the club to outlive other clubs. -**Alhaji Bashir Abubakar, JSS Gwarimpa Principal**

I like the idea of having another Girl Club in the school as we cannot be tired of talking. I wish you came to our school sooner. **Mrs Ajuma Abubakar, JSS Gwarimpa Vice Principal Academics**

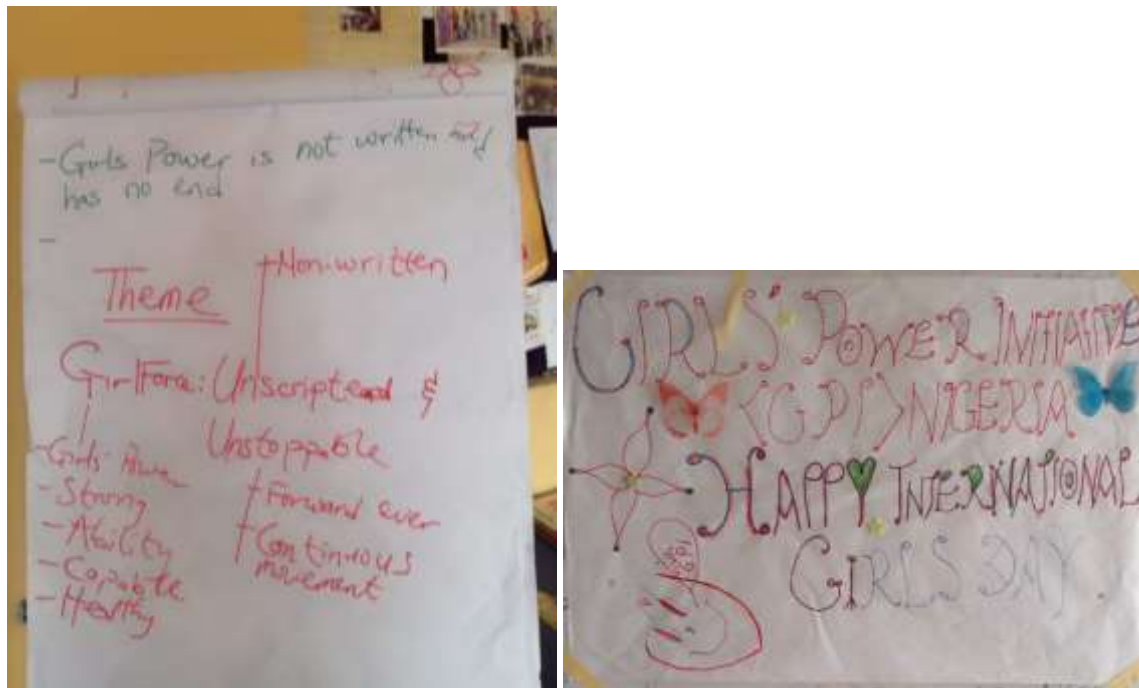
## 1.3 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD – OCTOBER 11

GPI Abuja Centre girls joined the world in celebration of themselves. The 2019's theme GirlForce – Unscripted and Unstoppable was discussed by the girls, they gave insight of the theme and shared their understanding. To them the theme outlines that ***"Girls Power is not written and has no end"***.





They jointly made a poster and sang a song written by Judith Ugochukwu to commemorate the day. This was uploaded on GPI's Facebook Page.



*Girl's suggestions on the meaning of the theme*

*Poster made by the girls*

#### 1.4 WORLD MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY – MAY 28, 2019

In commemoration of the World Menstrual Hygiene Day, safe space sensitisation campaign on menstrual health and hygiene was carried out at Junior Secondary School (JSS) Kubwa III, on 28 May 2019. It was an interactive session **aimed** at demystifying common beliefs on menstruation and improve menstrual hygiene.

**Objectives:** Girls should at the end of the session

- Understand the menstruation process and cycles
- Know strategies for maintain good menstrual hygiene
- Identify some common menstrual problems
- Learn how to cope with menstrual cramps
- Demystify common (especially sexual) beliefs on resolving menstrual problems
- How to use and dispose menstrual pads

**Participation:** In attendance were 89 girls made up of 81 girls from JSS1 & 8 girls from JSS 2, amongst which 80% (est.) claimed they were yet to begin the menstrual process.



*Loretta facilitating the session*

Some questions asked by the participants during the session:

- Can a girl get pregnant if she has not started menstruation?
- Can tissue paper or pieces of clothes be used when there's no pad?
- What age does menstruation begin?
- I am 12, and yet to begin menstruating, am I OK?
- I have started seeing some discharges (upon inquiry, they were normal) but I'm yet to menstruate, would it still come?
- How often is the pad meant to be changed?
- How do I dispose my pad?

After the session, menstrual pads were donated to the school. The school authorities had reported most girls' cycles occur in school and teachers often fund the provision of pads for the girls.

Output

89 girls have accurate information on menstrual process and hygiene, and how to wear a pad

## 2.0 Educational Programme for the Public

### 2.1 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

The United Nations 16 days (Nov 25 to Dec 10) to raise awareness on the elimination of violence against women and girls (VAWG) with the year's theme: Generation Equality Stand Against Rape was commemorated. The office organised activities as well as partook in national activities to mark the 16 days.

#### 2.1.1 1-day sensitisation campaign to students of Junior Secondary School (JSS), Gbazango, Kubwa - FCT on human trafficking with the aid of film screening

To reduce the vulnerability of school children to human trafficking (which often results to sexual violence and most perpetrated on women and girls) media aided sensitisation on migration and trafficking was carried out on Nov 21 at Junior Secondary School, Gbazango. (It was done prior to the 16 days of activism because end of terms exams would be ongoing within the 16 days).

##### **Specific Objective:**

Increased awareness of students of Junior Secondary School (JSS), Gbazango, FCT on the phenomenon of human trafficking

##### **Objectives**

- Understand the meaning and difference of Migration and Trafficking
- How to migrate legally
- How to find help when in a trafficking situation
- Be Peer-Educators on human trafficking



## Participation

103 student representatives from every class in the school and 2 teachers participated in the film screening sensitisation session on human trafficking. Others in attendance included staff from Save the Child Initiative (STCI) and Elohim Foundation, technical team, GPI Alumni, GPI girls, volunteer and staff.

Description	Male	Female	Total
Student	37	66	103
Teacher	0	2	2
NGO	0	2	2
Technical team	2	0	2
GPI Alumni	0	1	1
GPI girls	0	2	2
Volunteer	0	1	1
Staff	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>115</b>

## Methodology

Brain teasers, interactive sessions, question & answers, personal experiences, display & sighting of travel document, and film screening

## Activity

Participants got to understand migration types – legal, irregular and illegal and their differences; how to migrate legally, and consequences of illegal migration; the phenomenon Human Trafficking, its elements - Act, Means & Purpose, types – internal and consequences of trafficking in persons; finding help when in a trafficked situation.

Short films that show the reality of trafficking were screened; this made participants understand the exploitation faced by trafficked victims and understand the topic better as it steered up questions and comments from the participants. Participants were geared to take action by sharing the information gotten with their peers.



*Hands raised depicting Red Flag (STOP) to Human Trafficking*

**Output/Result:**

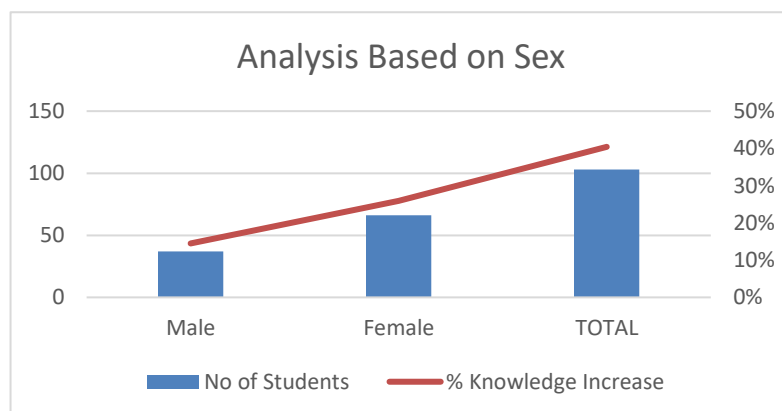
104 students of JSS Gbazango are able to differentiate between migration and trafficking

**Monitoring & Evaluation:**

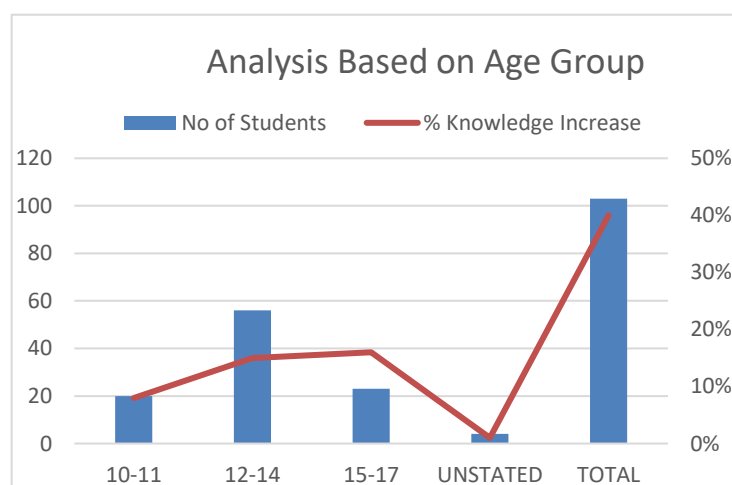
Knowledge increase of 40% was recorded, with females and participants aged 15-17 with more knowledge increase.

**ANALYSIS BASED ON SEX**

S/N	Sex	No of Students	% Knowledge Increase
1	Male	37	14%
2	Female	66	26%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>40%</b>



S/N	Age Group	No of Students	Knowledge Increase (%)
1	10-11	20	8%
2	12-14	56	15%
3	15-17	23	16%
4	UNSTATED	4	1%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>40%</b>



### 2.1.2 Interactive session on the essence of the 16 days of activism at the safe-space Centre Meeting

During the weekly safe-space Centre Meeting on Nov 30, 2019 the week's discussion was on the 16 Days of Activism. The history, the movement, theme for the year – Generation Equality Stand Against Rape and "Orange the World" messages were discussed.

**Output/Result**

The girls responded the use of VAWG to Gender Based Violence (GBV) for the 16 days of activism brought the plight of women and girls to the forefront more, as compared to GBV.





## 3.0 Community Intervention

### 3.1 COMMUNITY AWARENESS RAISING ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KUBWA VILLAGE

As part of the 16 Days of Activism on VAGW members of Kubwa Village Community were sensitised on migration and human trafficking on Nov 26 at the Chief's Palace.

#### Specific Objective:

Increased awareness of Kubwa Village Community Members, FCT on the phenomenon of human trafficking

#### Objectives

- Understand the meaning and difference of Migration and Trafficking
- How to migrate legally
- How to find help when in a trafficking situation

Active participation was recorded from the community members as they frequently asked questions, contributed and shared experiences from activities in the community. They appreciated GPI's intervention and requested for more activities in the community and neighbouring communities.

#### Output/Result:

About 100 persons were reached as most community members were outside the Chief's Palace (most women were seated inside) and the public address system was placed outside for them to get the information. IEC materials were posted at different locations in the community.







### **3.2 WALK TO END RAPE ORGANISED BY THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WOMEN AFFAIRS & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH UN WOMEN ON DEC 2, 2019**

GPI Abuja joined in the walk to raise awareness for an end to violence against girls and women with emphasis to an end to rape for an environment where girls and young females can grow safely to be visible actors in the society.

The walk took off at Eagles Square and stops were made at Ministry of Justice and Police Headquarters to channel our demands of swift response by the ministry and police on cases related to rape and all forms of violence against women and girls.





## 4.0 GPI Information Desk

### 4.1 MEDIA PROGRAMMES

#### 4.1.1 Radio Nigeria call-in programme – Issues of the Moment

In a bid to raise more awareness on the 16 Days of Activism, GPI was invited by the national radio broadcasting station – Radio Nigeria to speak on “Gender Violence in Nigeria: Call to Action” on Nov 28, 2019 with Loretta as a discussant.



#### Output:

The programme had a large audience reach. Audience called in from different states of the federation.

#### 4.1.3 Radio Nigeria Children Program – World AIDS Day

To mark the World AIDS day on Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, GPI Year 2 girl – Judith Ugochukwu (15 years) was a discussant on Junior Radio Nigeria where she spoke on HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention.

### 4.2 BILLBOARD

One billboard was placed in NYSC Junction on Kubwa Express Road, Abuja with the content ***Human Trafficking Harms our Children and Youth*** with on air personality Stella Anulika (Willy Willy) of Wazobia FM as the model. The billboard was strategically located at this prime location with very busy vehicular and human traffic for optimum reach.

## 5.0 Capacity Development

### 5.1 SEXUALITY EDUCATION HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

The second edition of the holiday programme for girls within the age group 12 - 19 years held with the theme: **“My Sexuality, My Health, My Right”** was aimed at achieving Capacity Development for Sustainable Action and Change; a thematic area of the GPI’s Strategic Plan (2014 – 2019).

The programme rounded up with a youth talent’s festival and it held from 29 July – 3 Aug 2019 at GPI’s National Liaison Office, Kubwa, Abuja.

#### Overall Objective:

Equip girls within a safe space with accurate information and skills on their sexuality, health and rights from a gender perspective, to enable them to have healthy productive lives and be agents of change.

#### Specific Objectives:

1. Create a safe space for the girls to interact and learn from the experiences of other participants and trainers
2. Equip the girls with life skills to manage their experiences and challenges of growing up
3. Increase the girls’ knowledge with accurate information on sexuality, SRHR and cancer, for informed decisions and healthy lives
4. Girls are geared to take action on the identification of girls and women's rights violation
5. Equip the girls with economic skill (Bag making) with which they can build their finances
6. Create avenue for girls to showcase learnt skills competitively

#### Target Participants:

30 girls are reached out to and participate in the programme

#### Expected Outcome:

1. 30 girls can manage their experiences and challenges of growing up as a girl
2. 30 girls can clarify their values and set SMART goals
3. 30 girls can skilfully negotiate their demands and assert decisions made
4. 30 girls know the etiquettes for dates and can differentiate between infatuation and love
5. 30 girls maintain good menstrual hygiene and accurately calculate their menstrual cycles using menstrual beads
6. 30 girls are knowledgeable on the prevention, transmission and, care & management of HIV/AIDS
7. 30 girls understand the concept - Human Sexuality, and identify their SRHR
8. 30 girls identify VAGW rights and how it can be eliminated
9. 30 girls are informed on cancer and examination for breast and cervical cancer



10. 30 girls can make 'ankara' bags

**Activity:**

The holiday programme had the following activities:

- i. Four days gender-sensitive training from the SFLHE curriculum on life and personal empowerment skills training, SRHR, VAGW and Cancer (July 29 - August 1, 2019)

**Topics**

Body Image, Human Sexuality, Values Clarification, Vision & Goal Setting, Assertiveness, Negotiation Skills, Decision Making Skills, Dating and Intimacy, Reproductive System, Menstruation & Moods, How Pregnancy Occurs, STIs & HIV/AIDS, SRHR, VAGW, Cancer

**Methodology**

Brainstorming exercise, interactive sessions, group work discussions, individual writing exercises, experience sharing, and video screening

- ii. One day economic skills training on personal financial management, and making of 'ankara bags' (August 2, 2019)

**Methodology**

Interactive session, professional training, and group work activity

- iii. One day youth talent festival where learnt skills were exhibited to families and friends competitively (August 3, 2019)

**Activity**

- The girls in group of three competed on book wrapping, make up and public speaking skills, while there was presentation of Ankara bags made at the training session.
- The public speaking competitors made up of 2 girls/group spoke on the following topics:
  1. Nigeria in the spotlight free from VAGW
  2. GPI platform for tomorrow's empowered women
  3. Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Right for an Equal Future
  4. Empowering girls for a skilled workforce
- The girls presented a drama on the lessons learned during the week. They showcased a girl who gave in to peer pressure, contracted HIV and was supported by family & friends
- Choreography on Nigeria beats was presented by the girls
- Certificate of Completion on 'One Week Adolescent Sexuality Education' was issued



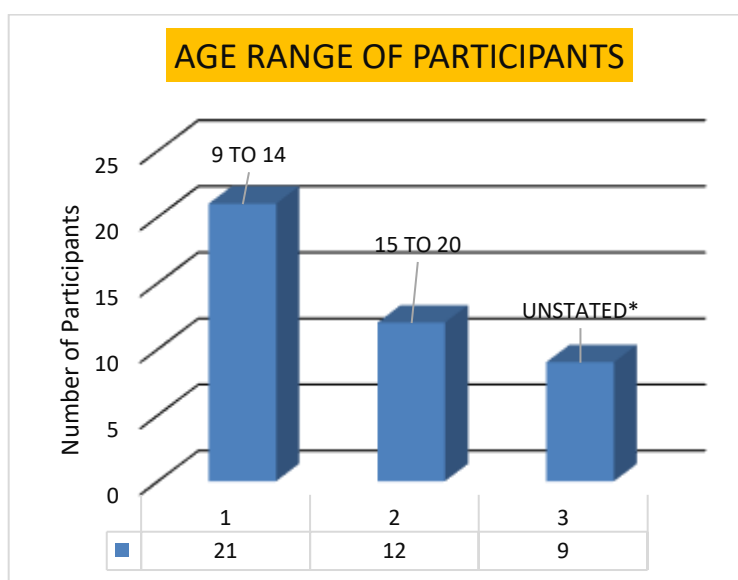
### Methodology

- Girls owned the activity from organisation to secretariat duties
- Full participation by girls as each partook in at least one activity
- Judges had no affiliation to any participant
- Communication of judge's scorecard to participants on the criteria used for assessment

### Participation

The holiday programme had 47 girls pre-registered for the activity by submitting distributed consent forms prior to the activity. In attendance were 42 girls of which 11 were returning girls, with 39 as active participants.

Training Attendance		
Day	Date	Attendance
1	29/7/19	33
2	30/7/19	33
3	31/7/19	31
4	1/8/19	39
5	2/8/19	39
Average		35



Youth Talent Festival (3/8/2019)			
Participant	Male	Female	Total
Girls	-	38	38
Parents	-	13	13
Trainer	1	-	1
GAA	-	1	1
GPI Staff	-	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>55</b>

The youth talent festival was attended by 55 persons



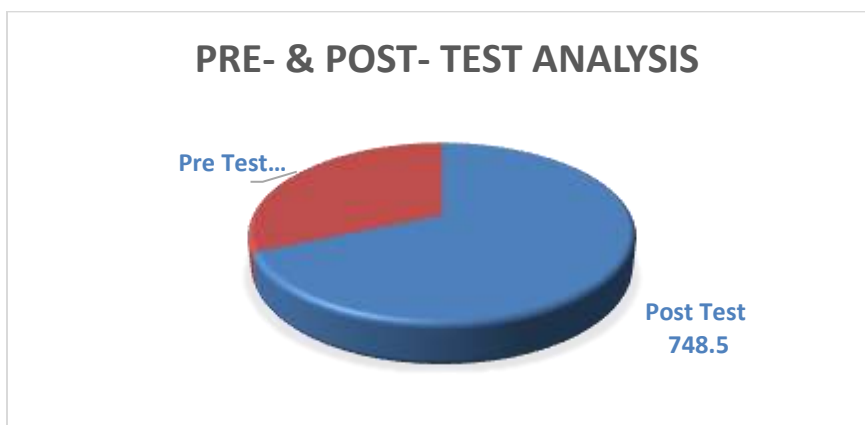


## Monitoring & Evaluation

### a. Pre- & Post-Test

At the beginning and end of the training, tests were carried out on the participants to ascertain their knowledge on the subject matter and to know if there was any significant improvement in their knowledge.

The result showed there was 80% increased knowledge in 79% of the participants with significant increase in girls within the age range of 9-14 years.



### b. Evaluation of returning participants:

One-year impact assessment of participants were carried on 11 girls. The outcome of the program was captured in their voices below:

Kabeerah (15): I am no longer the girl with a low self-esteem and I now have the courage to speak on stage without stage fright.

Abosede (15) – I communicate better with people and I have taught other girls how to make turban and tie ‘gele’

Judith – When I share information among my friends, they often wonder how I know so much

### c. Voices

- (Parent) – *“This program came up just when I needed it most as it has helped my daughter to begin to open up and communicate how she feels.”*
- (Brother). – *“I saw my sister prepare for the public speaking presentation with so much zeal and seeing her performance I’m happy because she often shy away from such”*
- Favour (20) – The week activity was filled with so much lessons and I would take action to educate others

d. Activity Scorecard

<b>Output/Result:</b> - Self-confident and gender-sensitive participants who are informed on their SRHR			
<b>Narrative Summary</b>	<b>Verifiable Indicators</b>	<b>Percentage Completed</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Inputs/Activities</b>			
1. Target participants (30 girls, 12- 19 years) are mobilised to attend the programme	Parents consented to their wards' participation. 42 girls (9-20 years) participated with 39 girls as active participants.	140%	47 Consent forms submitted prior to the activity. 3 girls stopped attending after day 1. One of them fell ill, while the others (2) stopped because of transportation cost.
2. a. Gender-sensitive training on SFLHE, Personal Empowerment, VAGW and Cancer	90% of the trained participants have accurate information on sexuality, SRHR, VAGW and Cancer from a gender angle	100%	Active participation by the girls and their presentations at the Talent Festival (drama, public speaking) showed their full grasp of the knowledge gained from the training.
b. Economic Skills	60% of participants have basic skills on bag making	100%	
3. Monitoring & Evaluation	Pre- & Post- activity test, Evaluation are done	100%	Pre- & Post-Tests, and evaluation of the outcome of the activity on 11 returning participants were carried out.

**Lessons learned and recommendations**

The period for the Holiday Programme is accompanied by heavy downpours, thus the weather was not favourable as most of the times it rained in the mornings. Sessions had to start late, and this made some topics to be taken hastily. It is recommended, lessons should not be more than two for a 4-hour/day session.

It is recommended we have a co-ed session to reform the minds of the adolescent boys brought up in a patriarchal system.



## Pictures



*Participants sharing their opinions in a session facilitated by Vera*



*Participants working in a group on VAGW*



*Group presentation on VAGW session*



*Training on making of Ankara Bag behind*



*Bags made in groups to the judges makeup competitors*



*Public Speaking Competition by the girls on Talent Festival*



## 6.0 Service Delivery

### 6.1 COUNSELLING

Series of counselling sessions were with girls from the Outreach Schools. They often wait in turns to speak with the facilitators privately after their lessons. Concerns on menstrual hygiene and processes were the most counselled sessions.

### 6.2 VISITATION

Home visits were made to five GPI beneficiaries during the reporting period of which 8 adults were interacted with, and calls were also made to GPI parents. These were done to follow up on the girls especially when absent from the Centre for more than two meetings and on request by the girls.

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Visitation</b>	3	6	9
<b>Calls</b>	2	2	4
<b>Total</b>	5	8	13

## 7.0 Strategic Advocacy

### 7.1 ADVOCACY VISITS

Series of advocacy visits were made to the FCT Universal Basic Education Board (UBEB) Gender Office headed by Dr Tamanuwa for the expansion of GPI Sexuality Education Programme in selected Junior Secondary Schools in Kubwa and Gwarimpa communities in Bwari and Abuja Municipal Area Councils respectively.

The visits yielded the increase in number of weekly School's Outreaches by three. With this, more girls would be reached and empowered with personal skills and accurate information to live healthy lives and for self-actualisation.

## 8.0 Networks & Partners

### 8.1 NETWORKS

During the reporting year, GPI Abuja partnered with network members and stakeholders listed below to enhance skills and attitudes of children especially young females and community members to effect social change at individual, community and societal level.



1. AfriYAN – Africa Youths and Adolescents Network
2. NACTAL – Network Against Child Trafficking, Abuse and Labour
3. **Stakeholders;** FCT UBEB  
Kubwa Village Chief Council  
311 Community Members (community where the office is situated)

## 9.0 Donors

In the year 2019, the activities carried out by GPI Abuja Office which also is the National Liaison Office of GPI Nigeria were funded by

- Internally Generated Funds
- Donations:**
- National Headquarters, GPI Benin Office
- 311 Community (where the office is situated)

## 10.0 Organisational Management & Development

This section focuses on the management and development of the organisation. For strengthened capacity in order to achieve greater stability, increased effectiveness, efficiency and sustainable impacts of programs and services, the following were carried out:

### 10.1 ADMINISTRATION

#### 10.1.1 Project Executing Team (PET) Meetings

This held every Tuesday of the week with all staff members in attendance.

Report on activities executed in the previous week were discussed, that for coming week and also office welfare. This creates opportunity for all staff to be abreast with the happenings of the office and share their opinions for continuous improvement of programs and services.

#### 10.1.2 Organisational Management Committee (OMC) Meetings

It held quarterly. Management staff reports on departments they are assigned to, and on how the departments processes could be improved. Issues relating to the welfare of the office and staff were also discussed.

#### 10.1.3 Inventory

In line with GPI's Financial Procedure, inventory was taken periodically during the reporting period with the last being on December 10, 2019 for the year ending. Status of office equipment and items were documented.





#### 10.1.4 Human Resource

During the reporting year, the office had a staff strength of two management staff (Head of Programmes and National Liaison Officer) and a volunteer. A new Liaison Officer (Vera Igbinadolor) was employed with the resignation of Oghenetega Okpakorese in March due to relocation.

### 10.2 TRAININGS

#### 10.2.1 Staff In-House Training :

This was carried out based on needs. Trainings held were to intimate members of staff on the organisation, her objectives and mode of operations.

This training was facilitated by the Head of Programmes, Loretta Enofe- Laurel, the sessions taken were

1. GPI Constitution and, Documentation Management and Filing Procedure held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2019
2. GPI Personnel Manual, Travel Policy and Financial Procedures held on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2019.

#### Voices:

*Learnt more about GPI personnel Manual and more about the procedure for Financial Management.*

- **Tabitha Yashe Joseph (Volunteer)**

#### 10.2.2 Staff External Training/Conference/Workshop

NAME		TRAINING/CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP	DATE	ORGANISERS	VENUE
<b>Vera Igbinadolor</b>		Amend UBE Act: Strengthening Access to Education	17 April 2019	Youth Hub Africa	Galaxy Hotel, FCT
<b>Vera Igbinadolor</b>		Human Rights Watch Report: Trafficking of Women and Girls in Nigeria	15 Aug, 2019	Human Rights Watch	SAM Empowerment Foundation, Garki II, FCT
<b>Loretta Enofe-Laurel Vera Igbinadolor</b>		Managing for Results: A Monitoring and Evaluation Training (Central Theme: Building the Next Generation of M&E Experts in Nigeria)	4-6 Sept 2019	-Emerald International Development Services - Professional Women Global Connect (PWGC)	Palace of Priests Assembly Auditorium (Ebenezer Palace), Area One, Abuja



				Women Empowerment & Reproductive Centre (WERHC)	
<b>Vera Igbinador Tabitha Joseph</b>		Public Presentation of Network Against Child Trafficking, Abuse & Labour (NACTAL) Strategic Plan & Baseline Survey	5 Nov 2019	Network Against Child Trafficking, Abuse & Labour (NACTAL)	Ministry of Education Federal Secretariat CBD, Abuja
<b>Loretta Enofe-Laurel</b>		Sexual Offenders Register Launch	25 Nov 2019	National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)	Transcorp Hilton, Abuja

### 10.3 OVERVIEW

The year 2019 recorded increased reach to children especially young females and community members to foster behaviour change and drive social actions that supports an enabling environment where girls and young females are visible and valuable actors in the society.

The year 2020 holds a better year as we hope to receive grants to expand our reach; leverage on the increased visibility with FCTUBEB, Schools and Communities; strengthen our presence in the FCT by working with Networks, and extending our works in the different communities in Kubwa and the Municipal.

#### **Loretta ENOFE-LAUREL**

Head of Programmes

GPI Abuja





# Girls' Power Initiative (GPI)

Delta State – Asaba Centre

## Annual Report

*“Towards an empowered womanhood”*



**JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019**



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## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ASRHR	Adolescent and Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights
ARH	Adolescent Reproductive Health
GPI	Girls' Power Initiative
HIV	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MoE	Ministry of Education
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
PTA	Parents Teachers Association
PTF	Parent Teacher Forum
PEs	Peer Educators
SFLHE	Sexuality, Family Life and HIV Education
SRHR	Sexual, Reproductive Health and Rights
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV
PACF	Positive Action for Children Fund
AWDF	African Woman Development Fund
TV	Television



## Introduction

GPI Asaba Delta State had records of success stories in the year 2019. Young girls who benefit from GPI program increased. Lots of commemorative days were marked with GPI activities. Girls' Power Initiative rendered services to the public like the media program, library service, research/information. Activities were carried out on social work, community intervention, advocacies, in-house trainings, meetings, workshop, training and summit.

Girls' Power Initiative is partnering with line ministries and NGOS. Acknowledgement and recognition is given to special project like Positive Action for children fund (PACF), African Women Development Fund (AWDF), and Amplify Change.





## 1.0 Educational Programme for Girls

**OBJECTIVE:** To increase awareness of girls and young females on issues of sexuality, sexual and reproductive health, gender and human rights.

### 1.1 CENTRE MEETINGS

The aim of centre meeting is to empower young girls on various skill, life management skill and sexuality information.

#### Output

- Centre meetings held from January- December 2019
- Technical information was given to adolescent girls.

The list of topics treated were; HIV and AIDS, family structure, Abstinence, virginity and sexual hygiene, reproductive health and right, pregnancy and child birth, fertility regulation, STI, Drug Abuse, violence against women and girls, child abuse, Rape ,Incest and sexual harassment etc



## Outcome

- Between January – December 2019 Girls Power Initiative reached fifty (50) girls through GPI Centre Meetings
- GPI Centre girls are now empowered through skills training, vocational studies, career development programs, ICT and leadership training.
- Centre girls have acquired relevant information and various skills that will make them productive.

## Success

- GPI has introduced more interesting events like birthday parties, dance and drama club days etc

<b>Data</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>Segregation</b>	Female 300 Male 0

## VOICES

Igwebuike favour: I learnt that we should have a unique character that people will like to emulate.

Okolo Loveth: I learnt that we as children have unique roles to play in the family just as our parents do.

Ashiedu Blessing: I learnt about the roles of each parent and the uniqueness of each family member.

Patience Echeniel: I learnt that we should build a positive personality for ourselves so that our parents will be proud of us.

Miracle Elelobi: I learnt that every family is unique and every child should be treated equally.

Ovie Charity: I learnt that societal conceptions that treat the female child as a stranger to be married off should be stopped.



### 1.1.1 Skills Training

Girls Power Initiative had skill training for young girls at GPI conference hall

#### Aim

The aim of the training was to empower young girls economically with various skills that will enable them to be independent.

SKILLS TRAINED	FACILITATOR
Fried rice – cook & service	Pat Akah
Bow tie	GPI girl
Soya milk& Ice cream	Jenifer Ehizele



#### Output

Young girls were evaluated after all the trainings and it was obvious that the girls have been empowered economically.





## 1.2 SCHOOL'S OUTREACH PROGRAM

The aim of school outreach is to provide sexuality education and HIV seminar to our school outreach girls.

### Output

School's Outreach was conducted in 12 schools. The schools were - Demonstration Secondary School, Niger Mixed Secondary School, Institution of Continuous Education, Okpanam High Secondary School, OketaMixed Secondary School, EmedeGrammer school, St.Martin's College isselu-uku, IssiomaOyoibi, Rockfill College, Ebulu-EkitSecondary School, Ebulu-UkuGirls Secondary School, Seat of Wisdom econdary school, Royal path way.

Adolescent girls were reached in the course oftheSchool'sOutreach Program. Different topics on sexuality education and life management skills were facilitated. They were: body image, self-esteem , assertiveness and self-assurance, vision and goal settings, values clarification, communication skills, human rights and responsibility, violence against girls, FGM, Rape, Decision making and negotiation skill, HIV/AIDS and STI, Teenage pregnancies, puberty and menstruation.

### Outcome

GPI school outreach brought out potentials in young girls, the girls have acquired skill and are now assertive, and they know their rights and set positive realistic goals that will make them productive.

### Challenges

- In most of the outreach schools, Facilitators are not given quality time for school outreach

### Success

- Facilitators try as much as possible to utilize the quality time they have for school outreach

<b>DATA</b>	3000
<b>SEGREGATION</b>	FEMALE 3000 MALE 0



**VOICES**

What people think about me usually determines how I feel about myself, but now I have learnt to love myself no matter what.

Obi princess

Age: 16

OKPANAM HIGH SCHOOL OKPANAM

I don't use to speak up, but now I have learnt that I can say my mind without hurting anyone.

Judith chime

Age: 16

OKPANAM HIGH SCHOOL OKPANAM

My inferiority complex dead immediately after the teachings on self esteem. The teaching has made me feel worthy enough of myself.

Nwali oge

Age : 11

DELL SECONDARY SCHOOL ASABA

I have learnt that I must succeed in all I do because failure contributes to low self esteem.

Odehe Timi

Age: 15

DELL SECONDARY SCHOOL ASABA

I use to have a negative body image which affected me mentally but after the teaching on body image , I love my body and physical appearance the way it is.

Okanimee Sandra

Age: 13

DEMONSTRATION SECONDARY SCHOOL ASABA

The teaching of self esteem made me develop a high self esteem.





Amagu Gloria

Age: 12 DELL SECONDARY SCHOOL ASABA

The way I feel about my body image changed after aunty Pat's teaching on body image.

Nachor Joy

Age: 12

WEST END MIXED SECONDARY SCHOOL ASABA

I lacked self confidence in myself but after today's teaching, I saw why I must be confident in myself.

Ajamah Evelyn.

Age: 12

WEST END MIXED SECONDARY SCHOOL ASABA

Despite the much criticize and rejection at home I now understand that it should not affect myself esteem because I was taught that I must not feel inferior about myself.

Ebiam Miriam.

Age: 10

ASAGBA MIXED SECONDARY SCHOOL ASABA

I don't use to love myself because of my bow legs , after today's teaching on body image ,I now love myself, most especially the bow leg.

Ukagu Joy.

Age: 10

ASAGBA MIXED SECONDARY SCHOOL ASABA



### 1.3 BOY-GIRL FORUM

The International Day of the Girl Child with a boy/girl forum for students in Rock Fill Secondary School Asaba, Delta State.

#### Aim

The activity is to educate young boys and girls on their sexuality and the dangers associated with adolescent risky behaviour.

#### Summary of Event

The resource person Pat Akah briefly introduced the organization to the student and staff of Rock Fill Secondary School. She went ahead to explained sexuality as everything that has to do with an individual. Therefore sexuality goes beyond sex. She went further to list different risky behaviors adolescent engaged themselves in, some of which are multiple sex partners, substance abuse, gambling and many more. She emphasized on the dangers of risky behavior and encouraged adolescents to avoid risky behavior. Questions were asked by the students and they were all answered by the coordinator of GPI.

#### Impact

The program gave room for questions and answers. The students asked questions on areas that were not clear to them. The coordinator answered all questions asked, the students got accurate information that will help them make decision from the point of information.

#### Categories of People Present

- Management of rockfill school
- Students
- Teachers
- GPI team

#### Resource Person

- Ehita Ikoghode Aikpitanyi- the Co-ordinator, Girls' Power Initiative Asaba
- Pat Akah - Head of Programs/Program officer PACF

DATA	205
SEGREGATION	<b>FEMALE 105</b> <b>MALE 100</b>





## 1.4 ASSEMBLY PRESENTATION

The Centre organized an assembly presentation in IsiomaOyeobi secondary school Asaba, Delta State.

### Aim

The activity was to empower the young ones with personal empowerment skills.

### Summary of Event

A brief introduction about GPI was done and the resource person in the person of Eucharua Mba gave technical information on different life empowerment topics like; body image, assertiveness, self-esteem, goal settings, values and value clarification.

She encouraged students to love themselves for they are uniquely made, they should believe in themselves, they should be able to speak up without hurting others, set realistic goals and hold in high esteem those things that are beneficial to them.

### Impact

The students acquired life management skill that will assist them in managing life issues



### Categories of People Present

- Management of Rockfill School
- Students
- Teachers
- GPI team

### ResourcePersons

- MbaEucharua - Outreach officer GPI Delta State.



<b>DATA</b>	<b>3478</b>
<b>SEGREGATION</b>	FEMALE 2078 MALE 1400

## 2.0 Educational Programs for the Public

### 2.1 PARENT-DAUGHTER FORUM

This was organized on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April, 2019 with the theme ‘building a formidable parent-daughter relationship’.

#### Aim

To raise awareness of adolescents, parents on issues of sexuality human rights, advanced health and rights of adolescents.

#### Summary of Event

The Co-ordinator gave a welcome remark, after which Pat Akah gave technical information on parent-daughter relationship. She explained who a parent is and what parenting means. She also explained the conflict between parents and their children’s best interest.

Pat Akah went further to explain parent’s roles in bringing up their child. Speaking on this, she told parents to show their children love and scold them when necessary. They should also be given good nutrition and should be taught hygiene. Emphasis was also on preventive measures of teenage pregnancies, HIV /AIDS and STI.



According to Pat Akah, to prevent these social problems common and associated with adolescents, parents are to teach their children comprehensive sexuality education.

After the technique information some parents testified to the good work of GPI in the lives of their ward and children.

### Impact

The program was impactful as there was a bridge communication gap between parents and children. There were lots of change stories from GPI parents, testifying to how GPI has transformed their wards/children to better people.

### Categories of People Present

- GPI staff
- GPI girls
- GPI parents

### Resource Person

- Pat Akah, Head of Program, Girls' Power Initiative Asaba, Delta state.

<b>DATA</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>SEGREGATION</b>	FEMALE 7 MALE 3

## 3.0 GPI Information Desk

### 3.1 MEDIA FORUM - AWDF MEDIA FORUM

Girls' Power Initiative organized press briefing/media forum on the 26<sup>th</sup> of Sept, 2019. There was a brief summary on the project **"Advocacy project to tackle sexual violence and implement Adolescent health policy in Delta State"** with support from African Women Development Fund(AWDF)executed in six LGA's in Delta namely -Oshimili North& South, Aniocha North & South and Isoko North & South in Delta State.

During the implementation of this project GPI carried out the following activities to catalyse change;





- Advocacy to Local Government Chairpersons that resulted in integration of Adolescents Health Friendly Services in six existing Health Centres designated by the Local Government Chairpersons. Also, health workers were trained to render non-judgmental services to the adolescents in the following Health Centres:

Issele-Uku Primary Health Centre

Uku-Nzu Primary Health Centre

Umuagu Primary Health Centre

Okpanam Primary Health Centre

Ibusa Primary Health Centre

Okwe Primary Health Centre



- Involvement of more stakeholders in the elimination of sexual violence and promotion of comprehensive sexuality education in target communities through Stakeholders' Forum organized for Local Government Chairpersons, Council members, designated officials and community members.
- Advocacy visit and revisits to key officials in Ministry of Health, the success of this activity resulted in reviews of adolescent health policy to ensure the implementation of the policy.
- Technical support and life management skills building in 15 communities empowered adolescents to resist and prevent sexual violence in their communities.
- Media forum for media houses in Delta state that strengthened partnership with the media in carrying out our aims and objectives.

- Sexuality education for in and out of school youths that empowered adolescents with relevant skills to prevent sexual abuse and make them change agents who can effectively eliminate sexual violence in their different communities
- Radio program which helped in reaching out to our secondary beneficiaries and effected behavioural change amongst them.

In conclusion, measures were also put in place to ensure sustainability of the project.

<b>DATA</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>SEGREGATION</b>	FEMALE 23 MALE 13

### 3.2 LIBRARY SERVICE

A lot of people made use of GPI Delta library in 2019. Books that were borrowed and returned:

- Protocol to the African Chapter on Human's Right and on the Rights of Women in Africa
- Violence Against Women
- Sexuality in the Media
- Handbook on Sexuality Reproductive health and HIV/AIDS Education
- In line with the divine.

## 4.0 Community Intervention

### 4.1 WORLD DAY AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN PERSON 2019

2019 World day against Human Trafficking in persons titled "CALL YOUR GOVERNMENT TO ACTION" was commemorated by the Delta State Government in collaboration with Non-Governmental Organization(NGO's) with a road walk, sensitizing the public of the dangers of human trafficking and illegal migration in the state.

The Participants for the road walk include MWAC&SD, COWOYEM, GPI, IOM, Delta State Libya Returnees Association, NACTAL, Shola Mese Foundation, Hope Health Organization, Market Women Association toured round major street of Asaba with sound systems, IEC materials, Banner boldly written "ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING NOW" information on Human Trafficking was disseminated as well as sharing of CD flyer to the public.





The staged walk ended with paper presentation at the Delta state Commissioner for Women Affairs, Community and Social Development office by Tessy Imahia the Founder and Executive Director of Concern for Women and Youth Empowerment (COWOYEM), who stated that the most powerful weapons used by traffickers to get their victims are deception for those who seek greener pastures and through force.

She calls on the government for more action to put an end to this menace called trafficking in person that is fast deteriorating the lives of Men, Women and Children in our Society.

Delta Commissioner for Women Affairs, Community and Social Development Mrs Flora Alanta, in her response to the presentation addressed the participants stating that human trafficking wreck homes, lives, kills faster and more dangerous than HIV/AIDs.

The Commissioner said the call to action is not only to the Government, but to everyone to take action to prevent this heinous crime in Delta State Nigeria and the world at large. She advised parents, guardian and the general public to be aware of traffickers with their sweet coated tongues about better job and life overseas.

<b>DATA</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>SEGREGATION</b>	FEMALE 38 MALE 0

## 4.2 COMMUNITY INTERVENTION IN IDUMUJR- NUOR

### Objective:

- To create awareness on HIV/AIDS
- Empower young women/girls with HIV education

### Summary

The program started at exactly 11pm with an opening prayer. In attendance were the Obi, students, corp members, elders and community members.

Girls Power Initiative gave a welcome remark and appreciated the people of Idumuje-nuor for their warm reception. Ifeyinwa Nawamara told the people of idumuje what GPI means and what we do. This brought us to the first presentation.

The first presentation was on HIV/AIDS and it was done by Pat Akah. She defined HIV/AIDS, its mode of transmission and how it can be prevented. She encouraged everyone to know their status because if the virus is detected early in an individual the person is placed on treatment and this will prevent it from degenerating to AIDS. If it degenerates to AIDS one will no longer be able to manage it any more as the condition will be very severe.

The second presentation was on unintended pregnancy, it was done by Ehita Ikoghode Aikpitanyi. She defined unintended pregnancy as a pregnancy unplanned for. She encouraged students to avoid risky behaviours, focus on their education and ensure they are matured enough before they engage in sexual activities. She also emphasized that apart from unintended pregnancies, one can contract STI through sex.





The king and elders in Idumuje were very pleased with GPI intervention in their community. They used that avenue to encourage the youths in the community to be focused in order to actualise their purpose in life. The king specifically talked on HIV and encouraged everyone to participate in the HIV testing.



### Impact

Free HIV testing was administered to members of idumuje community and a large number of them participated including the young, old, men and women.

Jenifer Ehizele gave a vote of thanks and the meeting came to an end with a group photograph.

<b>DATA</b>	<b>510</b>
<b>SEGREGATION</b>	FEMALE 305 MALE 205

## 4.3 INTERVENTION IN OKPANAM COMMUNITY

### Aim

- To create awareness on HIV/AIDS
- Empower young women/girls with HIV education

## Summary of Event

HIV/AIDS intervention program was carried out in Okpanam Community with the main venue at the Midwifery Market.

Jennifer Ehizele started the program by telling the market women about GPI and her activities. She laid emphasis on GPI school outreach and centre meetings. She further said registration into GPI is free.

Pat Akah gave technical information on HIV/AIDS, unintended pregnancies and prevention of mother to child transmission, and the preventive measures of the above components. She encouraged participant to know their status and play safe with the use of condom which is the only contraceptive that prevents HIV, STI and unintended pregnancies.

## Impact

During the free HIV testing there was a large turnout. The women were very interested in knowing their status after been informed about HIV/AIDS. They were tested and they felt fulfilled to have gotten their result immediately.

## Resource Persons

- Pat Akah
- Jennifer Ehizelle

## Categories of People Present

- Midwifery market women
- GPI team

<b>DATA</b>	<b>687</b>
<b>SEGREGATION</b>	FEMALE 500 MALE 187





## 5.0 Capacity Development

The meeting took place at Aniocha North local government council hall on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January, 2019 and in attendance were 20 participants(Male-4 and female-11) which consists of Legislators, Executives, health workers and Matrons from the said LGA.

Aim of the forum is to build the capacity of participants on sexual violence through implementation of adolescent health policy in the LGA and enlighten the health officials on the need to provide non-judgmental support to adolescent wherever they visit the health centres.

Resolution reached at the meeting was participants promised to work with GPI to ensure elimination of sexual violence. The SLG said that with the support of the chairman they will make sure that the Adolescent clinics are functional and utilized. Also the health workers present at the meeting made commitment to receive and treat young persons with care whenever they visit the health centres.



## 6.0 Service Delivery

### 6.1 COUNSELLING AND REFERRAL

There was counselling and referral in 2019. GPI Delta handled cases of violence, victims were counselled and referred to appropriate body to carry give necessary assistance to victims.

## 7.0 Strategic Advocacy

### 7.1 ADVOCACY VISIT TO THE OMU, ANIOMA OKPANAM

#### Objective

To intimate the Omu of AniomaOkpanam on PACF project

#### Output

Girls Power Initiative paid an advocacy visit to the Omu, AniomaOkpanam on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2019.

The meeting with the Omu, Obi Martha Dunkwu started few minutes after 10:00am with an introduction by all. Girls Power Initiative team presented a kola to the Omu and the co-ordinator of GPI stated our reason for the visit. GPI co-ordinator said that we intend organising community dialogue and intervention for women in Okpanam community.



Group photograph with the OmuAniomaOkpanam

Obi Martha Dunkwu, during her speech applauded GPI for their selfless services and their good intention to work in Okpanam. She advised GPI not to only organise programs for the women but should also have programs for men as they also need the information and since the laws guiding societies are formed by men. She said the men are the head and have influence over women. She went further to say there can never be equality between a man and a woman, but women can work towards actualizing that which God created them for. She also shared her experience as the Omu with GPI team, it is indeed a tough seat.

### Outcome

The Omu made the following commitment.

- She promised to give GPI 3 contacts of stakeholders in the community that can help us in mobilizing community members for our programs
- She said she will be GPI mentor, and we can count on her for anything
- She also said she can always come to give a talk as a resource person in any of our activity.

### Categories of People Present

- OmuAnioma
- Co-ordinator GPI
- Staff of GPI
- OmuAnioma cabinet members
- Observers
- Anioma Trust journalist

<b>DATA</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>SEGREGATION</b>	FEMALE 10 MALE 3

## 7.2 ADVOCACY VISIT IN OGWASHI, ANIOCH NORTH

Girls' Power Initiative (GPI) team which comprised of The Head of Programs – Pat Akah; The Accountant- Ifeyinwa Nwamara; A GPI Volunteer Eucharia Mba; and the Knowledge Management Officer - Jennifer Ehizele visited the palace of HRH Obi Oguchukwu 1, of Ogwashi-Uku Kingdom on Tuesday March 26, 2019 to pay an advocacy visit and seek for his



assistance/consent in carrying out community sensitization on the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation as well as the implementation of FGM law in his Community.

In attendance at the meeting were twenty-five persons including the most elderly in the community – Diokpa George Chukwu, Palace Secretary, Traditional Chiefs, Honourable Members of the State House of Assembly and the Youth Leader.



The meeting, which was held at the Palace of HRH Obi Oguchukwu 1, commenced at 10:30am with a welcome speech by the spokesperson of Ogwashi-Uku Kingdom. Thereafter there was breaking of kolanut which the youth leader served to all participants at the meeting. Afterwards, the moderator invited the lead speaker from GPI – Jennifer Ehizele to state GPI mission to their community. Jennifer presented kolanut to the community to seek audience, then she introduced herself and the team of GPI staff present with her. Upon acceptance of the kolanut, Jennifer introduced GPI to the audience seated and stated the AmplifyChange mission of eradicating FGM in Delta State. Jennifer specifically stated that GPI intends to work towards total elimination of FGM in Ogwashi-Uku. She went further to tell the people the implication of FGM on the female child, the disadvantages and health issues that can result from FGM. In other words, she pled the indulgence of the community leaders to welcome GPI into their community in order to eliminate FGM in Ogwashi-Uku.

Furthermore, Jennifer stated that Ogwashi-Uku community is not being represented at the quarterly steering committee meetings where all the identified communities' representatives meet to deliberate on progress in their community as regards GPI intervention. Jennifer requested that the community nominate someone to represent them at subsequent meetings.



## Outcome

Several questions were raised by the audience after the presentation by Jennifer Ehizelee .g.

- How many representatives does GPI want them to nominate?
- Should the representative be a male or female?
- What is science doing to eradicate FGM since it results in complication?
- What is the difference between nymphomaniac and a victim of FGM?
- Is GPI also canvassing for the stoppage of male circumcision?

Jennifer in her response stated that only one representative was needed to join the steering committee, and that the sex does not matter. GPI through dialogue sessions and stakeholder's forum would be able to enlighten the community on recent scientific breakouts in the area of FGM. GPI is only canvassing for the stoppage of FGM and not male circumcision; this was backed up scripturally by the holy bible. Lastly, Jennifer defined who a nymph is and the major differences between a nymph and a victim of FGM.



As a rejoinder, the moderator stated that they believe in the teaching of FGM and their door is always open for GPI to carry out its activities in their community. The moderator stated that they are most grateful for the advocacy visit and the knowledge shared freely, and promised to disseminate the information that they have received today even as they work on nominating a competent person that will represent their community at the steering committee meeting.

The meeting came to a close at 11:15am with a group photograph

#### **STATISTICS; FEMALE 3, MALE 15**

- ✓ The Council of Elders promised to work with GPI
- ✓ The community seem to be practicing FGM
- ✓ The Council of Elders promised to nominate someone for the steering committee meeting.
- ✓ The community's proximity to Asaba is about 25 minutes, and it is motor-able with good road network

### **7.3 ADVOCACY IN OYEDE, ISOKO NORTH LGA**

GPI Team which comprised of the Coordinator – Ehita Ikoghode-Aipkitanyi; IfeyinwaNwamara; Pat Akah; Clinton Ahuruonye; and Jennifer Ehizele visited the palace of HRM Odio Joseph Emesibeta- the IdiareOdioOgbologbo of Oyede Community on Tuesday March 19, 2019 to pay an advocacy visit and seek for his assistance/cooperation in carrying out community sensitization on the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation in Oyede Community.

In attendance at the meeting were thirteen persons including HRM-the IdiareOdioOgbologbo of Oyede Community, the Palace Secretary, Youth representatives and palace officials.

The Meeting started at 1pm with a welcome speech and kolanut presentation rituals by the King, after which GPI team was introduced and the Co-ordinator Ehita Ikoghode-Aikpitanyi introduced GPI as an Organisation, stating its history, founders, vision and goals. She went further to state our aim of the visit to Oyede Community with special emphasis on the need to eliminate FGM in Delta State. In her concluding sentence, Ehita requested that the King nominate a representative who will henceforth relate directly with GPI for subsequent activities.







The King in his remarks thanked GPI and stated that the gates of Oyede are open to welcome changes that GPI would want to bring into his community. He stated that he could be very rigid when he is pursuing a course he believes in, as such, he would need some time to deliberate on GPI request before he can approve anything. He however promised to back up GPI program with as much support as he can garner, he based his decision on biblical evidence that from Genesis to Revelation, there was no record of any female that was circumcised.



In a concluding note, HRM stated that he will pick a suitable date for our Dialogue session with the Community leaders which he will communicate through Bishop Okriko. He also promised to nominate a representative that will attend the Steering Committee meeting in April.

The Advocacy visit/ meeting ended at 2pm with a closing prayer which was said by HRM

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- ✓ The king welcomed the idea and wanted GPI presence in his community
- ✓ The community seem to be practicing FGM as they could not out rightly deny it
- ✓ The King has promised to nominate a representative to work with GPI
- ✓ The community's proximity to Asaba is about 2hours, and it is motor-able with good road network

#### **7.4 ADVOCACY VISIT, OGUME NDOKWA WEST LGA**

Girls' Power Initiative (GPI) team which comprised of The Head of Programs – Pat Akah; The Accountant- IfeyinwaNwamara; GPI Volunteer EuchariaMba; and the Knowledge Management Officer - Jennifer Ehizele visited the palace of HRH OssaiEnebeli – The Okpala-Uku of Ogume Community on Thursday March 21, 2019 to pay an advocacy visit and seek for his assistance/cooperation in carrying out community sensitization on the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation as well as the implementation of FGM law in Ogume Community.

In attendance at the meeting were twenty persons including HRH OssaiEnebeli – The OkpalukuOgbeOgume Community, traditional leaders of the community, Youth leaders, Politicians from the Office of the Governor as well as honourable member of the State House of Assembly.





The Meeting started at 10:30 am with a welcome speech by Chief Ossai Felix (AKA Double Chief)—one of the elders of the community. The Obi welcomed the GPI team with kolanut, and wedged it with money which all the elders added to in support of the welcome. Thereafter, the kola was presented to GPI as a sign of welcome. On behalf of GPI team, IfeyinwaNwamara presented a bottle of wine and some money in lieu of kolanut to seek audience. Upon acceptance of the drink, Jennifer Ehizele addressed the gathering, she introduced GPI to the Elders seated and stated the AmplifyChange mission of eradicating FGM in Delta State. Jennifer appealed to the Okpala-Uku and his cabinet members to grant GPI the permission to work in their community.

The King in his remarks which was communicated through the community spokesperson –Chief Ossai Felix, thanked GPI and stated that he has accepted our proposal to work in his community. He promised to give GPI the needed support in the implementation of FGM law in his community. He also stated that they will communicate the scheduled date for community dialogue session as soon as it is fixed.

The Advocacy visit/ meeting ended at 11:30am

**STATISTIC; FEMALE 8, MALE 19**

- ✓ The king welcomed the idea and wanted GPI presence in his community



- ✓ The community seem to be practicing FGM as they could not out rightly deny it
- ✓ The King has asked that we continue to work with the earlier nominated person Chief Isioma Chukwu – The Abi-Uku who helped facilitate this meeting.
- ✓ The community's proximity to Asaba is about 2hours, and it is motor-able with good road network

## 7.5 ADVOCACY VISIT IN IBULU-UKU ANIOCHA SOUTH LGA

### OUTPUT OF THE ACTIVITY:

Girls' Power Initiative (GPI) team which comprised of The Head of Programs – Pat Akah; The Accountant- IfeyinwaNwamara; the M&E Officer - Clinton Ahuruonye; GPI Volunteer Eucharia Mba; and the Knowledge Management Officer - Jennifer Ehizele visited the palace of HRM Obi Noah ChukwukaAkaeze 1 of Ubulu-Uku Kingdom on Friday March 22, 2019 to pay an advocacy visit and seek for his assistance/cooperation in carrying out community sensitization on the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation as well as the implementation of FGM law in his Community.

In attendance at the meeting were thirty-three persons including the Palace Secretary, Youth Leader, Women leader, Traditional Birth Attendant and the traditional council elders of the Community.

The Meeting which was held in two different locations started at 10:30 am with a welcome speech by Barrister J.O. Obazor- The Community Palace Secretary. The first group were the market women leaders and the female leaders of the community who were addressed separately from the Council of Elders. Jennifer Ehizele who was the spokesperson for GPI introduced the Organization and stated our mission to Ubulu-Uku, after her speech, the traditional birth attendant (TBA) asked some sensitive questions bothering on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), and what should be done for a female toddler with itchy clitoris/vaginal, these questions were answered by Jennifer. The TBA exchanged contacts and promised to keep in touch, while the market women leaders welcomed the idea of coming to sensitize their community.







In continuation of the visit, GPI team moved to the second venue of the meeting where the Council of Elders were gathered. The Secretary to the Council introduced the Elders seated from the most elderly to the least titled, after which he called upon our team to introduce ourselves. Prior to our introduction, we presented a bottle of wine which is customary when visiting traditional rulers in this part of the country. Jennifer Ehizele addressed the gathering, she introduced GPI to the Elders seated and stated the AmplifyChange mission of eradicating FGM in Delta State. Jennifer appealed to the Onowu (the most senior chief) and the Kings' cabinet members to grant GPI the permission to work in their community.



The Council of Elders led by the Onowu promised to get back to us as soon as possible through the contact numbers we have in our correspondence with them. The Elders stated that the Community representative who was part of the steering committee will continue to represent them at subsequent meetings.

The Advocacy visit/ meeting ended at 11:30am and the team departed for Asaba.



#### ACHIEVEMENTS:

- ✓ The Council of Elders promised to work with GPI
- ✓ The community seem to be practicing FGM as the traditional birth attendant tried defending her stance on why FGM is necessary
- ✓ The Council of Elders has asked that we continue to work with the earlier nominated person Prince Charles who helped convened the meeting
- ✓ The community's proximity to Asaba is about 40 minutes, and it is motor-able with good road network
- ✓ The community palace is massive and can accommodate large audience.
- ✓ The community members are receptive and open to change as most of the elders are learned.

DATA	43
SEGREGATION	<b>FEMALE 13</b> <b>MALE 30</b>



✓

## 8.0 Staff Capacity Building

### 8.1 IN HOUSE TRAINING

To build the capacity of staff and for improvement of staff efficiency in the workplace, in house trainings were carried out

Date	Topic	Resource Person	Content covered
5/03/2019	GPI HIV/AIDS Workplace	Pat Akah – Head of Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- objectives of GPI as relating to people affected with HIV/AIDS</li> <li>- the goals of GPI</li> <li>- the target, strategies and prevention of HIV/AIDS</li> <li>- treatment, care and support</li> </ul>
	Social Media - a tool for increased visibility		
	YouTube	Pat Akah – Head of Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- guideline on how to open a youtube account</li> </ul>
	Instagram	EbireriOjoOghenerukewe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Instagram features and tools</li> <li>- Pros and cons</li> </ul>
	Twitter	JenniferEhizele – Knowledge Management Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- why we need twitter</li> <li>- advantages and disadvantages</li> <li>- how to set up twitter account</li> </ul>
	Facebook	IfeyinwaNwamara – Account Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- GPI Asaba Facebook Page</li> <li>- how to like the page</li> <li>- how to boost our visibility to other users of Facebook</li> </ul>
25 <sup>th</sup> of April, 2019	Financial Procedure	IfeyinwaNwamara – Account Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- what a budget is</li> <li>- modes of payment</li> <li>- petty cash</li> <li>- some procedures for payment from petty cash float</li> <li>- retirement process</li> </ul>



## 8.2 EXTERNAL TRAININGS/MEETINGS/WORKSHOP/ SUMMIT

### 8.2.1 IOM Psychological First Aid (PFA) Training Held In Benin On The 14- 15 of Nov 2019

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Lagos, conducted a 2-day training for partners working on trafficking and irregular migration in Nigeria.

Training started formally with introduction, expectation, aims, agenda and ground rules by Ministry of Health followed by overview of IOM work on Mental Health and Psychological support.

PFA is humane, supportive and practical assistance to fellow human beings who recently suffered exposure to serious stressors and involves:

- Helping people address basic needs
- Assessing needs and concerns
- Non intrusive, practical care and support
- Comfort

#### Why PFA?

- Feel safe, connected to others calm and hopeful
- Have access to social, physical and emotional support
- Regain a sense of control by being able to help others.

Discussion was made on who, when and where to give PFA in different groups, what to do before you enter a crisis site

- Prepare
- Look
- Listen
- Link





These involves helping people to cope with problems, giving them information and connect people with love ones.

Ending assistance is also key using your best judgement of person needs and your own needs. Explaining you are leaving and if possible, introduce them to someone who can help.

## **DAY 2**

Review of day one followed by PFA role plays, vulnerable people and resilience and recovery for (cope mechanisms).

Lay counselling in PFA which the main arm is to assist client to explore their problems and guide them to solutions. Aspects of the counselling covers provision and collection of information and providing support as giving help and understanding.

Finally, discussions and tips on self-care and team care for PFA provides different group came with different ways to care of oneself to avoid breaking down during and after work.

The training was wrapped up with present of certificates and group photograph

### 8.2.2 IOM Meeting with State & Non-State Actors Involved in Rehabilitation Support Provision in Delta State on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2019

The meeting started 10:30am with an opening prayer followed good will message by selected officials from state actors.

In attendance were 15 representatives from different organizations. WntanaTarekegn gave in-depth introduction about IOM. Their main arm is to charter flight for 3000 migrants but getting there it was discovered that the victims are so much. From then to date IOM brought back 14,000 plus migrants back to Nigeria.

These returns are brought back to Benin which is the final destination and after two weeks IOM invites them for training. The skills training lasts for five days every month in different locations; Lagos, Benin, Abuja and Asaba.

Reintegration of the returns takes place in 3 stages:

**INDIVIDUAL** –the person has be vulnerable like pregnant woman or someone from state that is not affected by trafficking. Economic assistance of 1,200 Euro is given to the person plus enhanced assistance of 700 Euro. In a situation where children are involved they receive 700 euro each for school fees and hospital bill.

**COLLECTIVE** – two or more people are paired up to start a business with 900 Euro each.

**COMMUNITY**– in a situation where they have up to 50 or more persons from a particular community it means that the community needs re-integration.

This meeting is key in re-integration committee, the re-integration is only kind not in cash.

#### CHALLENGES

- The program is projectized and targeted at 3800 migrants but now is 14,000 plus.
- Lack of man power
- Not able to reach victims from April 2017 to date all the announcement and publicity made to reach out them proved abortive.
- Difficulty to organize programs and activities because IOM policy says doesn't pay until after delivery.

Presentation on CMET activities followed immediately by Tessy Imaha who pointed out that Delta state CMET stakeholder's has not been involved in the implementation of business management training, reviewing returners reintegration plan on a daily basis and providing feedback to IOM.



Presentation on MET, during the presentation member of Reintegration committee (RC), Case Management Team (CMET) and Monitoring and Evaluation Expert Team (MET) were inaugurated including GPI. Each organization are to be represented at the different level and will not be the same person ie at RC level the Chief executive of the organization is to represent, at CMET two other staff from same organization, and MET is another two different staff but has the basic knowledge of Monitoring and evaluation.

- Delta State Task force on human trafficking was appointed to head the RC and co-ordinate all its activities
- Ministry of women affairs are to coordinate CMET and all its activities and COWOYEM to coordinate MET and all their activities.
- Each organization are urged to bring staff that will represent them well and IOM promised to schedule training for representatives of CMET & MET.

The meeting ended with a group photograph.

### 8.2.3 The Convening of Coalition of Eastern Non-Governmental Organisation (CENGOS) Nigeria.

The convening of CIRDDOC/CENGOS and AmplifyChange grantees (Experience sharing Session) held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October, 2019 at Dannic Hotels, Enugu.

The experience sharing started with opening formalities by CIRDDOC representative followed by presentation of understanding CIRDDOC/CENGOS, the presenter shared their focus, activities, achievements, challenges & lessons learnt on the current Amplifychange project titled 'Building Bridges to end GBV and increase young people access to SRH information & services.





Some of the partners and Beneficial's present shared their experience: benefits, engagements and results in their communities, groups and schools which was attend due to AmplifyChange project.

Each grantee were given 20 minutes to introduce their Amplifychage project including objectives, activities, achievements, challenges & lessons learnt during exhaustion. Organizations that participated are CENGOS Ebonyi, GIWYN, YNCSD

### 8.2.3 Meeting Held on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at Noble Delta Women Resource Centre

Agenda of the meeting was to form a coalition among CSO working on human trafficking in Delta. In attendance where participants representing the 14 organizations that came together to form the coalition.

The name chosen was Delta State CSO's on Human Trafficking on Irregular Migration (DELSCOHTIM).

Being the first meeting to kick start the coalition, key decisions were taken on the way forward with election of officers that will pilot the affairs of the coalition. Amb. Caroline emerged as the Coordinator from Civil society Advance forum on Sustainable Development, Tessy as the secretary from Concern for women and youth, Ifeyinwa as her assistant from Girls Power Initiative and others elected to take other positions.

Resolutions on how to tackle human trafficking in Delta state was made and also to send letter to Delta state task force informing them about the coalition. Other task is to set up what's app



group and email address, register the name with ministry of woman affairs, come up with a logo that will suite the name and a letter head.

#### 8.2.4 A Symposium & Workshop on Winning in The Fight Against Human Trafficking in Nigeria

AGA Africa Alliance Partnership in collaboration with the Delta State Task Force human trafficking and illegal migration of the ministry of justice and national agency for prohibition of trafficking in person (NAPTIP) hosted a symposium and workshop on the 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> of Dec, 2019 tagged winning in the fight against human trafficking in Nigeria. The program took place at Best Western Plus Elomaz Hotel, Asaba, Delta State.



Aim of for this symposium and workshop is to create a platform for close coordination and cooperation amongst all stakeholders involved in combating trafficking. The workshop Coordinator Ebelechukwu Enedah in her speech states that is of important that those who work to address this issue must continue to come together to address the areas at which this crime intersects with current trends in globalization and the new challenges presented whether it is between organizations working at the international level, between organization and governments, civil society, individual or business entities. Issues around human trafficking was

discussed including the overview of human trafficking in Nigeria, interactive lecture on combating human trafficking in Africa, Migration crisis in Europe and finally panel discussion.

## 9.0 Networking and Partners

### 9.1 NETWORKING

Girls' Power Initiative is an organization that has been involved in one collaborative work or another with other organizations. GPI Asaba is a member of the following networks

- National child Advocates of Nigeria (NACRAN)
- Women Peace and Security Network (WPSN)
- CSACEFA (Civil Society Action Coalition on Education For All)
- CISHAN a network of NGOS working in the area of HIV/AIDS.

## 10.0 List of Donors

During the reporting year the Centre was supported by the following donors in execution of the activities on this report

- ✓ Positive Action for Children Fund (PACF)
- ✓ African Women Development Fund (AWDF)
- ✓ Amplify Change

## 11.0 Projects Report

### 11.1 AMPLIFY CHANGE

**PROJECT TITLE:** Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation

**OBJECTIVES:** Implementation of FGM law in specific LGAS

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Advocacies
- Stakeholders forum
- Media Forum



- Steering committee meeting
- School intervention
- Sensitizations
- Video watch

## CHALLENGES

- Difficulty in changing cultural norms/values and tradition

## SUCCESS

- Girls Power Initiative Delta was able to get 15 local sanction to eliminate FGM in communities
- With the help of GPI Female Genital Mutilation was removed from targeted community's marriage list.

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Analysis of Stakeholders Forum Questionnaire for Ozoro, Iyede, Ellu on 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2019.

- 86.7% of the participants was able to state the meaning of FGM while 13.3% gave wrong answers.
- When asked to summarise what was learnt from the forum the following answers were given
  - FGM is bad and should be eliminated
  - FGM is against the law.
  - There is a law against the act in Delta state
  - That FGM is a risky act.
- When asked how they can help disseminate the information they got from the forum the following answers were given.
  - By creating awareness in churches and schools about the dangers of FGM
  - By sensitizing their various community so that each one can be able to reach another person.
  - By organizing workshops for community youths and secondary school leavers
  - Through social media
  - Through market mobilization.
- 53.3% said that FGM is practiced in their community while 40% said FGM is not practiced in their community, 6.7% was indifferent
- 56.6% know females who has been circumcised, 36.7% does not know any female that has been circumcised, 6.7% was indifferent.



- When asked what they will do to someone who wants to practice FGM the answers given are as follows:
  - Report to the appropriate authorities(police)
  - Discourage the person by telling them the dangers of FGM
  - Tell the person that there is a law against the act.
- When asked how they can help in implementing FGM law, 40.3% said they will hand over offenders to appropriate authority while 21.9% said they will implement the law in their community.

#### Analysis of Stakeholders Forum on April 2019 In Ubulu Uku Community, Aniocha South

- ❖ 100% of the participants was able to state the meaning of FGM
- ❖ 92.8% of the participants was able to summarize what was learnt from the meeting while 7.1% left the question unanswered.
- ❖ 71.4% of the participants stated that they will disseminate the information they got by creating awareness in their families ,churches and among their friends, while 21.4% of the participants said they will educate traditional birth attendants on the dangers of FGM and 7.1% left the question unanswered.
- ❖ 57.1% of participants stated that FGM is not practiced in their community while 35.7% accepted that FGM is being practiced in their community 7.1% was indifferent
- ❖ 64.3% stated that they don't know any female that was circumcised while 38.7% said that they know females that was circumcised.

#### Focus Group Discussion Report in Ogume, Ndokwa West Local Government Delta State.

##### AIM:

- To measure the impact of Amplify change programs in the community
- To identify the roles played by community members in achieving the goal of the project
- To know the opinions of the people on the next step to be taken taking into cognizance the felt needs of the people.

##### CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE PRESENT

- Traditional ruler
- market women leader
- youth president
- traditional birth attendant
- community mobilizer



## FACILITATORS

Jibunma Ifeanyi Maryjane – Monitoring and Evaluation officer, GPI Asaba

Pat Akah – Head of Programs GPI Asaba.

**OUTPUT:** Girls' power initiative Asaba, Delta state carried out an exercise titled focus group discussion in Ogume Delta State on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2019, the round table group discussion started at 1:20pm with an opening prayer said by mrs Ashiedu (women leader ), In attendance were five people from four different quarters in Ogume community, the facilitators started the session proper by welcoming everyone to the group and also noting that it is a group discussion and that everyone must contribute to it after which numbers were assigned to each person, the facilitator asked questions according to the numbers and the participants answered and discussed them as follows:

### Q(S) DID YOU KNOW GPI CARRIED OUT ACTIVITY/ACTIVITIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

#### PARTICIPANTS

#### RESPONSES

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>1</b> | <i>"Yes I was part of GPI programs in my community</i>   |
| <b>2</b> | <i>"Yes am aware that GPI carried out activities in my community though I was unavoidably absent but I heard about the programs"</i>   |
| <b>3</b> | <i>"yes am aware that GPI organized activities in my community on female genital mutilation"</i>   |
| <b>4</b> | <i>"Yes I know of GPI activities in my community and they are doing a very good job in eliminating FGM in Delta state,we are glad they are coming to our community for such"</i> |
| <b>5</b> | <i>"yes am very much aware of GPI activities in my community because I have attended all their activities on ending FGM"</i>   |

### Q(s) WHAT DID YOU BENEFIT FROM THE ACTIVITY/ACTIVITIES?

#### PARTICIPANTS

#### RESPONSES

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>1</b> | <i>"The physical and psychological impact their programs is enormous because most people in my community are not aware that FGM is an act of violence,so I can that the activies are always very educative"</i> |
|----------|---|



- 2 *"I am particularly happy for how much impact these programs have on our women ,you know see them in their small groups adding FGM to the list of things to be discussed,how to discourage the act and make sure no one secretly carries out the out,I must say thank you to GPI for bringing these programs to my community"*
- 3 *"The program also focus how to use stakeholders to influence the elimination of FGM as it has not been difficult getting the Diokpas(head of quarter) to approve FGM related programs in their quarter since GPI already involved in the process from the beginning"*
- 4 *"I know now of the FGM law as a result of these activities and that has helped me to discourage some people from practicing the act"*
- 5 *"The activities helped me to know about the FGM law in Delta state and I also learnt about the effects of FGM especially the health Hazards"*

**Q(S) WHAT HAVE YOU DONE AS A RESULT? WHEN ? HOW?**

**PARTICIPANTS**

**RESPONSES**

- 1 *" I have made sure that I talk about FGM in our women forum often as I learnt that some women still sees FGM as a traditional practice that should not be eliminated"*
- 2 *"I have formed a group of people who will be on the look out for anyone that is caught practicing FGM"*
- 3 *"I have been engaging in one on one interaction letting community members know that FGM is violation of human right and is a punishable offence".*
- 4 *"Am planning to have a town hall meeting where we will discuss further on how to stop FGM"*
- 5 *"I have been opportuned to meet pregnant women as a traditional birth attendant so I talk to them on reason why FGM should be eliminated despite what they have been meant to believe over the years"*





**Q(S) WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST SHOULD BE THE NEXT STEP ?**

<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>RESPONSES</b>
1	<i>"FGM is practiced for reasons relating to infidelity and promiscuity on that basis I suggest that enlightenment programs for both male and female should be next step."</i>
2	<i>"I suggest that a programme should be organized where every member of the community will be present so they can hear why FGM should be stopped"</i>
3	<i>"I also suggest that there should be a platform for girls or women who escape FGM and are threatened by the community their should be a platform that accepts them and also those having complications from the practice ,the organization should collaborate with the health sectors to take care of the them."</i>
4	<i>"I have been aware that FGM is bad and that is more in rural areas among uneducated women, so creating awareness and educating the rural women is very important ,so I suggest that the organization should organize classes sought of for women and girls ."</i>
5	<i>"Traditional birth attendants make money from the practice and so some times when you talk about FGM to them they are not interested ,so I suggest that in trying to discourage them from the act,in addition to the class,they should teach them skills"</i>

**Q(s) DO YOU NEED GPI TO CARRY OUT ANOTHER ACTIVITY IN YOUR COMMUNITY?**

<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>RESPONSES</b>
1	<i>"yes the suggestion above should be looked at and should be chosen from the list"</i>
2	<i>"yes mobilization program should be organized for our community"</i>



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 3 | <i>"yes a program for girls and women should be organized"</i>   |
| 4 | <i>"yes we will so appreciate it if one of the programs we suggested is organised"</i>   |
| 5 | <i>"yes but we need more resources formobilization as that is the most effective way to get community members attention for the problem"</i> |

**Q(s) HAVE YOU HEARD OF ANY CASE OF FGM RECENTLY?**

**PARTICIPANTS**

**RESPONSES**

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1 | <i>"NO"</i>               |
| 2 | <i>"NO I have not"</i>    |
| 3 | <i>"NO not recently."</i> |
| 4 | <i>"No not recently"</i>  |
| 5 | <i>"No not recently"</i>  |
| 6 | <i>"NO not recently."</i> |

The facilitators thanked everyone for being part of the discussion and for their contributions and assured them that GPI is going to organize more program for the community to ensure the elimination of FGM. The meeting ended at 1:20pm with a closing prayer said by Mr Edward Osedunme (community mobilizer )

**OUTCOME:**

- ✓ The discussion session revealed that the rate at which FGM is being practiced in the community has reduced drastically
- ✓ It also revealed that the community is willing to learn and collaborate with the organization to completely eradicate FGM.
- ✓ The discussion session shows that the illiterates in the community are the ones that still practice and FGM and so there is need for basic education.
- ✓ The discussion session shows that the issues of FGM is not discussed in their primary health centre and so there is need to involve the health sector more"
- ✓ The discussion also revealed that victims of FGM in that community has done so much in using their story and what they go through as a means of discouraging others from it overtime"

**SUCCESS:**

- ✓ The process revealed how active the community members are in carrying out GPI activities.
- ✓ The felt needs of the people was identified which is ignorance and illiteracy as the basis why people still practice FGM and a need for periodic educative classes on FGM.



- ✓ The process was interactive and the organization as a result will be able to plan the next program according to the identified needs.
- ✓ The people were very receptive and the process was stress free.

#### **CHALLENGES:**

- ✓ Getting the participants seated for the discussion was very stressful as most of them are very busy.
- ✓ Community members wants to be paid for all their participation and if not so they withdraw.

#### **Focus Group Discussion Report in Ellu, Isoko North Local Government Delta State.**

#### **AIM:**

- To measure the impact of Amplify change programs in the community
- To identify the roles played by community members in achieving the goal of the project
- To know the opinions of the people on the next step to be taken taking into cognizance the felt needs of the people.

#### **CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE PRESENT**

- chiefs
- market women leader
- youth president
- youths
- traditional birth attendant
- community mobilizer
- victims of FGM

#### **FACILITATORS**

Jibunma Ifeanyi Maryjane – monitoring and evaluation officer GPI Asaba

Pat Akah – Head of Programs GPI Asaba.

#### **OUTPUT:**

Girls' Power Initiative Asaba, Delta state carried out an exercise titled focus group discussion in Ellu Delta State on 24<sup>th</sup> may 2019, the round table group discussion started at 11.00am with an opening prayer said by Jibunma Ifeanyi Maryjane ( GPI staff), In attendance were 6 people from six different quarters in Ellu community, the facilitators started the session proper by welcoming everyone to the group and also noting that it is a group discussion and that everyone must contribute to it after which numbers were assigned to each person, the facilitator asked



questions according to the numbers and the participants answered and discussed them as follows:

**Q(S) DID YOU KNOW GPI CARRIED OUT ACTIVITY/ACTIVITIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY?**

**PARTICIPANTS**

**RESPONSES**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | <i>" yes am aware that GPI organized carried out activities in my community on FGM"</i>   |
| 2 | <i>"yes I know because I was part of the programs ."</i>  |
| 3 | <i>"yes I I know because I was part of the programs and I loved it"</i>   |
| 4 | <i>"yes am aware that GPI organized programs towards stopping FGM but I think it will take some time to completely eliminate FGM"</i> |
| 5 | <i>" yes I know because I was part of it"</i>   |
| 6 | <i>" yes I know of GPI programmes, the recent ones are on eradicating FGM"</i>  |

**Q(s) WHAT DID YOU BENEFIT FROM THE ACTIVITY/ACTIVITIES?**

**PARTICIPANTS**

**RESPONSES**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | <i>" The programs was enlightening and educative and also interesting I got to learn the different types of FGM and their consequences"</i>   |
| 2 | <i>"I learnt about the FGM law in Delta state as a result of the programs "</i>   |
| 3 | <i>" The activities were very educative and should continue "</i>   |
| 4 | <i>"I got to know of the FGM law in Delta state through GPI activities in my community"</i>   |
| 5 | <i>" I never knew FGM can cause a woman not to have urge for sex, I have always believed that it is the removal of the skin that scratches a woman and makes her to have sex more often than normal but with GPI activities I now understand that FGM is bad and does harm"</i> |



6

*"my community was able to come up with a sanction as a result of these activities to help us tackle the issue of FGM"*

### **Q(S) WHAT HAVE YOU DONE AS A RESULT? WHEN ? HOW?**

#### **PARTICIPANTS**

#### **RESPONSES**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | <i>"I have been engaging in one on one education in my circle among my friends and family members"</i>  |
| 2 | <i>"I have organized youth movements where we go quarter to sensitize the people"</i>   |
| 3 | <i>"As the youth leader in the community I have been actively in one on one sensitization"</i>  |
| 4 | <i>"Am part of the group of people that go to schools to sensitize young girls and boys"</i>  |
| 5 | <i>"I engage in sensitization among the market women"</i>   |
| 6 | <i>"Am forming a group of young grls which I intend sending to the organization to be trained ,so they can help disseminate the information mostly victims"</i> |

### **Q(S) WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST SHOULD BE THE NEXT STEP ?**

#### **PARTICIPANTS**

#### **RESPONSES**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | <i>" I suggest the next step should be a sensitization program to further educate the people as giving informations is the best way to tackle this problem of GPI"</i>   |
| 2 | <i>"I suggest that resources should be provided to individuals in the community so they could train others to work with GPI,apart from the current number ofr people more hands are needed"</i>                        |
| 3 | <i>" I also think that the programs should involve government officials as that will add more resources for executing the activities,so I suggest that the next program should involve the government if possible"</i> |
| 4 | <i>"I suggest that sensitization should be done for the entire community"</i>  |



- 5 *"I suggest that the organization should do a broadcast in our local radio station with the local dialect so that as they talk about it daily everyone will be able to hear it"*
- 6 *"I think that the organization should organize sensitization where the individuals would be sensitized through a video watch .*

**Q(s) DO YOU NEED GPI TO CARRY OUT ANOTHER ACTIVITY IN YOUR COMMUNITY?**

**PARTICIPANTS**

**RESPONSES**

- 1 *"yes and it should include a program for health Health workers as they are also a very important sector that could help in fighting FGM"*
- 2 *" yes like I said it should be training of individuals by the organization who should in turn train others"*
- 3 *"yes at this stage it should be different programs that mainly targeted at educating the community, it could be through different means"*
- 4 *"yes and it should be organized for different category of persons,for example the mobilization for youths should be different and that of men and women should be different*
- 5 *"yes and I think churches too should be very much involved in the next program you will carry out in our community ,as they need to be proactive in ending FGM"*
- 6 *"yes, among others we have mentioned earlier ,is important that another program should be organized for the chiefs and traditional rulers as some of them are still resistant to stopping FGM in the community and that men too should be more involved as in this part of country the decision of men stands and in our culture is men that ask for it more as they demand it for their newly married wives"*

**Q(s) HAVE YOU HEARD OF ANY CASE OF FGM RECENTLY**





**PARTICIPANTS****RESPONSES**

7	<i>NO I heard about FGM in 2011 because my cousin was almost a victim, where the inlaws said is part of the marital rites.</i>
8	<i>NO I have not</i>
9	<i>Yes</i>
10	<i>Yes in 2018</i>
11	<i>Yes ,my daughter was forced to do it by inlaws.</i>
12	<i>Yes, but not so recent that will 2016</i>

The facilitators thanked everyone for being part of the discussion and for their contributions and assured them that GPI is going to organize more program that the whole community will be involved and participate. The meeting ended at 1:20pm with a closing prayer said by Mr Philip Onovbionme (chief).

**OUTCOME:**

- ✓ The discussion session revealed that the community members that has been involved in our programs are committed to ending FGM in the community .
- ✓ It also reveals that they have been active in enforcing the sanction in the community .
- ✓ The session also revealed that a large number of people are victims of FGM in the community.
- ✓ The session revealed that some traditional chiefs are resistant to the policy and law of ending FGM in their quarter.
- ✓ The session also reveals that FGM is still seen in the community as part of tradition that must be obeyed.

**SUCCESS:**

- ✓ The process revealed how active the community members are in carrying out GPI activities
- ✓ The community members were very free with information.
- ✓ The process was interactive and fun as the people loved the organization and the work they are doing in their community.
- ✓ The community members made it clear that their community is open anytime for GPI programs.

**CHALLENGES:**

- ✓ Getting the participants seated for the discussion was very stressful as most of them are very busy.
- ✓ Community members wants to be paid for all their participation and if not so, they withdraw.



## 11.2 POSITIVE ACTION FOR CHILDREN FUND

**PROJECT TITTLE:** Prevention of HIV and unintended pregnancies among young women and girls in Delta State.

### OBJECTIVES:

- To prevent HIV infection amongst girls and young women
- Strengthening communities to keep adolescent among women HIV negative

### ACTIVITIES:

- Advocacies
- Stakeholders forum
- Media Forum
- Boy/girl forum
- Assemble presentation
- Rally
- School outreach
- Centre meeting
- Community intervention
- Video watch
- Tv program
- Parent daughter forum
- Contact teacher forum
- Debate competition
- HTC service
- School intervention
- Sensitizations
- Video watch

### CHALLENGES

- Lack of interest in issues of HIV
- Difficulty in changing cultural belief to have many children

### SUCCESS

- Girls Power Initiative was able to reach 66,000 young women and girls on issues of HIV and unintended pregnancies within a period of 3years



- 90% of the total population are aware and can make informed decision on HIV prevention and unintended
- 10,000 participants received HTC service within three years.

### 11.3 AFRICAN WOMEN DEVELOPMENT FUND

**PROJECT TITLE:** Tackling Violence against young women and girls

**OBJECTIVES:**

- To ensure youth friendly health facility
- To eliminate any form of sexual violence among young women and girls

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Advocacies
- Stakeholders forum
- Media Forum
- Assemble presentation
- Rally
- School outreach
- Centre meeting
- Radio program
- School intervention

**CHALLENGES**

- Lack of interest in issues of HIV
- Difficulty in changing cultural belief to have many children

**SUCCESS**

- With the assistance of Local Government Chairmen, Girls Power Initiative was able to establish three health centres for youths
- Adolescence now receive free health services

**MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

Analysis of Health Training Organised for Girls at Umuagu Health Centre on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Participants: Females- 15, Male- 0



A total of 15 questionnaires was administered

- 100% of respondents knows what GPI is about
- 100% of respondents was able to summarise what was learnt from the training
- 100% of respondents stated that brainstorming and storytelling were the facilitating skills used for the training
- 89% of respondents said that what they like about the topic is that they learnt how to take their body and stay healthy, while 11% on the other hand stated they like the topics because they learnt ways of preventing STI
- 100% of respondents stated that like every aspect of the topic taught.
- 100% of the respondents stated the facilitation was interesting and fun.
- 100% of respondents said they will inform others on how to take care of their reproductive health and also inform other adolescents about the adolescent friendly health centre.

#### Pre and Post-test summary report on stakeholder's forum held for four LGA, Aniocha South, Oshimili North, Isoko South, Isoko North

- ✓ At pre- test 53.3% of participants was able to state the meaning of adolescent health policy while 80% were able to the meaning after post test
- ✓ 30% of participants stated the meaning of adolescent friendly health services for pre-test while 66.7% stated correctly the meaning of adolescent health friendly service after post test
- ✓ According to pre-test the 45% of the population stated ways that sexual violence can be eliminated while post test revealed that 100% of the participants stated different ways that sexual violence can be eliminated
- ✓ At pre test 93.3% of the participants prior to the time of the training has not heard or know any policy safeguarding the health of adolescents in delta state while 6.6% left the question unanswered while at post 100% of participants stated that before the meaning of adolescent health policy
- ✓ At pre test 46.6% participants were able to list ways adolescent health policy can be domesticated and At post test 100% of the participants were able to state different ways that adolescent health policy can be successfully implemented and domesticated.

#### Main Findings

GPI has been successful in reaching stakeholders on ways of ensuring the implementation of adolescent health policy and elimination of sexual violence.



At pre-test the knowledge of participants on adolescent health policy and services was low. The forum was successful in increasing knowledge of adolescent health policy and ways of implementing these policies at their different area of influence. The forum leaves convinced the stakeholders the different of implementing policies for adolescent health at grass root level and came up with different action plan that will ensure better health for adolescents at the different LGAs.

## 12.0 Organisational Management & Development

### OMC MEETING

Girls Power Initiative Asaba holds her office management committee meeting which holds first Tuesday of every month. All heads of department are members of this committee

### PET MEETING

Program executing team meetings holds once every week. During these weekly meetings we evaluate our programs, identify our problems, and strategize on how to solve these problems while recognizing our success.

## 13.0 Overview

Girls Power Initiative Delta, recorded lots of success stories in the year 2019. Activities like Staff Capacity Building and series of Advocacy and sensitization in communities, free HCT services were carried out, skills training and youth programs for the girls were carried out successfully.

**Ehita Ikoghode Aikpitanyi,**  
**Co-ordinator, Delta State**





# Girls' Power Initiative (GPI)

Edo State – Benin Centre

## Annual Report

*“Towards an empowered womanhood”*



**JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019**





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## Abbreviations

AIDS	- Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CPC	- Child Protection Committee
CRS	- Catholic Relief Service
CV	- Community Volunteer
DHIS	- <i>District Health Information System</i>
DPWYL	- Don't Pay With Your Life
ECOWAS	- Economic Community of West African States
EU	- European Union
FIDA	- International Federation of Women Lawyers
GPI	- Girls' Power Initiative
HIV	- Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus
HTC	- HIV Testing and Counselling
IEC/BCC	- Information, Education and Communication/Behaviour Change Communication
IOM-	International Organisation for Migration
IYCF	- Infant and Young Child Feeding
LGA	- Local Government Area
M&E	- Monitoring & Evaluation
NAPTIP	- National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons & other Related Matters
OVC	- Orphan & Vulnerable Children
PACKING	- The Protection of Migrants And Asylum Seekers Especially Children and Women Coming From Nigeria and Victims of Trafficking
PIT/PET	- Project Implementation Team/Project Executing Team
RDT	- Rapid Diagnostic Test
STCI	- Save the Child Initiative
STI	- Sexually Transmitted Infection
WAN	- West Africa Network for the Protection of Children on the Move



## Executive Summary

GPI Benin Centre in 2019 tirelessly continued the grooming of the girl child through internally generated funding of educational programmes for the 52 girls registered for the 2019 session in the three-year safe-space, gender and rights sensitive 'Ambassadors for Change' programme. Programs for the public was used as a means to familiarise with the girls' teachers, caregivers, community members, policy makers and the public at large, to create a healthy environment for females to grow and take action for positive impact in the society.

The centre's duty on Children on the Move, prevention of Human Trafficking and Unsafe Migration made it a hub for researchers as seen in the information desk communication interventions, services and advocacy to address human trafficking and other issues.

For effective impact maximization to beneficiaries, staff capacity building was prioritised while working with networks & partners to achieve the deliverables of funders in special projects. GPI was able to reach out to individuals and communities in hard to reach areas through the aid of Donors. A total of 602,35 persons (31,045 females and 20,382 males 8,808 not disaggregated by sex) were reached directly with our programs during the year while indirect beneficiaries were 1,990,600 this is an improvement on the 55,854 persons (34394 females and 21460 males) reached directly in 2018

**TABLE OF BENEFICIARIES FOR 2019**

S/N	ACTIVITY	DIRECT BENEFICIARIES			INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES	REMARKS
		M	F	TOTAL		
1	Pet Meetings	4	14	18	0	
2	OMC	0	7	7	0	
3	Centre meeting	0	52	52	0	
3	Centre graduation	0	7	7	0	
4	Schools Outreach	0	469	469	0	Monthly average
4	Outreach Graduation	0	238	238	0	
5	Career development tour	0	50	50	0	
6	Community intervention	60	120	180	0	
7	Centre meeting (GIZ)	0	150	150	0	
8	School outreach GIZ	0	802	802	0	
9	Parent daughter forum	0	0	0	0	
10	Youth talent festival	27	127	152	0	
11	World Aids Day	0	0	80	0	
12	Media chat	9	7	16	0	
13	Counselling	15	27	42	0	
14	WAN beneficiaries	12	73	85	0	



S/N	ACTIVITY	DIRECT BENEFICIARIES			INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES	REMARKS
		M	F	TOTAL		
15	Equality Now project closure	20	22	53	600	Copies of the law shared
16	Danish Embassy project closure	19	38	57	0	
17	PACKING Project closure	23	29	52	0	
18	SEA Hub training of teachers/students	11	28	39	0	
19	SEA Hub inauguration	427	510	937	0	
20	Reintegration of victims of TIP	0	10	10	0	
21	Scholarship and assistance to vulnerable girls to TIP	0	25	25	0	
21	Personnel new staff	0	2	2	0	
22	Radio Drama (26 episodes)	0	0	0	520,000	
23	A ride with GPI on Air (26 Episodes)	0	0	0	600,000	
24	Jingles (2)	0	0	0	520,000	
25	Posters	0	0	800	0	Copies distributed
26	Billboards (2)	0	0	0	100,000	
27	Videos (3)	0	0	0	250,000	
28	Website	0	0	7809	0	
29	Training of trainers on Peer education	3124	4776	8010	0	
30	Reached by Peer educators	15,307	22,046	37,353	0	
31	Intensive peer education	298	586	884	0	
32	Birth certificates	4	49	53	0	
32	Market sensitization	82	428	510	0	
33	Town hall meetings	106	149	255	0	
34	Meeting with transporters	34	4	38	0	
35	Motor park campaign	800	200	1000	0	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,382</b>	<b>31,045</b>	<b>60,235</b>	<b>1,990,600</b>	



## 1.0 Educational Programmes for the Girls

### 1.1 CENTRE MEETINGS – AMBASSADORS FOR CHANGE PROGRAMME

#### Weekly Lessons

The GPI Benin Ambassadors for Change Programme (Centre Meetings) held lessons regularly all through the year at her two Centres. The programme aimed at empowering adolescent girls within the age group of 10-18 years with information on gender, life management skills, sexuality, sexual and reproductive health and rights.

52 girls were registered in the Ambassadors for Change Programme in 2019 with an average of 30 in attendance weekly.

All topics in the curriculum of the 2019 weekly session for Jewel (Level 1), Roses (Level 2) and Oasis (Level 3) classes were completed.

#### Summary of promotions in 2019

Promoted to level 2	26
Promoted to level 3	15
Graduated from the programme	7
To remain in previous class	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>52 Girls</b>



#### Output

The lessons were interactive as the girls were ready to learn, ask questions, corrected wrong perspectives and accurate information was passed to them.

### 1.2 CAREER DEVELOPMENT TOUR

In celebration of Children's Day on May 27 annually, GPI exposes her Girls to career paths to enrich their experience and increase their capacity for informed choice when making decisions on career choices. Patience Igbiniedion on 25th May 2019 took the girls on Career Development Tour after facilitating a session with them that covered the meaning of career, the importance of women careers, the various types of career available, career management; gender roles as it affects career choices.

The 2019 Career Development Tour was to the Revelation Tourist Palazzo also known as Sir Victor Uwaifo's Palace where the girls had a good time learning about their heritage and considering whether to take arts as a course of study in future.



**In attendance were:**

	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>
Girls	48	0	48
Facilitators	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>	50	0	50

At the Palazzo, they met with manager Mr. Christian Eburu who started the tour by given a brief history of the founder of the establishment. The founder Sir Victor Uwaifo is a Professor of Art.. The establishment was founded in 2007 as a result of his zeal and passion for History and Art. It has received visitors from all other the world including ambassadors and is acclaimed as one of the biggest private tourist centres in Africa. The Palazzo has a slogan: ‘you don’t know Benin if you have not visited the Palazzo’.

The girls asked how he got to be able to know so much about Benin history to be able to put them down. Mr. Chris said that stories were passed from generation to generation orally before they was put down in writing to become History as we know it today. Girls also asked if the Professor has contributed to the development of youths. The answer was yes as he has an academy called Victor Uwaifo Music Academy that helps to build and empower youths to bring out their potentials. He said that in choosing a career the girls should know where their passion lies and follow it. He said that in becoming an Artist they should have a mentor in the kind of the Art they chose. They should study the strength and weakness of the mentor and strive to overcome the weakness so that they will excel.



The girls took a tour of the building and saw various sculptures and heard their history told. e.g. the naming of the ‘ewere leaf’; the walking of Prince Odogbo naked, the queen mother Idia that led warriors to war, many faces of the king’s Jester, how citizens migrated, the slave trade era, the execution of Anini.





The peak of the activity came with the girls meeting with Professor Victor Uwaifo in his apartment. He then invited them to his personal chapel. He then prayed for the girls and the organization wishing them the grace to achieve their dreams and aspirations. He showed them a vehicle he constructed by himself in 1995.

### 1.3 SOCIAL WORK

A criterium for graduation is for girls of the graduating level (Oasis) to undergo community intervention which is a core aspect of the youth activism for social change and development of the empowerment programme.

#### GOAL

The goal of the intervention is to expose the girls and reach out to other young girls with information on sexuality issue.

**Name of community:** UGBINEH Community

**Location:** Ovia North East Local Government Area Edo State

**Population:** About 400 people

#### Description of the Community:

The community is made up of women, men, youth and children. Houses in the community are built with block some with mud bricks and corrugated iron sheets. There is a primary school, secondary school, market and a church in the community. There is no electricity in the community, and the main occupation of the people is farming and trading.

#### The graduating girls who executed the intervention were:

Amadasun Success, Uwaila Aisosa Joy, Aibueku Etinosa Success, Amos Esther, Osaigbovo Oghogho, Grace Imade, Messa Victoria



### NEED ASSESSMENT

The graduating girls (Oasis class 2017) of GPI Benin centre went to Ugbineh community to carry out needs assessment. They went to the Odionwere's (Community Head) house but he was not around and then went to the Secretary who they held meeting during which the girls



introduced themselves and GPI and told them the reason for their visit, that it is part of their criteria for graduation. The girls took permission to go round the village to administer survey questionnaire to the people of the Community.



The main issue identified to be prevalent in the community was **Drug abuse & Early marriage**, after the survey the Secretary fixed a marked day for the girls to come and educate the people.

### INTERVENTION

The objectives of the intervention were to educate and enlighten the people on:

- Drug abuse and its effects.



- early marriage and the consequences that it poses on the girl child
- To correct wrong notion, they already had



The girls took turns to educate the people at the Odionwere's house on drug abuse and early marriage, and they also went to the market to educate the traders and their customers.

**Direct Baneficiaries:**

	Female	Male	Total
Traders and community members	120	60	180
GPI Girls	7	0	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>187</b>

The flyer designed for use during the intervention had the content below:

**GPI SAYS NO TO DRUG ABUSE**

DRUG IS ANY SUBSTANCE THAT IS TAKEN TO CAUSE ANY EFFECT FOR MEDICAL PURPOSE OR MOOD CHANGE.

DRUG ABUSE RESULTS WHEN DRUGS ARE TAKEN WITHOUT PRESCRIPTION, OR TAKEN TO GET A SPECIFIC NOTION OR FEELINGS.

**DRUG ABUSE LEADS TO ADDICTION**

**ADDICTION COULD LEAD TO DEATH**

**STOP DRUG ADDICTION**

**GPI SAYS STOP DRUG ABUSE**

FOR HELP CONTACT GPI @ 67 NEW ROAD, OFF AMADASUN STREET, UGBYIOKO, UPPER ROAD PHONE NUMBER 08088883070





## 1.4 SCHOOLS' OUTREACH

With the aim of reaching out to more adolescent girls on their sexuality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, human rights, leadership and equipping them with personal skills to live healthy, productive lives and turn out to be visible women in society, 18 schools underwent the GPI gender-based Schools' Sexuality Programme which is a one year abridged programme of the three years Comprehensive Sexuality Programme held at the Centre.

At the end of the session, test to assess knowledge was carried out and girls were graduated from the program.

### Beneficiaries (Average monthly Attendance):

	Female	Male	Total
Girls	469	0	469
Facilitators	7	0	7
<b>Total</b>	476	0	476

## 1.5 GRADUATION AND AWARD CEREMONY

The 2019 Graduation Ceremony of the three years gender-sensitive Comprehensive Sexuality Education programme and the one-year Schools' Sexuality Programme marked the Silver Jubilee of GPI's empowerment to the girl child.



Valedictory Speech by a representative of the 2019 Ugbiyoko Centre graduates Etinosa Aibueku, acknowledged GPI for the program and assured the future continuity of the program stating, "they have become visible in the society ready to contribute their own quota to their immediate society".





Other graduating girls also shared their experiences of the 3-year and 1-year abridged version of the program, it ranged from them being able to manage assigned roles, speaking confidently and fluently in the public, building assertive behaviour, peer education, and to making meaningful contributions among peers when interacting.

#### Voices:

- Imade Grace “I have learnt skills that can help me become more talented, am going to improve on these skills, all thanks to GPI”
- Isoken Recheal Ogbemor “I can make decisions well now, thanks for the opportunity”
- Nwaka Joy “I now know more about human trafficking and migration, no one can intimidate and deceive me”
- Osaigbovo Oghogho “GPI has impacted so much on me in the aspect of leadership and communication skills, this has enabled me to work positively as part of teams and able to contribute meaningfully”
- Etinosa Aibueku “GPI has helped me as a girl child to have high self-esteem and not to look down on myself because I am a girl child. I want GPI to continue so that I can also assist in the facilitation.

#### Attendance:

	Female	Male	Total
Students	230	0	230
Teachers	8	0	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>238</b>



## 2.0 Educational Programme for the Public

### 2.1 PARENTS/ DAUGHTERS/ TEACHERS FORUM HELD ON THE 19<sup>TH</sup> OF OCTOBER 2019 TO MARK INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD

A forum for GPI parents, daughters and teachers to mark the International Day of the Girl Child took place on October 19th with the theme - **Girl Force: Unscripted and Unstoppable**. GPI centre girls alongside some of their parents, Outreach girls, contact teachers and members of staff of GPI were present at the event.



The forum was an avenue for parents and their daughters to communicate and share their views on things they were not in agreement with. An opportunity for the girls to ask their parents and teachers questions on issues bothering them. Patience Igbiniedion a facilitator of GPI, gave an address on the theme of the year, enlightening parents and teachers on how GPI is grooming her girls to become an unscripted and unstoppable force in the society, advising parents to give equal opportunities to their children not minding the sex of the child. Other facilitators present added their voices on the need to educate the girl child and give her room to grow. GPI EMOTAN CENTRE thrilled the audience with an interesting drama piece titled: Educate a Girl Child. Mrs. Umweni Elizabeth, parent of one of the centre girls gave an appreciative remark on the organisation's effort in protecting and empowering the Girl Child.



Emotan Centre girls drama presentation



Ugbigboko Centre drama presentation







Group photograph with girls from Imaguero College.



Photo with girls from Oghede Jnr Sec Sch.



Group photograph taken with girls from Asoro Grammar School.

## 2.2 YOUTH TALENT FESTIVAL (16TH NOVEMBER 2019)

GPI organised Youth Talent Festival to mark 2019 World Youth Day. The event was a colourful one, as several activities were carried out and a lot of talents displayed. Both GPI Centre girls and students from GPI Outreach schools were present at the event.

**The objectives** of the activity were:

- To give the participants opportunity to interact.
- To promote gender equality by reducing stereotypes.
- To give the participants opportunity to exhibit their talents.
- To make Emotan Centre better known to the public.

**Activities** such as car wash, cooking, cultural display, headgear (gele) tying, poetry, essay writing, singing, make up and bead making were carried out. Participants were from GPI centre girls and invited schools. At the end of the event, Baptist High School came out first



while gifts were given to all invited schools present and GPI Centres, and additional gifts to winners of each competition.

**Attendance:**

	Female	Male	Total
Students	127	27	154
Teachers	0	0	10
<b>Total</b>	127	27	164



The result is shown below:

S/N	COMPETITION	SCHOOL	POSITION
1	Creative arts	Idia College Eweka Grammar School GPI Ugbiyokho Centre	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>
2	Car wash	Asoro Grammar School Imaguero Girls College Baptist High School New Era Girls College Evbareke Secondary school	1 <sup>ST</sup> 2 <sup>ND</sup> 3 <sup>RD</sup> 4 <sup>TH</sup> 5 <sup>TH</sup>
3	Essay	Baptist High School Imaguero Girls College Idia College	1 <sup>ST</sup> 2 <sup>ND</sup> 3 <sup>RD</sup>
4	Cooking	Baptist High School Evbareke Secondary School Asoro Grammar School	1 <sup>ST</sup> 2 <sup>ND</sup> 3 <sup>RD</sup>
5	Cultural dance	GPI Ugbiyokho Centre New Era Girls College Eweka Grammar School Evbareke Secondary School	1 <sup>ST</sup> 2 <sup>ND</sup> 3 <sup>RD</sup> 4 <sup>TH</sup>
6	Poetry	Asoro Grammar School Imaguero Girls College St. Maria Goretti Idia College GPI Emotan Centre	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup>

		Eweka Grammar school Baptist high school	6 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup>
7	Singing	Imaguero Secondary School GPI Ugbiyokho New Era Girls College Idia College	1 <sup>ST</sup> 2 <sup>ND</sup> 3 <sup>RD</sup> 4 <sup>TH</sup>
8	Gele tying & makeup	Asoro Grammar School Baptist High School	1 <sup>ST</sup> 2 <sup>ND</sup>
9	Drama	St Maria Goretti GPI Emotan Centre New Era Girls College GPI Ugbiyokho Centre Evbareke Grammar School	1st 2nd 3 <sup>RD</sup> 4th 5 <sup>th</sup>



In evaluating the activity, about 80% of the participants said they were very happy with the participating schools and the staff of GPI. In the words of Favour from St Maria Goretti, “the judges comported themselves very well and the program was lively”. The competitors were good, and the activity made the youths very bold and active”. According to Jane from Evbareke, “the activity was so lovely and enjoyable”.

### 3.0 Community Intervention

#### 3.1 WORLD DAY AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING, 30TH JULY 2019



GPI, NAPTIP alongside IOM and other NGOs and CSOs joined the world to mark the 2019 Day Against Human Trafficking in Benin City on 30<sup>th</sup> July. The exercise kicked off at 9am with a walk from NAPTIP Secretariat with GPI members of staff and other organisations parading their banners on Human Trafficking and distributing fliers with messages on Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration while dancing to the beat from the NYSC band.

The exercise climaxed at NUJ Secretariat with a seminar, at which several organizations spoke on their work to stem Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration.

##### **Attendance by GPI:**

	Female	Male	Total
Staff	6	1	7
<b>Total</b>	6	1	7

#### 3.2 JUSTICE FOR GIFT ALONGE RALLY BY BRAVE HEART INITIATIVE (BHI)

Gift Alonge, a victim of sexual violence who lost her life seeking justice alongside 2 members of staff of the organisation in charge (BraveHeart Initiative for women and youths) and her Uncle brought about the Edo CSO community Walk for justice as the case was taking a different turn at the loss of her life.

GPI was represented by Grace Osakue, Blessing Ehiagwina, Rahmat Asemota, Laura Uwangue, Victory Aitimon, Joy Enaise Orawemen, and Anderson Aisagbonbuomwan to advocate for Gift Alonge whom her biological father got impregnated, crudely aborted the fetus and got her pregnant again, at that she sought justice and justice prevailed, sadly, after her death as Jacob Alonge bagged 21 years imprisonment for the crime.





**Representatives of GPI at the Meetings and Rally:**

	Female	Male	Total
Staff	6	1	7
<b>Total</b>	6	1	7

**3.3 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS AND WOMEN**

In commemoration of the 2019 16-Days of Activism against Violence against girls and women, GPI Benin participated in the activities of Association Against Child, Sexual And Gender Based Violence In Collaboration with Nigeria League Of Women Voters held on 25th November 2019 with the global theme 'Generation Equality: Stand to End RAP'E

Harrison Edobor and Joy Enaise Orawemen represented the Centre where Harrison was amongst the panelists in a panel session that rounded off the event. An endurance walk round the museum led by the Chairperson, RT. Honourable Elizabeth Ativie commenced the activity. She stated the occasion was so dear and important to all human beings irrespective of gender, and it is celebrated from the 25<sup>th</sup> of November to 10<sup>th</sup> of December every year. It was mentioned that the celebration was characterized with several activities to sensitize the populace about the specific violence issues that is attached.

She added that, 2019 was specifically on violence issues centred around RAPE which has become the most ravaging gender-based violence against women, girls and boys. It was also said that the issue of rape is widely spread in our society, that there is no day that passes without one or two reports in the media on rape which can be categorized as domestic rape (which happens in the home, father to daughter, uncle to niece etc) or executive rape (which happens at the places of work), amongst peers, gang rape in schools and communities, child rape which can be said to be very traumatic, rape at the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps.

It was mentioned that in February 2019, the Executive Governor of Edo State signed into law the VAPP bill, (Violence Against Persons Prohibition Law) to help to reduce the heinous crime against humanity.

In addition, it was said that based on the numerous reports on rape and other vices that dehumanise the woman and the girl child in the state and other states in the country that made women from all the 36 states of the country to come together for women's dialogue which was tagged "THE WOMANIFESTO 2019" with the theme "The Nigeria Women Want". It was set up to discuss the various challenges facing women. The discussions were centred on Gender Based Violence,

During the panel session, Harrison highlighted the works of the GPI in equipping the girls with skills and information to know who she is, her worth and how not to fall victims of rape. He informed participants that GPI goes to schools to equip the girl child with personal skills like



Assertiveness, how to avoid being rape, Nigeria's Constitution and the Rights of the Girl Child and Women, Values Clarification, Child Abuse, Sexually Transmissible Infections, Body Image, Vision and Goal Setting, Self-Assurance, Self Esteem etc.

#### Attendance by GPI:

	Female	Male	Total
Staff	1	1	2
<b>Total</b>	1	1	2

### 3.4 THE WORLD AIDS DAY

On December 1<sup>st</sup> 2019, GPI was represented by Joy Enaise Orawemen, Lorine Ogheneke Daniel, Victory Aitimon, Peace Akhigbe to join the Ministry of Health and SACA to mark World Aids Day. Everyone gathered at Stadium Road Junction Benin City, thereafter, there



was a sensitization walk to Oba Market and a brief talk at Edo State House of Assembly Annex.

#### Attendance by GPI:

	Female	Male	Total
Staff	4	0	4
<b>Total</b>	4	0	4





On the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2019, **GPI as an organisation marked World AIDS Day at Evbuotubu Market** in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State in collaboration with International Organization for Migration (IOM) and NAPTIP staff.



A staff of NAPTIP and Joy raising awareness on irregular migration and dangers of HIV.

Free HIV and Malaria Testing services were provided in the market hall by 9am to 3pm. Target beneficiaries were the market women, transporters (tricycle “keke NAPEP”riders, bus drivers and traders). The HIV/AIDS sensitization was carried out in the open market simultaneously with the testing.



77 persons were tested who were comprised of adult males and female, adolescent girls and boys.

Attendance	Female	Male	Total
Numbers tested	52	25	77
Numbers reached in open market	Not recorded		
IOM and SACA Staff	1	2	3
GPI Staff	9	1	10
<b>Total</b>	62	28	90

## 4.0 GPI Information Desk

During the period under review, GPI reached out to her numerous audiences through the organisation's social media streams and website platforms to commemorate and report on her events, awareness raising campaigns and programs.

### 4.1 MEDIA CAMPAIGN – A RIDE WITH GPI FOR CHANGE

This aimed at increasing the number of persons with information about gender, irregular migration, and human trafficking. The general population was reached during this period using radio and television, posters, billboard, and social media.

- Radio and TV Program: there were 26 slots of radio and TV program that were produced and were aired on TV and radio.
- Outdoor billboard campaign and posters: to develop messages for the billboard and posters, two meetings facilitated by a media consultant were held to:
  - deliberate on the choice of an ambassador to be used on the billboard and posters.
  - develop BCC messages that will be used during the project and at the end of the meeting, the messages generated for the billboards were also used to produce 4000 posters across the five states with each state and Edo having 800 copies.

#### MESSAGE DERIVED

Message 1: Human Trafficking harms our children and youths .

Message 2: You don't need to be trafficked to be successful .

#### BILLBOARDS AND LOCATIONS

- Two billboards were placed in Agho Junction of Ekenwan Road, Benin City, and on Uselu Lagos Road, Benin City. The billboards are strategically located at prime locations with very busy vehicular and human traffic for optimum reach.

Three short videos were produced for the social media campaign which are available on YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram. The titles of the view are:

- \The Letter
- The call
- Everything for sale

With over one million targeted audience reached and over 200,000 engagements so far. 557% increment on GPI page views were also achieved.



## 4.2 LIBRARY SERVICES

Inventory of books in the library and reorganizing of the library is ongoing. This is to know the number of books in the library, determine the books to be removed from the library and to know the subject area of new books to stock the library with.

During the period under review, the library witnessed various users from Ambrose Ali University and GPI centre meeting girls who came to access use the library. Books accessed were mostly on **Child Rights, Adolescent Health, human trafficking**.

A book titled Religious, **Social and Criminal group in Trafficking of Nigeria Girls and Women: The Case of shrines, 'Ladies Club' and 'Cultist Group'** was donated to the library by a team from ECPAT France and also The **Edo State Trafficking in Person Prohibition Law 2018 Simplified** Version Edited by Grace Osakue and Mabel Ikoghode Ekido and produced by Girls' Power Initiative (GPI) Nigeria with support from Equality Now was published and added to our stock of books.

## 4.3 GPI AT 25 DOCUMENTARY VIDEO

GPI at 25 documentary supported by Perfect Number USA was produced using interviews of GPI graduates and their spouses, Outreach facilitators, Parents of graduates, NGOs, Ministries and parastatals, GPI friends, Market women leader and Traditional heads and community members.

The objective was to get what the people feel about GPI, the programs, the graduates, the impact of GPI programs on the girls and the society, what GPI is doing right and what needs to be changed.

At the end, sixteen persons including 7 females and 9 males were involved in the media interviews in the State.

# 5.0 Service Delivery

## 5.1 COUNSELLING/REFERRALS

Counselling is a continuous program for both GPI girls, associates, and beneficiaries. The period under review, counselling services were carried out on 42 persons where by 15 were males and 27 were females.

Male	Female	Total
15	27	42



They were all counselled as follows:

#### Children on the Move

- 16 (7M, 9F) identified cases of children on the move
- 13 received cases (all F), of which two were not counselled because they were minors, but their family members were counselled

#### Cases referred to GPI

- 7 from GPI friends (5F,2M): Counsellled and referred as follows:
  - A case of wife battering (reported by a brother to the woman) was referred to Ministry of Social Development and Gender Issues
  - A case having to do with unclear circumstances surrounding the death of a little girl from a second wife reported by the father of the late girl was referred to Esigie Police Station.
  - 4 rape cases - three cases were referred to Central hospital for medical attention because they do not want the involvement of the police. The forth rape case happened 12 years ago but was not reported. The victim decided to report the case and wanted to ascertain the possibility of getting justice before reporting the case. Assessment showed clear lack of evidence.
  - A lady that needed information on how to counsel returnees especially when they are in the shelter was educated on the steps of WAN/ECOWAS Standard and was referred to NAPTIP's counselling unit for more information.

#### Court cases

During the reporting period, hearings on two court cases (Gift Alonge and a three-year-old girl) were attended. There was judgment on the 1st of August 2019, for the late Gift Alonge who was impregnated by her father. The father was sentenced to a total of 21 years imprisonment to run consecutively. The 3 year old girl was at the point of judgment when the judge was promoted and transferred and the case is to begin afresh with a new judge to continue the hearing on 7th January, 2020.

## 6.0 Strategic Advocacy

#### Advocacy visit to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Benin

On the 25th of April 2019, an advocacy visit was paid to the Ministry of Education, Benin City to intimate the Permanent Secretary on the need to start SEA-Hub activities in some selected schools in Egor and Oredo L.G.A in the state.

Mabel Ekido, Grace Osakue and Ese Amadasun represented GPI, Roland Nwoha and Bolatito Ironbar represented Idia Renaissance while Doyin and Bolafemi represented GIZ SEDIN, and The Commissioner of Ministry of Education was represented. The selected schools were not left out which were Asoro Grammar School, University Preparatory Secondary School,



Evbareke Secondary School and Franej International School, Redeemer College, Iyoba College, Oba Eweka Secondary School and Edo Boys High School were also visited on SEA-Hub project.

They pledged their support and immediately provided names of contact teachers who would be trained for the project. The office of the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Science and Technology was also visited.

#### **Attendance by GPI:**

	Female	Male	Total
Others	2	2	4
GPI Staff	2	1	3
<b>Total</b>	4	3	7

#### NAPTIP Zonal Commander

The New Zonal commander of NAPTIP was visited on the 5th of December 2019. She welcomed GPI team members and expressed willingness to work with GPI. As a result of this, a Malian was immediately given a shelter at the request of GPI in NAPTIP shelter same day before he would be returned.

#### Don't Pay with Your Life (DPWYL) Project Advocacy Visit

Also, there were visits on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October to principals and Chief Inspectors of Education (CIE) in 5 LGA in Esan Central to intimate them of the Don't Pay with Your Life project and the peer education sessions in their schools on Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration issues capacity building, workshops and training meetings.

## 7.0 Staff Capacity Building

### 7.1 TRAINING WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

To build the capacities of Staff members in 2019, GPI was represented by members of staff and the co-ordinator in meetings, trainings, and workshops. Step down trainings were done by attendees to other members of staff as a result, it further built the capacities of staff and improved their work performance in the organization.

STAFF	CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP/ TRAINING	ORGANISER	DATE	VENUE
Elizabeth Okoojion	Waka well script review meeting	International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	Jan 22	Benin City
Eheneden Osakue	Community Dialogue Training of Trainers	International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	28 Jan – 1 Feb	Benin



Grace Osakue, Blessing Ehiagwina, Toyin Bakare, Ese Amadasun, Uwaila Ogbolodi, Joy Orawemen, Harrison Edobor	Refresher training on Psychosocial Support for Trafficked persons and Data Management	International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	Feb 17 - 19	Asaba
Elizabeth Okoojion	Monitoring & Evaluation Training	International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	2-5 March	Asaba
Mabel Ekido	PACHTIM Meeting	International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	March 3 -5	Asaba
Grace Osakue, Mabel Ekido, Dorcas Okoyo, Toyin Bakare	63rd UN Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW)	United Nations	March 11- 22	New York
Mabel Ekido Elizabeth Okoojion	Community Based Approach to Psychosocial Reintegration	International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	March 17 -19	Benin City
Blessing Ehiagwina Joy Orawemen	Consultation workshop on protection issues and services in Edo State	Stamping out Trafficking in Nigeria (SoTiN)	18th March	Benin
Joy Orawemen	Mental Health & Psychosocial Support	International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	March 18 -21	Benin
Anderson Aisagbonbuomwan	Migrant Protection and Reintegration – Training of trainers	EU-IOM	May 20 - 24	Asaba
Joy Orawemen Laura Uwangué Phylisia Oyovwe	Capacity Building Programme for Women and Girls	ETAHT/ Office of the First Lady/ AWEG/ Amanda Sawyer	Aug 22 – Sep 3	Benin City
Lorine Daniel Eheneden Osakue	HTS training of counsellors & HIV Tester	CiSHAN	Oct 2 - 11	Benin
Eheneden Osakue	Political Economy Analysis (PEA) of CSOs	British Council	Oct 23, 2019	Benin
Lorine Daniel Patience Igbinedion	Financial Management Training	The Challenge Initiative	Nov 13 - 16	Abuja



## 8.0 Networking and Partnerships

### NETWORKS

GPI Edo State belongs to various networks and coalitions whose missions are in line with the organisation's thematic areas, they are:

ENCATIP – Edo State NGO Coalition Against Human Trafficking in Persons (ENCATIP)

WAN – West Africa Network for the Protection of Children

CPN – Child Protection Network

CONGOS – Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations

CiSHAN – Civil Society for HIV/AIDS in Nigeria

NACTAL – Network of Civil Society Organisation Against Child Trafficking Abuse and Labour

CSACEFA – Civil Society Action Coalition of Education for all

GAATW – Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women

### STAKEHOLDERS

National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and other related matters (NAPTIP)

Edo State Ministry of Social Development and Genders Issues

Nigeria Police Force (NPF) Family Unit

Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS)

International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA)

Edo State Ministry of Justice/Edo State Task Force Against Human Trafficking

Republic of Benin Embassy in Nigeria (Lagos)

## 9.0 Special Projects

### 9.1 A RIDE WITH GPI FOR CHANGE

It was a project with the goal to increase awareness of the risks of irregular migration and human trafficking among the general population especially young women and girls in south-south Nigeria.

The project strived to reduce the incidence of irregular migration and human trafficking through the increase in the number of persons who have information through the GPI media campaign and the number of girls and young women who have personal empowerment



skills and have an understanding of the gender issues surrounding the issues of human trafficking.

The project was centred on three strategies:

- Media Campaign
- Girls Empowerment
- Monitoring and Evaluation

## **9.2 WEST AFRICAN NETWORK FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN ON THE MOVE**

In June 2012, GPI Benin became the coordinating office for the West Africa Network for the Protection of Children on the move and Young Migrants (WAN) Nigeria South. While Save The Child Initiative (STCI) Sokoto coordinates WAN activities in the Northern part of Nigeria. WAN is a network that has members in the 15 ECOWAS countries and Mauritania and it is funded by the International Social Service (ISS) West Africa.

The network aims to reduce the risks of children and young migrants on the move to West Africa. It also creates conditions for favourable integration of children in host countries and in their homes countries. WAN establishes cooperation between all 15 ECOWAS countries on the basis of harmonised procedures, standards and on a common methodology of intervention. WAN standard (now adopted by ECOWAS) involves eight steps starting from identification to Monitoring and Evaluation and involves filling of 5 sheets for each beneficiary (both sexes) from age 0 to 25 years of age.

### **Identification**

During the period, 16 persons were identified (7M,9F) and were between the ages of 8 to 22 years old by the following partners:

11 were from Benin Republic and were identified by the Embassy of Benin in Lagos

2 were returnees from Malaysia and Libya and were identified by GPI Benin.

1 orphan (a national case) was identified by GPI Benin.

1 from Ghana and was identified by NAPTIP Lagos.

1 from Mali and was identified by NIS Edo Command.

They were all listened to and counseled. 11 persons from Benin Republic, 1 from Ghana and 1 from Mali had access to emergency needs before they were reunited with their family members. All their sheets were filled and uploaded in the case data.

### **Family Tracing and Reunion**

During the reporting period, 18 families were traced:

The extended family members (maternal) of two minors identified in Gambia was traced in Abia.



The families of three girls identified in Ghana were traced in Uromi, Edo State.

The families of another three girls identified still in Ghana were traced in Delta.

The family of a boy identified in Benin Republic and was traced in Osun.

The extended family members of two girls identified in Ghana was traced in Lagos State.

The families of two girls identified in Ghana were traced in Anambra State.

The family of a girl also identified in Ghana was traced in Rivers State.

The family members of two girls identified in Ghana was traced in Egba Community in Edo State.

The families of 3 girls identified in Ghana were traced in Rivers State.

The family of a girl was also identified in Ghana was traced in Imo State

And 13 children and young adults were received (12F,1M) between the ages of 1-24years old.

Two minors were received from WAN Gambia on on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 in Lagos airport and were reunited with their maternal grandmother in Abia on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2020.

Three girls were received from WAN Ghana on the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 at Seme Border and were reunited with their families in Uromi, Edo State on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2019.

A boy was received from WAN Benin and was reunited with his family in Osun by AWCY Badagry.

Two young adults were received from WAN Ghana on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 2019 at Seme Border and were reunited with their families in Ozoro and Okpara Inland both in Delta State on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2020.

One adolescent and 3 young adults were received from WAN Ghana on 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2019 at Seme Border and two were reunited with their families on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2019 in Lagos while the other two were reunited with their families in Anambra on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2019.

1 young adult was received from AWCY on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2019 in Benin City and was reunited with her family in Imo State on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2019.

They were listened to and counseled before they were reunited with their family members except the two minors. Their family members were very grateful.

#### Establishment of Individual Projects

During the reporting period, GPI implemented school projects for 36 beneficiaries (11M, 25F)

#### Adherence to WAN Standard In Handling Cases

During the period, there were filling of WAN sheets for the identified and received cases, other traced cases that were not returned, follow up sheets for those reached for M&E resending of sheets on life projects for those that their budgets were reworked on, filling of child personal evaluation sheets for the cases identified and uploading of all the filled sheets in the case data.



### Monitoring and Evaluation

During the reporting period, 85(12M,73F) beneficiaries were reached: those on education made up of 36 beneficiaries (11M,25F) were all visited by our partners in charge of them in their various States and their school projects were implemented and are still working on the remaining 5 persons. 24 that their businesses have been implemented (28F, 1M) and 20 waiting for the implementation of their businesses (all females):

- Those that educational projects were implemented for, were all grateful to GPI/sponsors
- They were doing well in school as shown in their school results
- A girl graduated from the University
- Four children (two in Uyo and two in Calabar) relocated and our partners in charge of them through useful information were able to find their new locations and implemented their school projects for them.
- Two girls on education in Ogun State and Delta dropped out of school and are now learning fashion design.
- A girl in Ukhun Secondary School, Ekpoma lost her father
- A girl said she had some challenges and now into apprenticeship on photography.
- A husband to a beneficiary asked for another support for his wife
- Those in Anambra doing individual businesses pleaded for second support.
- One beneficiary an admission to read law in the University of Benin
- A mother (widow) of six children was so happy and thankful to WAN over the payment of school expenses for her six children
- Those whose businesses have not been implemented are calling all the time and two even came to GPI office during the reporting period to express their concerns.
- One of the beneficiaries waiting for the implementation of her business relocated from Ekpon in Edo State to Agbor in Delta State. She is seriously waiting for her business implementation.

### **9.3 PROTECTION OF MIGRANTS AND ASSYLUM SEEKERS ESPECIALLY CHILDREN AND WOMEN COMING FROM NIGERIA AND VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING (PACKING) PROJECT**

#### Activities carried out in 2019

- Advocacy visit to The Commissioner of Education
- Step down training in schools for students aged 10 to 18 years on issues of migration and human trafficking in Esan Central
- Peer education activities in schools
- Intensive 7 weeks peer education activities in schools



- Sensitization of male and female traders and keke NAPEP drivers on HIV/AIDS awareness through market campaigns
- Sensitization of community
- Production and airing of radio drama
- Production of short video and drama
- Production of posters, fliers, stickers, badges, notebooks, jotters, bags, pens.
- Facebook campaign
- call for tender
- monitoring the activity
- Campaign in motor park for drivers and keke riders
- Business training for beneficiaries
- M and E visit to beneficiaries.
- Evaluator's visit to Edo State to visit project sites
- Project closure meeting

#### Visit of ECPAT team to Benin on 6th to 11th February 2019

The ECPAT team made up of Nicolas Huet, Eleonore Chissone and Aurelie Jeannrod arrived in Benin City on the 6th of February, 2019. The purpose of their visit to GPI was to meet with partners, share the findings of the research with them, discuss the progress of the facebook campaign, and jointly write a proposal. They departed Benin on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

While in Benin they met with the PMC members on the 7th of February where the activities carried out for the last quarter of 2018 year were discussed after which they met with GPI and JDPC staff and discussed the new proposal and where JDPC can function directly. The report of the face book campaign and evaluator's report was also given by them.

On the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2019, a meeting was held with GPI team and work on the proposal continued. The objectives of the new proposal were drawn out, the various activities discussed and strategies adopted. The target and location was also discussed and the budget was finalized.

A meeting was held with the GPI accountant on financials and the ECPAT team left for Lagos on the 11th of February 2019.

#### Project Closure Meeting.

The project closure meeting for the PACKING Project was held on the 27th of March 2019 in GPI hall. It was a success as 52 persons made up of 23 males and 29 females were in attendance. Eleni Zerzelidou from the EU was also present.



## 9.4 ENGENDERING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION TO REDUCE VULNERABILITY OF MINORS TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN EDO STATE PROJECT

### Project Closure Meeting

The project closure meeting for “Engendering community participation to reduce vulnerability of minors to Human Trafficking in Edo State” project sponsored by the Danish Embassy in Nigeria was held on the 1st of February 2019. 57 persons (38 females and 19 males) were in attendance.

## 9.5 JOINT REPORT ON SEX TRAFFICKING IN NIGERIA

GPI was represented by May Ekido to do a joint report on sex trafficking in Nigeria with WOCON and Equality Now an FGD was carried out with staff of GPI to enable us generate our report and the final report was shared with the UN special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons who was visiting Nigeria.

## 9.6 SIMPLIFICATION OF THE LAW ON TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

With Sponsorship from Equality Now, GPI staff - Mabel Ekido and Anderson Aisagbonbuomwan worked on the Edo State Trafficking in persons (ETHAT) law after series of meetings by the committee members to simplify it. The final copy was published in July 2019.





## 9.7 SEA –HUB INAUGURATION IN SCHOOLS

Following the successful training of teachers and students in selected schools in Egor LGA SEA-Hub was inaugurated in the following schools:

- Iyoba Girls 6th June 2019
- Edo Boys 6th June 2019
- Redeemers Academy July 8th
- Franej High School July 10th
- Asoro Grammar school July 12th



## 10.0 CONCLUSION

2019 was a very productive year that saw us appraising our work over the years in the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Documentary and we were very pleased with what we saw and heard from persons interviewed. It has given us more impetus for more work.

The year also had its challenges especially in efforts to expand the Ambassadors for Change program to reach more girls in the face of lack of funds to sponsor their transportation. The Youth Talent festival had to be held in the New Centre in Emotan College for that purpose but we are yet to see commensurate increase in registration of new girls in that centre. In 2020 more efforts shall be put into securing funding for this core program.

We remain undaunted as we move into the road to our Golden Jubilee in 2044. Certainly the post SDG years following the ‘achievement’ of the SDG milestones for 2030 will be beautiful to behold and we dare say that GPI is already poised to make the needed impact by virtue of her successful building of the next generation who are already making a difference in their chosen fields.

**Grace Osakue**  
Co-ordinator





# Girls' Power Initiative (GPI)

Cross River - Calabar Centre

## Annual Report

*"Towards an empowered womanhood"*



**JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019**



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## 1.0 Educational Programme for Girls

### 1.1 CENTRE LESSONS: SAFE SPACE PROGRAMME

The aim of the weekly program has been empowering adolescent girls of 10-18years with factual information on challenges of growing up, gender, life management skills, sexuality and reproductive health and right that will build and strengthen their potentials enable them to set realistic goal as well as they work towards achieving them thereby positively contribute to their healthy growth and development as well as become empowered women in future. The Calabar centre continues to operate at three (3) levels with eight (8) age specific groups, and these lessons are held between 3pm and 6pm every Sunday. The weekly sessions between January to September 2019 were the sessions of 2018/2019 that spilled into the months mentioned.

A total number of Sundays observed between Jan—September 2019 were 36, (2 used as open day for orientation/interaction, and 1 Sunday used as an open day for parent daughter's forum, 1 Sunday used for skills training for GPI centre girls on 2nd and 3rd of March 2019: Confectionaries (fish-pie, cake, chin-chin, puff- puff and cookies) AND DETERGENT MAKING (Hair cream/shampoo; Izal, bleach, liquid soap)

The 2018/2019 weekly session came to an end with the graduation of girls in level 3 comprising of 27 girls from Seeders and 16 from damsels (the graduating group) on the 7th of September 2019. This year's graduation took a different dimension as it was done to mark the 25th Anniversary of GPI and graduation of the pilot safe space session in Akpabuyo Local Government Area. While those in levels one and two were administered the promotional evaluation questions to ascertain their promotion to the next level and groups. For the period under review, a total of 256 girls have so far been registered into the program

Regular attendance of girls for meetings= 213 girls.

#### Some Striking Outcomes

- I must confess that I have now recognised that women's rights are also human rights as they are also human being with feelings and should not be discriminated through the lesson on violence against girls and women
- I was very shy and don't like talking, because I am always told that I have big breast and that I am fat, but after the lesson on self-esteem, I felt very comfortable with myself.
- I am someone who does not like associating but when I had the lesson on self-esteem, I now believe more in myself and now try to associate and feel more confident. I can now express myself in front of people. SRHR sessions for girls (safe space) programme







**Facilitators during safe space lessons with girls**



**Registration of girls**

## 1.2 SCHOOLS BASED OUTREACH

### **Outreach – Ikom LGA, Cross River State.**

The schools' outreaches were conducted as ongoing activities under the Family Life HIV/AIDS Education (FLHE) project to sensitize participants on sexual and reproductive health and rights issues in selected secondary schools in Ikom Local Government area of Cross River State. The outreach activities were conducted by Facilitators through group sessions and sensitization messages for in-school youths especially girls in order to build skills and increase knowledge on sexual reproductive health issues thereby actualizing the objective of the project.

During the period, participants received information to support them in making right decisions and taking responsibility for their actions, understanding of human sexuality, understanding peer pressure, career choices, as well as building confidence and ability to communicate effectively.

Other information on understanding career choices were made known to participants in order to have a better understanding to assist them in making the right decisions concerning the choice of professions in life. Issues on peer pressure were also discussed and the negative effects associated with peer pressure. Participants were informed on the dangers of Gender based violence especially about female genital mutilation (FGM) as it was a trendy issue in their locality. Participants pledged to resist and fight against FGM in their communities.

Participants responded positively during sessions, and their concerns were clarified by Facilitators accordingly.

### **Outputs:**

- Six (6) schools were reached

- 1,213 participants (896- Females) and (317 - Males) were reached with sexual and reproductive health and rights information
- Topics discussed were as includes:
  1. Career choice
  2. Peer pressure
  3. Child Abuse
  4. Pregnancy by choice/miscarriage
  5. Time management
  6. Public speaking skills
  7. Female Genital Mutilation(FGM)
  8. Friendship/Dating and Love
  9. Assertiveness
  10. Teenage Pregnancy
  11. Feelings etc

Conclusively, the activities were conducted successfully and participants expressed increased knowledge in the topics discussed.

This report therefore, documents the activities conducted in the month of May, 2019.

#### **METHODOLOGIES:**

Facilitators adopted learners-centred approaches such as group work, experience sharing and questions/answers. These made the sessions very interesting and participatory, thus raising participant's full participation in all the sessions, exposing participants to facts and offering open discussions to explore the ideas expressed and share experiences in the discussions.

#### **OUTCOMES:**

Participants knowledge and understanding was increased in the topics discussed in various schools. Due to the participatory method adopted in facilitation, sessions were very interesting and interactive. Participants became self-aware and confident to share their ideas and feelings.

#### **Outcomes using the VACOK check list:**

##### **VOICE:**

1. Janet (13 years, Female): shared with the participants on how she was able to reject being introduced into lesbianism by her friend. Her voice was loud such that everybody in the hall could clearly hear her.
2. Mathew (14years, Male): shared how public speaking skills has helped him when talking to a group of people without being shy and one's voice must be loud and clear when speaking publicly.

##### **ACTIONS:**





1. Joy SS2 (16 years, Female): told participants that she assisted someone who was pregnant to get to the hospital when she noticed the signs of delivery.
2. Jennifer: SS2 (15years, Female): Disclosed that she found help for a friend by taking her to a counselor for advice.

#### **COMPORIMENT:**

- With a strong sense of confidence, Janet (13) was able to share her experience on how she was able to resist her friend who tried to introduce her into lesbianism.
- Participants conducted themselves in a disciplined manner during the sessions which indicated their readiness and interest to learn.

#### **OPPORTUNITY:**

1. Calista (14) and Mary (13) were given the opportunity to arrange the hall and also take the attendance during sessions.
2. Fortune (14) and Chidera (15): were also given the opportunity to take attendance during sessions.

#### **KNOWLEDGE:**

1. Blessing Ime Okon JSS3 (13): Stated that pregnancy only occurs during intercourse and not by mere sitting together with a boy.
2. Ekom Miracle Etta JSS3 (14): Responded that from what she had learnt during the session on pregnancy, she can boldly tell her parents that it is not the woman that determines the sex of a child.

#### **IMPACT:**

- About 70 girls were happy with Janet who shared her experience on how she rejected being introduced into lesbianism by a friend. The girls also promised to do the same if approached by any woman or girl to become a lesbian.
- Over 80 girls supported the idea shared, that before any one chooses a career he/she should meet a counsellor for guidance and proper counselling.

#### **Burning Questions**

- i. Rose (13): How can I overcome my shyness and be able to speak boldly?
- ii. Precious (12): What is Ejaculation?

In a participatory manner, participants were given opportunity to respond to the questions after which the Facilitator concluded with the right responses.

#### **Other Issues:**

Activities for the month of May were carried out by five Schools excluding Enoghi Secondary school. They were conducted in line with the curriculum, although some of the Facilitators requested for IEC materials as additional tools to facilitate the sensitization process and suggested that the project should be extended to all Secondary Schools where different topics



can be taught to help all students in making better career choices in the future. They further requested for T-shirts as a means of identification during sessions and certificates at the end of the project. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with GPI in the implementation of this project and promise to continue to do our best to ensure the success of this project in our communities.

### **Outreach - Calabar**

Month May 2019

Name of School: NYSC

Number of Student: 145 (Girls – 130, Boys – 15)

The essence of the outreach was to reach out to students, give information on some of the challenges faced especially the girls and also give tips on where to find help as it concerns their growing up, pubertal changes, sexual reproductive health and rights as well as career choices. What NETCUSA is all about including services provided was also highlighted. Some questions raised by the students were;

- ⌚ How can a woman get pregnant?
- ⌚ Who are the people that can rape?
- ⌚ What happens if my mother is very busy and doesn't have time to hear out my sexual abuse incident?
- ⌚ What happens when you have a bad counsellor who tries to cover up a sexual issue that happened to you?
- ⌚ If you are menstruating, it is possible for you to be pregnant.

Responses and technical information was provided by the NETCUSA members present including the meaning of rape, types, what to do if raped and how and where to seek help. One of the team members gave advice from the legal angle referencing the Cross River State Child's Right Law and also the need to focus on education rather than engage in early sexual activities.

### **OUTREACH: SAFE SPACE SESSIONS IN AKPABUYO (SAFE SPACE) CENTRE**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Following the need for expansion of GPI coverage in providing SRHR information and service to young people in rural areas in line with GPI's strategic plan, GPI extended her weekly sessions on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights to Akpabuyo Local Government Area of Cross River State. The safe space session is targeted at girls and boys aged 10-17 years who are in or out of school. The sessions, which began in May 2018, had 217 registered beneficiaries (132 Girls and 85 Boys). The beneficiaries were placed in 4 age specific groups during the sessions. The girl's category is made up of junior girls (10-13 year), and bigger girls (14-17 years) while the boys are also shared into their groups using same age as those in the girl's categories. Male SRHR volunteers/facilitators are in-charge of the boys'



groups while the female volunteers/facilitators were assigned to the girls groups to facilitate the 3 hour weekly sessions.

#### TOPICS TAKEN DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

1. GPI STORY
2. COMMUNICATION SKILLS
3. VALUES AND VALUES CLARIFICATION
4. VISION AND GOAL SETTING
5. FREINDSHIP AND LOVE
6. HUMAN SEXUALITY
7. BODY IMAGE
8. SELF ESTEEM
9. DECISION MAKING
10. FINDING HELP
11. PEER PRESSURE
12. PUBERTY/PERSONAL HYGIENE
13. SEXUAL HARRASSMENT/RAPE
14. CARREER CHOICE
15. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A CHILD
16. GENDER ROLES AND DIVERSITY
17. MIGRATION AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS
18. STIS\HIV\AIDS
19. FEMALE AND MALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM
20. NEGOTAITION/REFUSAL SKILLS
21. FEELINGS
22. TEENAGE PREGNANCY
23. PREGNANCY BY CHOICE
24. ASSERTIVENESS
25. HARMFUL TRADITIONAL PRACTICES

#### Outputs:

- Sessions are held every Sunday 3-5pm.
- Attendance has been encouraging

#### Outcomes

#### USING THE VOICE/ACTION/COMPORTMENT/OPPORTUNITY/KNOWLEDGE (VACOK) CHECKLIST

#### VOICE



1. Ojeka (M) 13yrs, I can now make decisions and not let other negative influential friends make decisions for me.
2. Ann(F)17yrs, GPI information has made me bold I can now say no firmly to any form of sexual abuse.
3. David (M)17yrs, before I joined GPI safe space AKPABUYO I lacked confidence in myself, but now I can boldly express myself and am not afraid to contribute my ideas anywhere I go.
4. Edet (M)16yrs, I can now make good and informed decisions for myself, and set realistic goals for myself.
5. Uyime (F)14yrs, I was timid and always shy to talk or contribute, but now I can share my ideas in GPI Sunday lessons and in my school and among my friends.
6. Joy (F)15yrs, GPI sessions are always lively, impactive, and educative, it has developed myself esteem, especially in my school.
7. Monica(F) 13yrs, I was able to inform my friend about the effect of using tissue paper to absorb menstrual flow and I showed her how to use a pad.

### **ACTION**

1. Rose-Mary(f) 12yrs, the program has help me to become more assertive and bold. I am now very serious with my studies because I have set a goal for myself
2. Favour (F)13yrs, I was able to resolve a quarrel between my two friends,
3. Christiana (F)14yrs I have been able to convince my friend not to engage into sexual activities in her teenage age
4. Happiness (F) I have been able to engage and make my friend to start been out spoken in class and among our playmates.
5. Peter (M)15yrs, I have been able to stop my friend from joining other boys in school to take hard drugs

### **COMPORTMENT**

1. Favour(F)12yrs, I have been able to listen attentively during class and in GPI sessions, sitting straight in class and having self esteem
2. Elizabeth (F)10 yrs, I used to think menstruation was bad, but when I was taught about menstruation during GPI sessions I now know it is normal and natural for every girl and I am now comfortable.
3. Praise (F)14yrs, I was able to stand up to a guy who touched me wrongly in a place I did not feel comfortable, I warned him and he stopped immediately.

### **OPPORTUNITY**

1. Miracle (F)16yrs, I have been able to utilize the opportunity of always being the one to read in the class since I learnt how to be assertive.



2. David (M)14yrs, I can now stand up to read anywhere in church, in school, and during GPI sessions

### **KNOWLEDGE**

1. Boniface (M)16yrs, I was able to correct a wrong impression about GPI
2. Happiness(F)16yrs, I was able to teach my friend some ways to improve her communication skills
3. Favour (F)10yrs,I have been able to correct the misinformation that sex is an exchange for money among my friends.

### **QUESTIONS RAISED:**

1. Is sexual hygiene part of sexuality?
2. Can a baby girl have fallopian tube?
3. Can measles kill?
4. Can a woman who has HIV still menstruate?
5. Is menstrual pains for virgins alone?
6. Is it good to let your brother know your menstruating?
7. What is dating?
8. Where is the hymen located?
9. How are twins formed?
10. Can a 16 year give birth?
11. Is sugar the cause of menstrual cramps?

### **CONCEPTS RAISED BY YOUNG PERSONS**

1. Sexual activity is the same thing as love.
2. Love is exchange for money
3. Sexual intercourse is the best way to express love
4. Sperm nourishes a woman's body and keeps her fresh
5. Menstruating girls are dirty
6. Menstruating girls don't cook

### **SUGESTIONS**

1. Skills acquisition to encourage the beneficiaries especially those who are out of school, to keep them busy, make them economically empowered and also reduce their vulnerability to exploitation/forced cohabitation
2. Girls should be given sanitary pads once in two months, to promote good menstrual hygiene and reduce their vulnerability to reproductive tract infections(RTIs).



### 1.3 ANNUAL PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS COMPETITION AMONG GIRLS

The year, annual public speaking skills competition was used to mark the international Day of the Girl Child among GPI beneficiaries. This event held on October 13th @ GPI Office, Ayamurua Estate, Atimbo Road, Calabar.

The International day of the Girl-child is a day set aside to celebrate the Girl child. Girls have over the years been exposed to gender-based discrimination and child abuse. These girls grow up into women who still experience various forms of gender based violence that relegates them to the background, reduce their leadership potentials and undermine their general achievements in life.

Girls Power Initiative (GPI) like other advocating partners, set aside Sunday 13th October 2019 to celebrate the Girl Child and reminded the public of the importance of the Girl Child at the family, community and society at large.

The theme for this year was ***“Girl Force: Unscripted and Unstoppable”***.

#### Highlights of activity’s proceedings

The event started with songs and energizers lead by the moderators of the event. Followed by opening remark by the Co-ordinator of Girls’ Power Initiative, Calabar Center Ms. Comfort Ikpeme. She welcomed everyone to the year’s celebration of the Girl Child and explained the theme to mean that nobody has the right to dictate for women where to start or stop in life. She urged the girls to grab growth opportunities that come their way. She also welcomed the new girls into the program, encouraged them to enjoy themselves while they learn about the environment/curriculum, and thanked the Committee for putting the event together while wishing everyone a warm celebration.

The activity featured competitions beginning with the Talk Show/ Public Speaking Skills that was moderated by Ms. Gloria Henry a GPI Graduate and member of the GPI Alumnae Association, alongside two other judges. The essence of the Talk Show was to build their public Speaking Skills while working within time limits. Other indices for grading their performance include their composure, their ability to marshal out salient ideas as required from questions asked. Appearance was also a grading index.

The talk show/ public Speaking Competition was between girls in Level Two and Level Three; Discussants where routinely asked to answer questions about what empowering the Girl Child mean, the Challenges or experiences that girls face, how these challenges impacted on the future of the Girl Child and what opportunities should be provided by religious leaders, media, parents, government etc. to tackle the challenges towards the empowerment of the Girl Child and womanhood generally.







### Outcome:

There was increase in knowledge as girls had this to say:

1. Everyone must learn to become an effective public speaker despite the profession.
2. I learnt that your body language counts in public speaking
3. I learnt that girls should not be talked down by family or society or stopped from going into a profession of their choice
4. I learnt that a girl child should be empowered to ensure she has a bright future
5. I learnt every girl should be given a opportunity where available.

## 1.4 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM ACTIVITIES

As part of the events to mark the 2019, 16 days of Activism, Law/security enforcement agencies, judges in family court, and religious leaders had a training on gender issues and women's rights

Date: November 20 – 22, 2019

Venue: GPI Conference, Atimbo Road, Calabar

Objective of the meeting was to:

- ☐ To increase capacity of religious leaders, media persons, law enforcement agents and Civil Society Organizations in Cross River State on promotion and protection of women's human rights
- ☐ To promote media advocacy through the reporting of women's rights abuses and gender issues by media group.

Participants in attendance cut across officers from the Nigerian police force (including officers from JWC, homicide division, SCIID) magistrates, court assessors from cross River state judiciary, media personnel, representatives of muslim community and Christian communities in Cross River State.

Comfort Ikpeme, the Coordinator of GPI Calabar Centre in her welcome address expressed gratitude over the large turnout of participants at the activity and for creating time out of



their busy schedules to be part of knowledge sharing as it relates to girls/women. She went on to add that the above mentioned activity was well planned to commemorate the 16 Days of Activism which the aim is targeted at ending Gender Based Violence against girls and women. The coordinator urged all participants to be open to learning and share information where necessary towards the success of the activity and wished all a fruitful learning experience.

#### Output

☐ 39 participants were in attendance – 11 males and 28 females.

☐ 9 Topics were discussed using the under listed facilitators

	TOPIC	FACILITATOR
<b>DAY 1</b>	Value and value clarification	<b>Margaret Udo</b>
	Gender and Gender Roles	<b>Ndodeye Bassey</b>
	Communication towards addressing GBV	<b>Margaret Udo</b>
<b>DAY 2</b>	Accelerating access to justice to curb gender-based violence especially young girls	<b>James Ibor</b>
	Effects of Violence against women and girls	<b>Ndodeye Bassey</b>
	Nigerian family court	<b>James Ibor</b>
<b>DAY 3</b>	Case studies and approach on cases handled	<b>James Ibor</b>
	Alternative Dispute resolution (ADR	<b>Margaret Udo</b>
	Case management technique/finding help	<b>Ndodeye Bassey</b>

#### Outcome:

- During the verbal evaluation, participants shared increased in knowledge gained during on gender equality, followed by forms of Gender Based Violence (GBV basic human rights, and on domesticated Child Rights Act in Nigeria and forms of violence against
- For some police officers and religious leaders, the CRS child's right Law made available to them was a great tool that will help for reference purpose in handling cases especially child abuse.
- Some participants shared experiences on how far the training helped them last year to carry on with their work effectively as some reported cases that they have taken up, handled and have charged to court.
- Some seek comment and suggestions on how to handle pending cases yet to be concluded.





## 1.5 REPORT OF PARENTS/ DAUGHTERS FORUM TO COMMORATE THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD

HELD ON SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2019 @ GPI CALABAR CENTER

### Introduction

Girls' Power Initiative (GPI) Calabar marked the Day of the African child, June 16 with parents'/daughter's forum, through this event GPI breach communication gap between parents and their children/wards, encourage inter-personal relationship among parents/guardians and children, clear misconceptions about GPI program and explore ways of improving her activities. In attendance were three hundred and eighty-four (384) persons which included Parents/Guardians of GPI program beneficiaries, representative from Akpabuyo Safe Space (which include adolescent girls/boys), GPI Volunteers/staff, GPI Calabar Centre girls and representatives of GPI Alumnae Association(GAA).

GPI Calabar coordinator, Comfort Ikpeme who welcomed everybody present stated that the essence of the forum has been to encourage the parents/guardians of GPI primary beneficiaries understand programs/activities of GPI- essence of the safe space sessions , have parents share the challenges they may have in the course of their children attending GPI program; clear the misconception surrounding GPI program and most importantly close the communication gap of between parents/guardians and their children by so doing this will also help to strengthen the relationship between parents/children and family members Finally she urge parents to cooperate as much as they can to participate effectively in the discussions session and other exciting exercises to ensure success of the event.

### Break down of Attendees



S/N	GROUP OF PARTICIPANTS	MALES	FEMALES
1	Akpabuyo Safe Space	4	15
2	Parents/Guardians	45	155
3	GPI staff and Volunteers	7	13
4	GAA members	-	5
5	GPI Calabar Centre girls	-	140
		56	328
	<b>Grand Total</b>	-	<b>384</b>

### Highlights of the event

- welcoming songs/exercises by the girls
- Drama by GPI drama troupe
- Interactive session with Parents/Guardians
- Brainteaser (how well do you know your ward(s)/parents)
- Song presentation
- Questions and answer

### Output

- ❖ Girls developed and improved on their public speaking skills, this showed in the level of confidence displayed during the competition
- ❖ Parents/Guardians response shows high level of interest for their ward(s) being in the program
- ❖ Some parents commended GPI for the opportunity created to give their children information that help them make/ take informed decisions on issues affecting them
- ❖ Girls had opportunity to ask their parents questions and expressed feelings over conduct/attitude of parents that hampered their healthy development
- ❖ It was an opportunity for parents have their misconception about GPI program clared
- ❖ Some parents confessed that their wards/children enrolment into the program has not only help to mould them but has made them role models in any environment they find themselves
- ❖ The turnout of parents was impressive for the first time which in turn fulfilled one of the objectives
- ✓ Some of the girls shared that: they learnt about the attitude parent show to their children, when they are angry and how to resolve them.





Cross section of Representatives from groups during the Teaser presenting gift to a Parent

One of the GPI staff





Drama Presentation by GPI

girls

Group photo with Participants



## 2.0 Educational Programme for the Public

### 2.1 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY AND 23<sup>RD</sup> GRADUATION/PUBLIC EDUCATION CEREMONY

**VENUE/LOCATION OF ACTIVITY:** Dr. Franklin Ani Auditorium, College of Health Technology, Mary Slessor Road, Calabar

**DATE OF ACTIVITY:** 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2019

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE ACTIVITY:**

- To sensitize the public on the organizations' programmes and activities.
- Create awareness on some of the challenges faced by the girl child and other adolescents.
- Promote communication skills amongst the girls
- Promote healthy interaction between the girls and the society.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Girls' Power Initiative (GPI) is a non-governmental, not-for-profit and non-religious organization which runs a 3-year comprehensive training on sexuality, sexual and reproductive health and rights SRHR, leadership and management skills for young girls between the ages of 10-18 years in Nigeria.

The program is aimed at certifying young people especially the females who have gone through the program for three years and has accurate information and skills from a gender perspective for social change to enable them live healthy lives, identify their talents, career and to become self-reliant while contributing to development in their environs towards an empowered womanhood. Since 1997 GPI sends forth its adolescent girls who have completed the three-year programme and all the requirements for certified peer educators through the annual graduation ceremony.

This year marks GPI 23rd Graduation Ceremony and 25 years of existence and empowering the girl child and young people in transforming lives positively through her safe space sessions with the theme: "GPI @ 25: Roses and Thorn". This year's event witnessed the first graduation of (39 females- 19- males = 58) beneficiaries from Akpabuyo safe space and the 7th batch (24 sewing 12 shoe making = 36) of entrepreneurial skills trainees and (16 damsels 27 seeders) from the Calabar center safe space.

#### **KEY HIGHLIGHT OF ACTIVITY PROCEEDINGS:**

1. Arrival /Registration of Guests
2. Gradaunds/ staff procession
3. welcome song by— GPI girls
4. opening remark by the chairperson representative Charles Ekeng
5. welcome address by—Co- ordinator GPI Calabar centre—comfort Ikpeme
6. ballad presentation by GPI Alumna Representatives



7. Drama presentation by—GPI Calabar Drama theatre troupe
8. Poem by GPI girl
9. Keynote address EKA BASSSEY (Pioneer staff)
10. Support/appeal
11. Cultural entertainment/Performances
12. Presentation of Valedictory speeches by Representative of the Graduands
13. Presentation of awards to deserving individuals, MDAs, and organizations who have supported GPI's work since inception
14. Cutting of Anniversary Cake
15. Certification of graduands/ Presentation of prizes to outstanding beneficiaries
16. GAA's voice by GAA members
17. Solidarity/ goodwill messages



Cross section of graduands

**Number view:** 301 (66 males and 235 females – 60 children)= 361

The event was graced by invited guests, parents/guardians/friends of graduating girls and young women, NGO representatives, Media house representatives, and GPI's staff.



**Opening remark** by Prof. Offiong E. Offiong former Commissioner for Education, Cross River State, in his remark welcomed the guests for gracing the occasion. Thanked the organization for sustaining the lofty vision of mentoring girls for leadership role, also stated the importance, benefits and goals of GPI.

Thereafter, Comfort Ikpeme GPI coordinator Calabar center, read a **welcome** address, talking about the activities of GPI, success stories recorded in the last 25years **which** includes running a safe space training program for girls aged 10-18 years for 24 years and have graduated over 5000 adolescent girls, etc. she further added the challenges **which** includes; the misconception about GPI activities, limited funding **which** limits expansion of the program to rural areas, etc. she concluded her speech by thanking the graduating girls for staying till the end, the cross river state government, recognizing three (3) outstanding and oldest staff still serving the organization to include: Margaret Afangideh, Nnodeye Bassey and Helen Kanu.

**Keynote address:** keynote speaker Eka Bassey in her speech she highlighted how GPI started she **was** the first facilitator to facilitate her daughter and some of her friends etc.

In the **valedictory speech** presented by **Etaike Rajuno Emmanuel** on behalf of the graduating girls, these lines were captured “looking back in the time, we started feeble, uniform, voiceless, highly intimidated, aggressive and most especially, oblivious of our rights and responsibilities as young ladies. But today, we can boldly say that we have been transformed positively, we now know what to do and what not to do as young ladies and leaders. All thanks to GPI for the impact in the society and GPI girls are in the fore-front of this positive change, advocating against gender stereotypes”

Goodwill messages were presented by some CSOs, MDAs and private sectors present





Cross section of graduates



Group photo of GPI Calabar center staffs and volunteers





## 2.2 REPORT OF NETCUSA ACTIVITIES FOR 2019

The activities of NETCUSA for the year 2019 were guided by the work plan drawn by members for the year and some of such proposed activities listed and carried out were;

- Meetings
- Advocacy visit to legislators
- School outreaches (secondary and tertiary institutions)
- media sensitization (Print, electronic and social media)
- Exploration of toll free line for the network
- sustainability through registration of the network by CAC
- Public Education/ sensitization forum
- Visit to Gender Base Violence (GBV) center located within the premise of the CRS Ministry of Women Affairs

**A total of four (4) meetings were** held within the period under review and deliberations during meetings were centered around: the activities on the work plan; in-house training for members, cases brought to attention of network and action taken; attitudes of members to responsibilities assigned, need to partner with other organizations, how to make the network/activities more visible etc.



A cross section of members at meetings during deliberations

### For activities carried out during the year;

1. **Visited the Gender Base Violence (GBV)** center domiciled within the premise of the CRS Ministry of Women Affairs on 30<sup>th</sup> may 2019. The visit was to afford network members opportunity to acquaint themselves with the facilities, environment and services provided for easy referral of cases brought to the attention of the network secretariat

### Outcome

Network members have first class information and some challenges faced by the center, example insufficient staff to attend to cases brought, improper documentation. Arising from this, Network members volunteered visiting the center weekly or bi-monthly to attend to cases brought, also suggested that the commissioner of women affairs should liaise

with that of Ministry of Social Welfare to have some of her social work staff to help in handling such cases.



NETCUSA members during their visit to the Gender Based Violence Centre (GBV)

## 2. Advocacy visit to legislators,

Network members visited the speaker of the CRS 9<sup>th</sup> Assembly of Cross River state House of Assembly who was newly sworn in. The essence was to get the speaker acquainted with the network activities.

Some requests made during the visit were: Also, that the VAPP bill which was started by the 8th Assemblies be re-introduce for assent by the governor to address issue of violence especially as it affect women and children; a website for all laws domesticated by the state on issues of Violence against girls and women be posted to allow members of the public access as this will reduce bottle necks when seeking redress on cases of sexual abuses

## Outcome

- He gave commitment to have some women of great interest on issues of girls and women be part of house committee on women and children to enable their issues be brought to the front burner
- He promised to invite Network members to be part of public hearing on issues of violence for their input.





**Network member with the CRS speaker for the 9<sup>th</sup> assembly during the visit**

3. **Schools Outreaches** were carried out in two secondary schools ( NYSC model Demonstration secondary school in the month of May, and Big Qua Girls Sec. school in the month of June). The essence was to sensitize students on the existence, mebership, location/activities of the network, what constitute sexual abuse, what to do if sexually abuse or exploited, were and how to seek for help.

However, outreaches could not be carried in the two institutions of higher learning identified- Cross River State University of technology (CRUCTECH) and College of Health Technology because of security situation in the school and conflict situation in the student leadership

#### **Outcome**

- Most student who were facing some form of sexual harassmtent and abuses ignorant/ afraid to speak out because of stigma shared that visit has emboldened them on what to do.
- Most students expressed that they will take action to- prevent themselves from being sexually abuse/exploited; reduce their vulnerability to situation of this nature as well as speak out and seek for help, not only for themselves but for other young people around them



A cross session of students listening to network members during the outreach session in NYSC



A cross session of students from Big Qua girls during the NETCUSA outreach to the school

4. **Media sensitization:** the network utilizes social media platform, print and electronics to sensitize members of the public on new trends use by perpetrators, where to seek help if sexually abuse, help-lines, newly lunch sexual offenders registered toll free AIRTEL line launched by NAPTIB etc



NETCUSA discussants during the TV media sensitization

5. **PUBLIC EDUCATION FORUM:** The period of 16 days of activism was used for this activity (25 Nov – 10 Dec. 2019). The theme for the 2019 was: **Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands Against Rape.** The following were activities carried out to mark this period:

**Sensitization rally** within the university campus on sexual violence as issues of sex for grades became prominent within the 9<sup>th</sup> National Assembly who have come up with a bill on that



**Network members during sensitization within the campus in one of the institutions of higher learning**

**Public Education forum** for students from tertiary institution that featured panel discussions, drama and experience sharing.





Discussants during panel discussion  
education forum

cross section of participants during the public  
education forum

**The network also partnered with:**

United nations for Human Rights Council for Refugees (UNHCR) on sensitization rally within Calabar and its environs and stake holder forum

Ministry of Women Affairs for symposium on gender based VIOLENCE forum with specific attention on rape.

**Outcome:**

The network was able to reach out to more young people and engage them to take positive action on issues of sexual abuses; they also turned up for sensitization rally activity



Some NETCUSA members alongside other participants in a sensitization rally organized by UNHCR

One of the network members during her presentation on economic implication of rape in UNHCR stake holders forum



Participants during stakeholders symposium on Gender based violence forum organized by Ministry of Women Affairs

**Partnered with GPI for** the training of some law enforcement officers, magistrate, religious leaders and some media persons, Judiciary. The essence of the training is to promote and protect women's human rights and media advocacy through the reporting of women's rights, abuses and gender issues by media group



Participants during the 3 day training of law enforcement officers

6. A total of 10 cases were brought to the attention of the network some of which were:
  - 18 year old female who was sexually assaulted by a male when she went for eye lashes fixture and pedicure/manicure: according to the survivor I met the young man on a social media platform, after sometime he shared about a business he was into and requested I explore, on the fateful day, I went to the place , he did the fixing of eye lashes and requested I give him money to buy nail for the pedicure also in the process he requested I help carry the chair into a room ignorantly I complied and ended up being raped
  - 21-year-old female who has been sexually abused by the uncle since she was 15 years under the pretence of supporting her acquire good education, recently she told him she is tired of the constant abuses, the young man is becoming violence towards her, accusing her of all manner of things, beating her up if seen with another male.
  - 15-year-old who while running errand for parents in the evening was dragged from behind into the bush and raped



- 13-year-old raped by the uncle who impregnated her. The case was reported to the police and the man arrested but he has been released and walking freely
- 8-year-old who was sexually assaulted by a neighbour who constantly sent her to run errands for him

All cases brought to the network were attended to through counselling, referrals to other partners/institutions who have the expertise, taken to hospitals/clinics for proper medical attention, reported to the police for arrest and prosecution etc

#### **Some challenges:**

- Poor take up of responsibilities by members when assigned and during activities.
- Non registration of NETCUSA by the co-operate affairs commission has not allowed her access funds to take up more activities and reduce total dependent on GPI
- Inability to have a toll free line because of the cumbersome procedures in acquiring it and the fact that the network bears total cost incurred by clients utilizing the line.

#### **Suggestion**

- Continue with the process of CAC registration for NETCUSA
- Extend membership to networks/organizations who are stakeholders in women and children issues e.g. FIDA, Save the children, HIFASS Lopin 3
- To Explore other ways of sustaining NETCUSA activities without dependent on GPI to allow it access funding opportunities to carry out activities

## **3.0 Community Intervention**

### **3.1 SOCIAL WORK/COMMUNITY INTERVENTION**

#### **3.1.1 SOCIAL WORK AND COMMUNITY INTERVENTION ACTIVITY -26<sup>th</sup> June/3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019**

**VENUE- Ikang in Bakassi Local Government Area of Cross River State, Akpabuyo**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Social work which is an activity of GPI, is also the major criteria for graduating girls in the program, it is expected that the girls put into practice what they have learnt during their 3-year participation in the weekly safe space sessions in the organization, by reaching out to young people and other individuals in communities to intervene on issues that will be identified through giving out information on education, health and other reproductive health issues.

The activity is aimed at:





- Assisting the graduating girls build practical problem solving skills on community intervention /social action
- Creating opportunities for the graduating girls to share information learnt on issues of sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender and sexuality with members in identified rural communities
- Building team spirit amongst the graduating girls.

The activity was done in two phases- the NEEDs assessment day on Wednesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> of June, 2019 and community intervention on Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, 2019.

A total of 51 GPI team participated which included graduating girls, facilitator and volunteers:

The NEEDs assessment - 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019 was to enable girls identify some sexual and reproductive health problems and other contemporary health issues in the community through the administration of structured questionnaire guides to members of the community.



**Group photo of staff, Girls and volunteers of GPI      Group photo of GPI team with the chief**

On arrival at the community, the graduating girls of DAMSEL AND SEEDERS, GPI facilitators, GPI volunteers and some partner's organization like Efilk Leadership foundation, BRENCARE foundation, were warmly received at the chief's palace. On Behalf of the coordinator GPI Calabar Centre, Helen Kanu, Head of Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive health and Entrepreneurship unit of GPI, welcome and introduced the organization and reason for the visit, furthermore, Bliss Echip addressed the participants including members of the chief cabinet on the choice of Ikang community for the activity.



Cross section of participant at the chief palace with one of the facilitators introducing

His Royal Highness Kenneth Effiong Kenneth, the sectary of the community later briefed everyone present on history of the community, pointing out the key information about the community, which were:

**OCCUPATION**-Fishing, farming and other petty business.

**LANGUAGE**-The language frequently used in transacting business and communication is Efik , Ibibio and pigin English.

**EDUCATION**-The community has fifteen private primary schools, seven Government primary school, one government secondary school and five private secondary school.

**RELIGION**-Christianity.

**POPULATION**-There are about 5,000 people in the community.-

**HOSPITAL**: there are no hospital, but health centers

He also mentioned some of the community challenges/issues to include: Early marriage, Teenage pregnancy, Drug abuse, cultism, Rape etc

From the chief's palace the GPI team got into the community in company of two members from the chief's cabinet for the administration of the structured questionnaire and found out that, some of the villagers had gone to the farm and some were in their houses unwilling to step out. The girls were divided into six groups and a facilitator was assigned to each group, and they moved from house to house. Each of these groups were assigned to talk to a particular set of persons.



**Girls, staffs and volunteers going house to house for the need assessment**

## **ACHIEVEMENT**

The girls were able to meet a large number of people on the street, markets, businesses premises, homes, which enable them gather information on sexual, reproductive health and right issues, gender base violence, harmful traditional practice and other social life style that go on in the community. The girls also communicated with the chief and his council members and they gave answers to every questions asked on that day one- 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

### **3.1.2 SOCIAL WORK INTERVENTION AND MEDICAL OUTREACH – DAY 2**

The graduating girls, alongside medical personnel, some partnered organizations - AITY care, BRAINCARE ADF, Some GPI staff/volunteers, arrived at Ikang community town hall, at 11:50am, venue for the intervention

Welcoming and brief introduction was done by the GPI team leader adolescents sexual and reproductive health department, Helen kanu who gave an overview of the organization, stating the mission, goals and objective as well as the purpose of the activity in the community being to enlighten and address certain issues affecting the health and well- being of the members of the community

Participants were divided into groups according to their age categories Elderly women, elderly men, teenagers, youths, children and a total of Three hundred and Eighty-four persons were reached during the exercise the breakdown of the above figure is as follows.

NUMBER IN ATTENDANCE- Elderly women-55  
 Elderly men-25  
 Young men-37  
 Young ladies-43  
 Teenagers-68  
 Children-158  
**=386**

## **METHODOLOGIES**





On arrival at the community, the participants were divided into 5 groups based on age grades with facilitators and graduating girls assigned to the groups. For the intervention to be effective, focus group discussions were explored with participants being shared into different groups based on their ages and sex. To overcome language barrier, GPI girls assigned to facilitate these groups had mixed of common languages used in the community with closed supervision by the GPI facilitators. The following groups were formed;



**GROUP1: Elderly men**



**GROUP2: Elderly women**



**GROUP3: Young ladies**



GROUP4: Young men



GROUP5: Teenagers



GROUP6: **children**

Methods used by the girls and other facilitators during the sessions in the various groups included; Interactive session, question and answer, brainstorming, songs and exercises.

Key issues identified:

Community issues identified during NEEDs assessment;

- ❖ Teenage pregnancy
- ❖ Early marriage
- ❖ Lack of information on birth control method
- ❖ Cohabitation amongst young people
- ❖ Widowhood rite/Wife battery



- ❖ Lack of communication between parent and child
- ❖ Child Labor
- ❖ Unemployment etc

Issues covered on Intervention day;

- ❖ Menstruation and personal hygiene
- ❖ Parents child communication
- ❖ Menopause
- ❖ Teenage pregnancy
- ❖ Abortion
- ❖ Rape
- ❖ STIs
- ❖ HIV/AIDs

Some writing materials (pen, pencil, eraser, sharpener and exercise books) which were donated to GPI by Efik leadership foundation, also sanitary pads from Brenicare foundation and medical team as providing medical services to some persons.

### **LESSONS LEARNED**

Some lessons learned during the intervention include;

- We Were able to addressed the issue in the community, Which We also learnt that Ikang is located at the east of Bakassi LGA
- Partnering with other organization help in boasting the Work and making it easier
- The young ladies were excited to learn about menstruation and personal hygiene.
- They were able to know what rights are, and how to speak up when violated.
- The medical session helped to spice up the activity by providing medical services
- The participants were in agreement to kick against teenage pregnancy and early marriage, so they promised to advice their children and other young girls in the community on the dangers of teenage pregnancy.





A cross section of the medical officials attending to Community members

### 3.2 REPORT OF A ONE DAY COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION MEETING ORGANIZED BY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GROUP ON GIRLS EMPOWERMENT (CPGGE) HELD AT ATAN OKOYONG, ANYANGANSE AND MBARAKOM COMMUNITY ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER & 8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2019.

#### OBJECTIVES:

- To strengthen the community partnership group on girl's empowerment, individuals from community where GPI has had interventions.
- Visit the communities to restart the program by getting key stakeholders
- To identify the socio-economic development issues for women, girls and men in the community
- To identify the sexual and reproductive health issues of women within the communities.
- To identify the common gender issues within the communities

## PROCESS

In attendance were the clan heads of each community, village heads, heads of households, women, men and the youths.

A summary of attendance for each of the communities included:

S/N	COMMUNITY	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
1	Atan-Okoyong, Odukpani L.G.A	15	17	32
2	Anyanganse, Akpabuyo L.G.A	18	12	30
3	Mbarakom, Creek Town, Odukpani L.G.A	13	12	25

## INTRODUCTION:

Participants were given space for introduction followed by GPI team. The team leaders welcomed all for their presence and urged all to partake actively.

## PRESENTATION ON FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION (FGM)

The session was led by the team leader Michael who engaged everyone present by asking them reasons for FGM.

### Responses:

- BasseyOkon responded that circumcision started from the origin and it can be found in the bible. He said the act was permitted by God which the people came to meet and decided to make it their culture.
- FGM is done to every female child in a family irrespective of their financial status.
- The act is mainly for the rich followed by a great celebration, such a girl's father is a member of the "Ekpe" society. To make the celebration a nice one for everyone to enjoy.
- FGM is a tradition/culture for both rich and poor as far as they are females.

He further asked participants of the instruments used for the act and how its being carried out. Their responses were taken into consideration.

Mrs. Regina Etim informed all that sometimes the act is done when the females are in labour by cutting off the clitoris. The females must also be of age that is up to 10yrs and above. She further informed her fellow participants that:

- The reason why the government is against it is because the act inflicts severe pains or shock on the victims/girls



- Contraction of infection like HIV/AIDS etc due to unsterilized equipment's/objects used which can result to reduction of sexual urge in their matrimonial homes in future.

Valentine Bassey assisted the team leader Michael by talking more on the topics, he made sure everyone was carried along. He informed the participants on the effects of FGM which includes:

- Intense shock
- Injury from struggling
- Improper healing
- Infection from unsterilized objects used
- Infertility
- Complication during labour.

He then took time to explain the above mentioned effects. He further reminded all that FGM is a tradition and culture which can be changed, if it does not work and support the well-being of the people. He also informed them that FGM is a crime punishable by law reminding everyone is entitle to fundamental rights.

He also talked on the effects of teenage pregnancy which are shame, guilt, disappointment, dangers of prolonged labour, anemia, etc. He used a case study of a girl in his street who is on a scholarship but got pregnant of twins for a chemist which have put her future at risk. He also talked a bit on violence against girls and women that irrespective of anything females are treasures and so they should be treated as one.

### **PRESENTATION ON DRUG ABUSE& CHILD TRAFFICKING**

The session was led by Progress Sunday, he engaged everyone present using the method of brainstorming and discussion method. He talked on the following: meaning of drug abuse, the effects of drug abuse especially on young people, the causes of drug abuse and how to prevent drug abuse.

He also engaged participants in a discussion of what child trafficking means, the dangers it can cause and how to prevent it.

### **PRESENTATION ON EARLY MARRIAGE**

The session was led by Effiong George who went ahead to explain the meaning of early marriage, he pointed out that it is violence against girls and also a harmful traditional practice. He stated the causes of early marriage and the effect it will have on the girl.

Glory Akpama added inputs to all the presentations that was made. She also corrected the myths surrounding drug abuse and early marriage. She added some strong reasons why parents or guardians should coach their children well to avoid failure or poor performances.



## QUESTION RAISED

- 1) Is there a positive use of indian hemp or cocaine?
- 2) In the case were there is no hospital where can we go for drug prescription to avoid drug abuse?
- 3) How can we handle children who stay a far and misbehave without parent's supervision?
- 4) Why do parents exhibit hatred towards their children and compare them to others?
- 5) What do we do when our parents refuse to send females especially to school?



CROSS SECTION OF PARTICIPANTS DURING THE MEETING.







## 4.0 GPI Information Desk

### 4.1 MEDIA PROGRAMMES

#### 4.1.1 GPI on Air Programme

- The GPI radio programme, GPI ON AIR is an activity that is designed to increase knowledge for behavioural change that is supportive of an environment where girls and young females are visible and valuable actors in the society. The program is also to increase societal awareness and knowledge on effects of harmful practices, patriarchal norms and values that violate the rights of girls and young females. The programme is a 30 minutes' programme that is aired every Wednesday on Sparkling FM 92.3 from 10:30 am -11 am with Estimated listenership (Primetime) put at 20 million across Abia, Cross River, Akwa Ibom, Ebonyi and Rivers states including the online streaming platform with the address;
- [https://radio.garden/listen/sparkling-fm-92-3/NXPdX\\_ww](https://radio.garden/listen/sparkling-fm-92-3/NXPdX_ww)
- This year's GPI on Air radio program took a new dimension as the program was aired both Live and recorded. For the live airing, this was to receive calls and text messages from the public on issues that bothered them and get an instance response to issues discussed and follow up. The programme started with recordings in April and airing commenced in the month of May to October 2019

#### OUTPUT

- 26 episodes were recorded and aired including the live shows.

In order to make the programme more effective and productive, discussants that featured on the programme, are personalities based on their area of specialization as it is related to the topics taken and this was carried out for all the episodes.

**Outcome: After each airing, there is always a lot of positive feedbacks and lessons learnt from members of the public. Below are some recorded outcomes**

☐ The office line has recorded over 100 calls and over 50 text messages on which members of the public called in to ask further questions that bothers them, of which prompt response to questions are always provided by the GPI on air team or the organizational Admin officer

☐ GPI on Air programme features senior lecturers from the University of Calabar as discussants and in turn, the university has since been sending graduating students from Social work department to GPI Calabar centre for internship to further increase their knoweldege and gain practical experience on what community development work is all about.

☐ Sparkling FM covered and aired NETCUSA legislative/ advocacy visit to the Cross River state speaker without any charges and the station gave one free airtime for the live broadcast as a show of support.

☐ The Gender-based Violence centre which has been domicile in the Ministry of Women Affairs, Cross River state had over fifty recorded cases from members of the public after the centre featured on the programme with the topic, Creation of awareness of the gender-based violence center.

☐ The Youth Friendly Health Centre which is domicile in The Cross River State General Hospital, Calabar had received large turn-out of adolescent and young people (over thirty AYPs) access the facilities after the Live radio discussion on the topic, Contraceptives and today's youth.





## 4.2 PUBLICATIONS

### 4.2.1 Social Media

#### INTRODUCTION:

The Information and Communications Technology unit of GPI Calabar center has the duty of providing IT and communications needs of the organization and its staff.

**From January to December in the year 2019, the following achievements were made in this unit:**

- 1. Intranet:** The intranet training for staff members was conducted by the ICT Officer and the IT Advisor from CUSO – Eric Hamisi. Staff systems were also configured to enable them save office files direct to the cloud.

Presently, the files stored on the intranet includes few reports from staff, backup of documents from the data entry system, activity pictures and ICT trainings and manuals.

The challenges encountered in running this system are: period of power fluctuations and inconsistency, staff unwillingness to utilize this technology, bad sockets and blow extensions box which restricts me from running the systems on every working day to avoid damage of the servers.



**Training of staff on the use of the intranet.**

## **2. International volunteers:**

Mr. Erich Hamisi, the IT Advisor started from June 2017 to June 2019. He helped to setup the Intranet, GPI Calabar website, staff and ICT officer capacity building

Paige Mueller, the Communications Advisor Stared in September 2019 to November 2019. She helped to structure and content of GPI Calabar website and other social media platforms, designed the template for enewsletter, and wrote a media manual for best practices and guideline.

## **3. Website and social media:** The GPI Calabar website – [www.gpicalabar.org](http://www.gpicalabar.org) is doing well in traffic and the hosting was renewed, its valid from September 2019 to August 2020.

The GPI Calabar E-Newsletter is hosted on Mailchimp (email campaign platform) as planned in 2018.

Our social media platforms – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram get regular updates and the traffic has increased.

A new Linkedin business profile has and the organization's former page is still maintained, while the Youtube page still needs lots of videos to be created and posted for increase in visibility and traffic.

Below is the statistics for our website and social media account performance for the 2019.



**Facebook:**

Page likes/followers – 1,260

Number of post - 80

Traffic analytics:

**Top post analytics for the year;**

**1<sup>st</sup> October** – Post (GPI Calabar begins free registration for her Safe Space program) Reached 2,525, 78 post clicks, 140 shares, comments & likes.

**23<sup>rd</sup> August:** Post (GPI@25) - Reached 3,081, 103 post clicks, 151 shares, comments & likes.

**11<sup>th</sup> June:** Post (GPI on Air: Contraceptives and today's youth 2) - Reached 1,923, 46 post clicks, 49 shares, comments & likes.

**21<sup>st</sup> March:** Post (Post to marks the birthday of our cofounder Prof. Bene Madunagu) - Reached 2,210, 248 post clicks, 432 shares, comments & likes.

**6<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Post (Int'l Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM 2019) - Reached 1,845, 80 post clicks, 72 shares, comments & likes.

**Twitter:**

Number of post: till date – 198 tweets

Followers: 139 | Following: 149

Traffic analytics: Profile visits per month: 26 – 56 | Comments, shares and engagements: 2,107 – 3,182 per month





**Instagram:**

Number of post: 72

Traffic analytics: Followers: 183 | Following: 100 (2018: 32 post, 88 followers)

**Youtube:**

Number of post: 4 videos

Traffic analytics: Comments, shares and engagements: none

**Enewsletter:**

Number of post: 3 (October to December)

Subscribers: 230

Traffic analytics: email open rate - 67%, delivery rate – 93.5%

**Website: [www.gpicalabar.org](http://www.gpicalabar.org)**

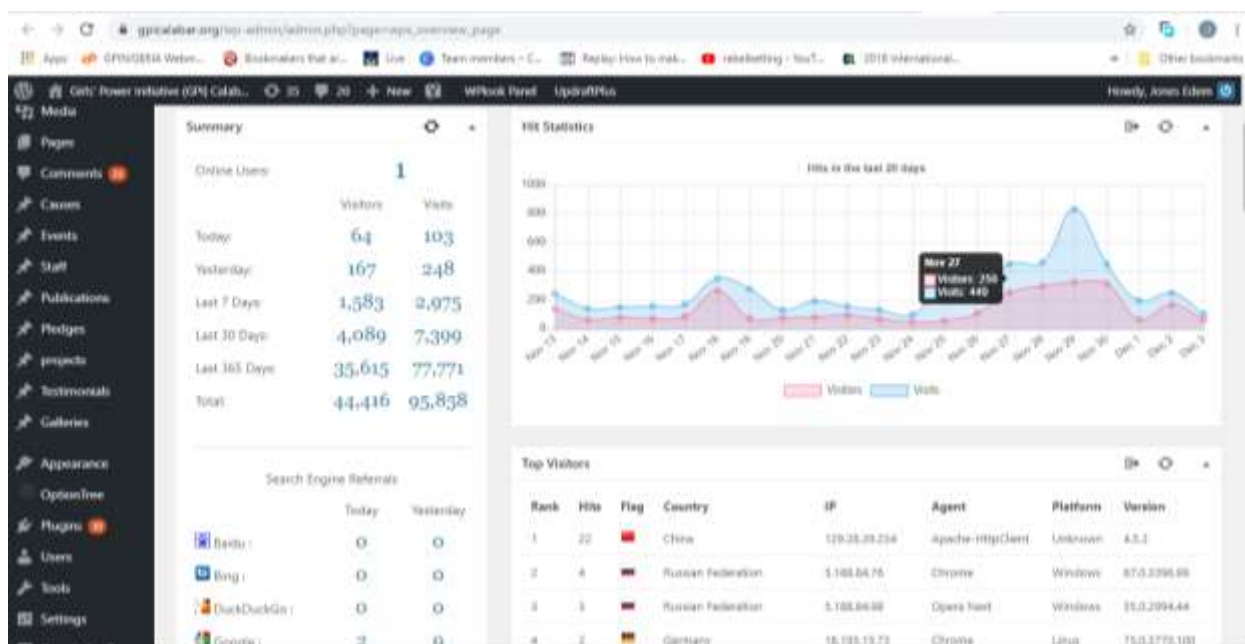
Traffic analytics:

The website has a total of 35,615 visitors and 77,771 for January to November 2019, which has greatly improved because in 2018 we had 7,888 visitors and 15,441 total visits. Traffic from website mostly came from [www.google.com](http://www.google.com), [www.google.com.ng](http://www.google.com.ng), [www.bing.com](http://www.bing.com), [www.baidu.com](http://www.baidu.com), [www.duckduckgo.com](http://www.duckduckgo.com), [www.yandex.com](http://www.yandex.com) and Facebook. Greater number of website visitors came from United States – 6,959, Russia – 4,862, Germany – 3,688, Ukraine – 3,155, France – 2,382, China – 2,190, Hong Kong – 2,004, Nigeria – 1,580, Netherlands – 1,301 and Canada – 1,155

Top 3 visited pages: Home page – 22,732 visits, Contact page – 11,231 visits, about us - 1,438

Top 10 Pages	
1 - Home /	Visits: 22,732
2 - Contact /contact/	Visits: 11,231
3 - About Us /who-we-are/about-us/	Visits: 1,438
4 - Improving Girls Livelihood through Shoe making /project/improving-girls-livelihood-through-shoe-making/	Visits: 834





In December, 2019 the Centre created google map/places account for GPI Calabar, with the correct phone number and days and time of operation in order to correct the existing wrong address of GPI which is at Mary Slessor to Atimbo Road.

## 4.3 RESOURCE CENTRE

### 4.3.1 Research/Information Centre

#### Library Service

#### SUMMARY REPORT FOR LIBRARY JANUARY – DECEMBER, 2019.

##### Introduction

Girls' Power Initiative (GPI) Calabar library is one resource centre in Cross River State that all categories of persons make use of the library and its open from 9am-4pm daily. Resource materials in the unit are mostly gotten donations from partners, representation at fora by staff, collaborating NGOs and GPI publications this enable users carry out research, write term paper, do their assignment, read and update themselves on relevant information and issues. Highlight of this report include summary of newly registered members, number of users which categorize according to age (adolescent and adult) that used the library during the period under review.

Summary outcome for the period under review is as follows:

**Total number of users:** 73 (5 males and 68 females)

Number of adolescents and adults that made use of the library (15 adults and 58 adolescents)



**Newly registered user:** 7 (4 females and 3 males)

#### **Categories of users**

- ❖ GPI girls/staff
- ❖ Students from Tertiary institutions in Cross River State
- ❖ GPI Alumnae Association (GAA)
- ❖ Young Advocate Group(YAG)
- ❖ Coalition and Networks members
- ❖ Volunteers from CUSO International
- ❖ Religious groups, Presbyterian Young People of Nigeria(PYPAN)
- ❖ Youth Advocate Group (YAG)

#### **Purpose of Use**

- ❖ Weekly lesson
- ❖ Assignment
- ❖ Project
- ❖ Reports
- ❖ Trainings / workshops
- ❖ Reading

#### **Books Predominately Used**

- ❖ Gender
- ❖ Violence against girls/women
- ❖ Sexual and reproductive health
- ❖ Story books
- ❖ Policies
- ❖ Life Skills Management materials

#### **Newly Acquisition into the library from January – November 2019.**

- ❖ Book - 10

#### **Sources:**

- ❖ Partners

#### **Observations:**

- ❖ Users find the environment very conducive and safe
- ❖ Some users find the library very resourceful as they were able to use materials at the library to make reference to their research and field work
- ❖ Most users prefer to use the internet to do their assignment because they can easily access the updated version of what they need.



**Challenges**

- ❖ Dropped in number of users due to availability and easy accessibility of internet through mobile phones and other electronic devices from the comfort of their homes.
- ❖ Most books are outdated and some books there in do not cover all fields e. g. Medical, Agriculture etc. , which limit the interest of users and attendance

**Suggestions/Recommendations:**

- ❖ Procure books and journals that covers all fields in an emerging society of diversity in profession
- ❖ Make provision for E- library to enable users have access to up-to-date edition on any area of their interest or field





The staff in charge of Library attending to users

## 5.0 Service Delivery

### 5.1 COUNSELLING REPORT FOR 2019

The following were services rendered:

- ω Referral- 8
- ω Counselling sessions: 15
- ω Home visits-

#### Issues:

- Indecision in relationship-



- Conflict in marriage
- Partner neglect
- Child abuse
- Rape
- Work place conflict

#### Referral points:

- ✂ Youth friendly service domicile in General Hospital, Calabar
- ✂ Basic Right Counsel Initiative
- ✂ Ministry of social welfare
- ✂ GBV centre
- ✂ Faith foundation

#### Voices captured

- Happy to share and be referred for PEP
- I blame myself for accepting to go to the home of that person and ended up being rape
- So shocked to find out that the woman I sent my daughter to stay with could treat her as a slave by pouring hot water on her head and still forcing her to carry water on that her thanks as henceforth will not

#### Challenges faced:

- Some issues referred clients have high hopes and feel disappointed when referred rather than handling case directly
- Some clients expect we foot their medical bills totally
- Some need financial support to start small business or provide shelter

#### Suggestions

- ✓ Funding for counselling services to follow through some referral cases
- ✓ Trainings for staff in-charge of counselling on new documentation processes

## 5.2 REPORT ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP SKILLS UNIT – AUGUST- DEC 2019

The 8<sup>th</sup> batch of entrepreneurial skills training differ a bit as we scaled to include electrical, aluminum, welding in addition to the fashion designing being expanded to include embroidery with support from Lafaarge. The training commenced in August, 2019 with a total of 32 girls and two trainers (female and male) for both males and females' wears.

Training outline:

- **Trousers**- English, Pencil, Palazzo, Fela
- **Shirts** –Senator, chieftaincy,
- **Gowns**- senator gowns
- Jacket
- Apada-“1500”



- Embroidery designs
- **Skirts**- pencil, with overlap, slit, box slit, gather skirt, flay skirt with tail, suspender short skirt, princess dart, a line long skirt with tail behind, 6 pieces, 8 pieces long skirt
- **Blouses**: peplum, over lapped pleated, box sleeves, off shoulder blouse

**Observation:** The trainees are very enthusiastic and show willingness to learn

**Outcome:** within this short period of training, the unit has recorded great successes and achievements as stated below:

- Some have started generating income for themselves by sewing for friends and family members
- The trainees show high level of creativity as some explore styles/patterns different from what the resource persons taught e.g hair bands, hand bands and tops as captured in their voices below :

1. Melody- “ I worked for my Boss who is a Pastor and he promised to sponsor my skills training, but he started making sexual advances at me and because I always turn his request down , he refused to pay for my training, so I quit the job. I am happy for GPI free training opportunity for me, I have started generating income for myself.”

2. Ifeoma- “ I am able to make tops,, head bands and wear”

3. Becky/ Ruth- “ I have started making clothes for my siblings and mother”

4. Winifred-/ Vivian “ I explore my creativity by creating my patterns/styles different from what we are taught

5. Deborah -“ I have learnt how to cut and sew skirts for now, including some men wears”

6. Glory- “ I can now sew both male and female trousers where I generate some money to use and purchase more materials for my practical”





**Facilitators and the girls during practical session**

## 6.0 Strategic Advocacy

### **REPORT OF A TWO-DAY ADVOCACY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION MEETING ORGANISED BY GIRLS' POWER INITIATIVE (GPI) CALABAR CENTRE FROM 16 – 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2019.**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Objective of the meeting was to evaluate the journey and success of the campaign and the training program, share implementation challenges and the way forward.

The above meeting is aimed at getting update from participants who were part of the advocacy training workshop in 2018, Twenty-nine (29) participants out of thirty-five in attendance were representatives from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), government line ministries, Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), community members and media both print and electronic. Member Organization who were present include ; Development Options, Onyx Foundation, Coalition of Eastern NGOs (CENGOS), UNFPA-YPP, Today for Tomorrow, GPI Alumnae Association (GAA), Youth Advocacy Group (YAG), GPI volunteers, Edem Children Foundation (ECF), Second Chance Initiative, Student Union, NETCUSA and Cross River State Ministry of Youth and Sports.

The topics discussed during the meeting were, information about Accountability fund project, Objectives of the meeting, Information about NETCUSA, Implementation of 2018 Advocacy plan by NETCUSA, Discussions on way forward/sustainability and Finalization of proposed activities for 2019 and methodologies used during sessions were, questions and answers,



brainstorming, experience sharing and general discussion. At the end of the workshop it was expected that participants would develop an advocacy tool (work plan) and advocacy messages on sexual abuse that would be used by NETCUSA to influence a changed and supportive attitude and response to issues of sexual abuse of girls and young females.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

1. Registration of participants
2. Welcome and Introductions

Sessions on were taken on:

- a. Objectives of the meeting
  - b. About NETCUSA
  - c. Content of Advocacy strategy activities/framework for 2018 (comments/questions/Clarification on the work plan)
  - d. Implementation of the 2018 Advocacy plan by NETCUSA: Success, challenge
  - e. Discussion on way forward/sustainability and Finalization of proposed activities 2019.
- a. Objectives of the meeting**

During the introduction session, the Chairperson of Cross River Network to Curb Sexual Abuse (NETCUSA) Comrade Ukeme Ekong who facilitated the session on induction of participants, welcomed participants to the meeting and asked them to identify a partner and tell their partners their names, one unique thing about themselves and what they hate about sexual abuse, the responses from participants shows that:

- Everyone present has identity (e .g. name, place of work/roles etc).
- Everyone has one unique thing about his or herself
- Their output on what they hate about sexual abuse showed they know the effect of sexual violence, it show willingness to jointly fight against sexual violence/ abuse.

The Coordinator of GPI, Comfort Ikpeme gave a rundown of what the Accountability fund project is, to increasing the capacity of young women on advocating for the sexual and reproductive health of girls and women. She mentioned that the activity is funded by Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for GPI to build the capacity of with the training on leadership program and these young women would be mentored by more experienced women.

#### **b. ABOUT NETCUSA**

This session was facilitated by Ukeme Ekong on Information about NETCUSA which include: NETCUSA being the Cross River Network to Curb Sexual Abuse. The network was formed in 2003 to address the incessant of sexual abuses and exploitation, especially of girl and women in Cross River State, with Membership which cuts across youth group, religious group, some government line ministries such as ministries of social welfare, health, youth/sport, justice,



selected schools, law enforcement agencies and NGOs. The network seeks justices for girls, women and children who are victims of sexual violence and abuse. Some services provided by the network are counseling of victim, referrals, reintegration of survivors with family members and caregivers and home visit. Girls, women, children, young people both males/females can assess the services of the network. In line with her presentation, it was mentioned that the network from inception has recorded 80 cases and only 8 has been convicted so far.

#### c. **CONTENT OF ADVOCACY STRATEGY ACTIVITIES/Framework for 2018**

This was taken by the coordinator of Girls' Power Initiative (GPI), Calabar centre as follows:

Purpose of the Accountability Fund: Increasing Advocacy Capacity of Young Women on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Project. This project is funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

The primary objectives of the project is:

- To strengthen Cross River State coalition of organizations working on women's/girls/gender issues, with an advocacy strategy, and with younger women from these organizations taking up key tasks.
- To strengthen GPI's advocacy capacity in key areas of focus that relate to the organization's mission, programme areas and existing capabilities.

GPI is to provide a young women's leadership training program for 35 participants, including those from organizations who are members of the NETCUSA coalition. Participants are to learn about policy analysis, advocacy skills and strategies, and the history of advocacy and lobbying for women's and girls' rights in Nigeria. She further urge participants to be open to share experiences and challenges in the cause of handling or addressing issues of sexual violence.

#### d. **FINALISATION OF THE PROPOSED WORKPLAN FOR 2019:**

The facilitator, Nnodeye Bassey stated that the main focus for NETCUSA activities is to reduce sexual violence by 50% and that its some ward challenging to get a survey in Cross River State. During the session participants were engage in discussion on what should be done to reduce sexual violence in the state.

#### **Output from Participants include:**

- **Outreach in schools-** This was reported to be ongoing as then network has being to NYSC Demonstration Secondary School, Calabar and also planning for another visit to Big Qua Girls Secondary School, Calabar hoping to do more before the year ends.
- **Youth Friendly Centre-** The network need more youth friendly centre as more young people need to be reached with age appropriate information.





- **Hold Town hall meetings** – This is to hold in communities GPI have work with, the essence is to engage the community leaders e. g traditional rulers, women leader, youth leader age grade leaders etc.
- **Provision for free towline-** This is to enable victims of sexual violence or young people reach out/ link up with a counselor who may likely respond to any issues bordering them.
- **Training Workshop-** This to training relevant stakeholders to update new or existing approach in addressing issues of sexual violence in their communities.
- **Identify and enroll hundred (100) young people between the ages of 15 – 35 for skills training.** The facilitator, commended the participants output and added that some of the activities that are mention have been carried out by NETCUSA while some are still in the planning process.

**Some Suggestions Capture during the discussion session include:**

- More youth leaders should be train in other to create more awareness.
- The network can use period of inter house sport to sensitized the students before the main event start for the network team can take few time to give information on effect of violence generally and why they should keep watch example of such activity given was 27,may children's day.
- Using social media will be a very good avenue YPP and YAG to strengthen the advocacy approach amongst young people.
- Form kids/Adolescent clubs, age should be consider to create safe space for them to share personal issues that borders them ( e .g 3-9 for kid and 10 -18 for adolescent and also the Network should get the church involve because most time the children spent more time in church, this can be included into the Sunday school curriculum the church need to be involve in whistle bellowing, Sunday school teachers need to be trained so that their level of confident will be strengthen to talk about sexuality issues as some churches regard such discussion forbidden and the worst sin committed this can also help to sensitized more people about sexual violence and the need for advocacy.

The representative from Chronicle promise to link the NETCUSA Team with somebody from Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN). In line with this, another participant suggested that network should rather deal with individual church depending their view and understanding about sexual violence and sexuality issues, she further promise to link the network with Mushroom partners through Nick Eze of Christ for



the world mission. According to her, he can avail approach to reach out to some churches in the state and if this is successful the mushroom partners can be used as entry point to reach out to some churches in the state sensitize them on issues of sexual violence.

- Ministry of Women affairs (WOMA) collaborate with United Nation Fund Population (UNFPA) collaborate to established a Gender Based Violence Centre Dec, 2018, rep from UNFPA appealed that partners should avail themselves to volunteer at the GBV centre so that they can assist during counselling sessions, she further appeal that partner should indicate interest in training victims or survivors in any skills training available in their organizations, She did a presentation which include ; progress report from inception of the GBV centre, number of cases registered and categories of crime, Challenges and way forward.

#### PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR 2019

ACTIVITYTY	TARGETING AUDIENCE	PERSONS/COMMITTEE RESPOSBLE	TIME FRAME
Continue Advocacy visit on sexual violence in Government/outreach to gate keepers, Association of all Nigeria principal	Medical Director UCTH ,General Hospital, Ministry of Health, justice, MOWA,MOYS, visit to the GBV centre, Commissioner of Police, House of Assembly <b>PRIMARY TARGETS</b> Calabar south Chairperson, Traditional rulers, Chairperson of ANCORPS, SA on Religion matters <b>SECONDARY TARGET</b> Law makers, Media, Family member	NETCUSA	
Sensitization of the general public on sexual violence	<b>PRIMARY TARGET</b> Family members, Parents, Youth leaders, woman leaders, Women Development Centre	NETCUSA	
Radio and TV Talk at FAD FM and Good morning Cross River (it was suggested Ndodeye Bassey can get one slot, members of the Network	<b>PRIMARY TARGET</b> General Public	NETCUSA	



should be inform on the day that is confident)			
Creating More Youth Friendly centre( this was out because we have existing centres that need to be utilize instead more advocacy should be done to create more awareness)	out	out	out
Procurement of Free tow lines	PRIMARY TARGET Young People and victims of sexual violence	Valentine Bassey (GPI YAG) and Joshua Otei (Hope Assured Foundation) volunteer to make the contact with available networks	
Documentation of Information Via SMS	Victims/Survivors	NETCUSA	
Community Sensitization and Mobilization Town Hall Meetings	<b>PRIMARY TARGET</b> Community chiefs, women leader, youth leader and religious leaders	NETCUSA	
Training Workshop	MOWA AND SUSTAINBLE DEVELOPMENT	NETCUSA	
Media Round Table (16 Days of Activism)	Journalist and Bloggers	NETCUSA/CRBC	
Skills Training for Survivor	Survivors of sexual and domestic violence etc.	Representative from Voice of Nigeria volunteer to make findings for the network on How Survivors can be part of ITF skills training, MOWA was suggested to be one of the centre that survivors can be refer to learn skill, GPI or NETCUSA can partner with Industrial Training Foundation(ITF)	

Site Visit to the GBV centre	MOWA	NETCUSA	28 <sup>th</sup> or 29 <sup>th</sup> May, 2019
Jingles (having it run from time to time)	General Public	NETCUSA	



Speech by the Director, SDG and Social welfare

Chairperson making clarifications on Advocacy plan

## 7.0 Staff Capacity Building

### 7.1 REPORT ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT 2019

The Human resource department is one department that involves every aspect of employment cycle and implementation of policies and practical management of staff to perform various tasks within the organization to enhance performance.

Activities carried out by the department this year:

#### 1. INTERVIEWS AND RECRUITMENT:

This year, one new staff was recruited in January- December 2019, as an Assistant Program Officer -Media and Advocacy.

#### 2. STAFF DEVELOPMENT:

Within the period of January to November 2019, all staff built their capacity in various areas by attending workshops/trainings within and outside the state and even outside the country.

#### 3. STAFF APPRAISAL:



To ascertain staff job performance this year, probation and performance appraisal was conducted for some staff and the following was the outcome:

1. Glory Akpama: Under general standard of performance, she was rated as satisfactory on GPI values, interpersonal skills, communication skills, initiative and problem solving ability and professionalism. However, she needs some area of personal development in ICT and publicity.
2. Bliss Echip: under general standard of performance, she rated her performance as being satisfactory in GPI values, interpersonal skills. Communication skills, initiative and problem solving ability and professionalism.
3. Arit Bassey: under general standard of performance, he was rated as good and outstanding in GPI values and communication skills, but needs improvement on good work relationship, problem solving and effective communication skills. However, shows willingness to carry out any assigned responsibility.
4. Jones Edem: He was rated satisfactory on general standard of performance, however needs to improve on interpersonal skills, communication and problem solving ability.

### Engagement of Volunteers

For the period under review, GPI Calabar centre engaged the services of

- 12 local volunteers/facilitators who were trained to assist GPI in achieving her goals especially in the areas of facilitations, outreaches and other awareness creation activities
- 4 international Volunteers/Advisors through Cuso International who advised and built capacity of staff on Information Technology (IT), Communications and Monitoring and Evaluation

### DEVELOPMENT PLANS:

The ICT needs training on Video shooting and editing, advocacy on gender reporting skills communication

DISENGAGEMENT: No staff disengages this year from the Organization

### SUGGESTIONS /RECOMMENDATIONS:

There is need to increase staff remuneration as it is up to 3years since the last increment was made.

## 8.0 Networks & Partnership

### 8.1 NETWORKS & PARTNERS

- Child Protection Network (CPN)
- Coalition to End Child Marriage in Nigeria





- NETCUSA Budget Transparency & Accountability Initiative (BTAN)
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Women Affairs
- Federation of Female Lawyers (FIDA) Medical Women Association
- Basic Right Counsel Initiative
- Target Local Government Areas
- UNFPA
- Cuso International
- UNWomen
- Education As Vaccine (EVA)
- Media
- Other CSOs in the state

## 8.2 LIST OF DONORS

- Embassy of the kingdom of the Netherlands
- EMpower
- Lafarge Africa Plc

## 9.0 Projects Report

Please see attached project reports to:

- Accountability fund
- Lafarge project
- EMpower

## 10.0 Administration Report (OMC, PET, Interns, Staff Capacity Building etc.)

### ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR 2019

Administration Department is the department in the organisation that over sees the day to day running of the entire organisation. The office reopened for the year 2019 on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2019 with 23 staff (11 programme staff and 10 administrative staff including 5 security officers, 3 sanitation officers, 1 transport officer and 15 volunteers (national and international) the office closed on the 20th December, 2019 to observe the Christmas holidays amongst other public holidays like: Good Friday, Easter Monday, Workers' Day, Democracy Day, National Day, Idel Fitr, Idel kabri, Idel maulud

The following department are in Girls' Power Initiative Calabar Centre:

1. Administration and ICT
2. Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights & Entrepreneurial skills
3. Advocacy and Media



4. Human Resource Management
5. Account
6. Programmes

Under the administration department, we have the following units:

- a. Sanitation/Maintenance
- b. Security
- c. Transport
- d. Reception
- e. Project Execution Team (PET)
- f. Office Management Committee (OMC)

The following activities were carried out by the department during the year

**SUPPLIES/MAINTENANCE** Various repairs and maintenance works were properly carried-out, monitored and supervised by the department. Office equipments and stationeries were supplied as at when needed for example:

- **Electricity:** The unstable power situation in Nigeria can hinder the progress of any project, however, the department ensures that there is constant provision of electricity within the office during work hours and training periods from diesel powered electricity generating plant.
- **Internet subscription:** Monthly subscription of internet service in the office and modems of some Heads of Department/Unit to enhance communication flow both within and outside of the office.
- **Stationery:** Most of the work in the organisation requires stationery; the department makes sure there are enough supply of stationery needed for office work and the weekly lesson with the girls.
- **Toiletries and First Aid items:** For convenience and health care of staff, visitors and the girls in the office, department makes purchase of toiletries and first aid items
- **Fuelling of office Vehicles:** The fuelling of office vehicles for movement of girls and staff for official purposes when necessary.
- **Rental services:** for the purpose of internally generated revenue, the department also rented out the following;
  1. **The Conference Hall:** The well fitted conference hall has been continuously rented out at a subsidized cost to organisation and individual for varying purposes through out the year. For the year under review, the conference hall has been continuously used for the hosting of meetings, launching and trainings of different kinds.
  2. **The office Bus:** The 14 seated Haice Bus with functional Air conditioner is also one of the items the department rented out when it is not in use to generate funds for the organisation. These services are utilised by organisations, university students and individuals for the purpose of conveying people to attend activities or used as shuttle,



such as picking students from various schools to attend the regional symposium / 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary organised by UNFPA Calabar

3. **Studio/Equipments:** the completely furnished studio with all the equipments has been leased out to *Kashi Film School* who manages and pays the organisation an agreed amount every month.

The Income generated from the rental services as part of **Internally Generated Revenue (IGR)**. Part of this was utilised to cover maintenance of equipments and some administrative cost thus contributing to the sustainability of GPI.

### OFFICE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING:

The office management meeting committee apart from the project executive team meeting is the only meeting where all GPI staff attends regardless of their department. The meeting holds every last Friday of the month and last for an average of 120 minutes. This meeting, comprising both program and support staff is usually chaired by the co-ordinator of the organisation but could have acting chairpersons and may be volunteers by members. Here, staff are given the opportunity to give departmental updates as in the course of carrying out their task/official assignment. Staff also give report of activities held within the period under review. New ideas on how to carry out official tasks are shared in the course of meeting.

For the year 2019 a total of (6) six meetings were held out of the 12 months, for reasons like public holidays, activities held in the office that involved a greater percentage of staff, which led to the inability to hold the meeting in some of the months.

### BENEFITS

- Attending OMC gives staff a sense of belonging as I get to know activities in different departments of the organisation
- The OMC meeting has been a major source of expressing grievances in workspace
- The meeting also serves as a learning ground for some staff to update themselves with knowledge as it relates to the organization modus operandi and its scope of work etc.
- The OMC avails staff of the opportunity to participate and contribute in planning activities within the organization.

### CHALLENGES

There are several challenges encountered in the course of the year. These challenges are as follows;

- ω Irregularity of all personnel from security unit at meeting
- ω Staff involvement in programme activities outside the office usually affect the attendance at meetings.

### SUGGESTION:

- ❖ All staff must be present at the meeting except engaged in another office assignment.



- ❖ Staff who do not come out on time for meetings should be made to forfeit the snack that it usually given at the meeting.
- ❖ All the security personnel should be made to attend the meeting regularly leaving only one person to mount the gate as at the time of the meeeting

**REPORT OF PROJECT EXECUTION TEAM (PET)** Meeting for GPI Calabar centre is a compulsory weekly meeting of the organization and it is a meeting that has been carried out consistently every Tuesday of the week from 11am and could last for about 3-4 hours depending on matters discussed. Project Execution Team Meeting (PET) is a meeting where all the program staff, interns, volunteers, etc take part in project activities planning, execution and evaluation within the project year.

The meeting usually avail all participants an opportunity to be acquainted with the organization, get to know how programs are planned and implemented, gain insight on the working experience, learning new ideas towards effective project development and execution, enhance staff report writing skills, develop public speaking skills while presenting minutes and enhancing their leadership skills by chairing meetings.

A total number of **FORTY-THREE (43)** meetings were held during the period under review with an average of ten (20) members in attendance. There were few cases of absentees among some staff who were away to represent the organization at different meetings, workshops and training both within and outside the country.

**Issues often deliberated upon at the meeting include;**

- Excerpts from dailies – Here the latest news updates are presented for members to learn and be aware of happenings in the country, certain issues that cut across sexual abuse, gender, violence against girls and women, women participation in politics, insecurity and crime etc
- Minutes of the previous meeting are presented by the secretary of PET for the benefit of those who were absent from the meeting to keep them abreast on issues discussed the previous week and for those present for their inputs if any. After presentation, PET members make corrections, inputs and suggestions, where necessary, this is followed by Adoption where the minutes of the previous meeting will be adopted by pet members to be used as a working document or for referral purpose (s). there after matters arising comes up on the agenda where the secretary reminds members on issues that are still pending during the previous meeting, to be deliberated upon by pet members.
- Departmental updates and unit report: Here the Heads of Departments (HOD) are given opportunities each to inform all members of upcoming activities and plans in their various departments for members' inputs and suggestions. Adequate time is then given to evaluate activities carried out by different departments of the organization and suggestions are further made to make them better in the future.
- Other units reports are also presented as at when due such as monthly facilitation report, library report etc
- Report of Sunday's weekly lesson: Facilitators take time to present report of activities carried out the previous Sunday session. Certain concerns, observations, and challenges are brought forth by the facilitators concerning their groups and collective suggestions and inputs are made to ensure a better functioning of the group.



- Report from Workshops/ Meetings attended – Here different staff that represented the organization at workshops/trainings are given opportunity to present their reports on the activity attended, share out lessons learnt and the impact of the lesson in the organization and their work responsibilities.
- ANY OTHER BUSINESS (A.O.B) – Here opportunity are given to staff for different announcements based on private, official, presentation to the organization, introduction of new volunteers, interns, visitors to the organization and even birthdays celebrations.

### CHALLENGES

- Some departmental activities like trainings and other official engagements were sometimes held on the meeting days which automatically hinders PET meeting from holding.
- Public holidays too also hinder meeting days.

### SUGGESTIONS

- Departments should endeavor to have their activities fixed in other days apart from Tuesdays
- Staff who were absent from the meeting or were in other official engagement should be briefed by the PET secretary of the deliberations from the meeting should they have any responsibilities to carry out before next meeting.

In conclusion, the meeting has always been an Interesting and educative one, where staff has the opportunity to learn new ideas/knowledge; experiences shared and see how to inculcate it into effective job performance and timely delivery.



Cross section of PET members deliberating on issues during one of the PET

**RECEPTION:** The reception unit of administration department in Girl's Power Initiative (G.P.I) Calabar centre has been functioning in the duties of welcoming, attending and directing visitors to intended persons, offices and any other services as occasion demands.





Within the period under review, a total of five hundred and fifty-four (554) visitors came into the organization with reasons ranging from enquiry about GPI existence (including GPI mode of operation, her programmes and activities), to using GPI library, to seeking employment, internship/volunteering, to enrolling in GPI entrepreneurial skills/ safe space programme and or business transaction, to attending meetings and workshops, to seeing the coordinator/ individual(s)/CUSO staff based on previous appointment to deliver letters, for funding/support obtaining training certificates from GPI and CUSO, as well as for academic research, Counselling etc.

However, categories of visitors into the organization this year included students from university of Calabar, GPI girls, partners/funders of GPI activities, CUSO Youlead beneficiaries, Network and coalition members, parents of GPI girls, dispatch officer for courier services, religious members, staff of internal revenue service (on Tax), media persons and representatives, NGOs representatives. Some of the major visitors were:

- UN Women International Organization
- Paige -----International Volunteer/Advisor on ICT/Media
- Sylvia Ogar -----HIFASS LOPIN 3
- Unyime Akpan ----SIBTC
- Glory Egrinya-----Libertad Girls Foundation
- Larfarge Team-----LARFARGE
- Kenechukwu Mbajioreju -----Abuja UN etc

## LESSON LEARNT

- ❖ Effective teamwork is useful in any work growth and development.
- ❖ My public speaking and social skills towards visitors and colleagues have been improved greatly.

## CHALLENGES AND SUGGESTIONS

- The reception and the security post should be given biros from time to time as some visitors/ staff are in the habit of going away with biros after signing visitor or time book
- Staff whose visitors meet them at the reception, security office or outside the reception should assist the security officer by reminding their visitors to sign the visitor's book.





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## 1.0 Educational Programme for the girls

### 1.1 SCHOOL'S OUTREACH

The 2019 school outreach sexuality education weekly session held from January 2019 to December 2019 in two secondary schools with level two curriculum completed in two schools.

The Outreach Program is aimed at empowering as many adolescent girls as possible on Family Life & HIV/AIDS Education (FLHE) to enable them have factual information on gender life management skills, sexuality, sexual and reproductive health and right.

The outreach program had a total of 140 participants in two schools.

#### Data of 2019 Outreach Weekly Session

<b>Participating Schools</b>	Community Comprehensive Secondary School	Efficient Secondary School
<b>Girls reached</b>	80	60
<b>Facilitator</b>	Ukeme Ubong Uwakmfon Ayakeme	Ukeme Ubong Nkese Obong Okon

#### Outcomes:

- The girls have been able to identify and clarify their values.
- The girls have factual information on STI, HIV/ AIDS, gender roles and rape.
- The girls can criticize constructively.

#### Voices:

**Esther Etom** - shared how GPI information has help her to become assertive.

**Emmanuella Victor** - everyone knows me as a person with a low self-esteem, but GPI has helped me to do away with low self-esteem.

**Blessing Edet** - I chose my subject because I felt only the boys should offer science, but GPI enlightened and improved my self-esteem.

**Emem Sunday** - I have never use sanitary pad ever since I started menstruating but thanks to GPI for the information to learn how to manage with menstruation and personal hygiene.



## 2.0 GPI Information Desk

### 2.1. SOCIAL MEDIA

During the period under review, GPI Uyo has been able to create a group on WhatsApp which enable the girls, GPI Alumnae Association (GAA) members as well as the volunteers to have access to information and sometimes questions that are life threatening are sought for answers.

### 2.2 LIBRARY SERVICES

During the period under review, the library was used frequently by the girls, staff and volunteers; about 20 persons made use of the library.

## 3.0 Community Intervention

### 3.1 SELF-ESTEEM AND LEADERSHIP BOOSTING

GPI Uyo partnered with the organisation “Female & More” to carry out a 30-day Self-esteem and Leadership Boosting series in one school.



The Female & More 30 days of Self-Esteem & Leadership Handbook containing inspiring stories



of 30 African young and adult women who divide social barriers and stereotype to achieve greatness and pursue their highest leadership potential in any chosen field of endeavour was used.

### 3.2 1 GIRL 1 PAD

The office partnered in the “1 Girl 1 Pad Campaign” to commemorate the 2019 World Menstrual Hygiene Day. The following were carried out



- distribute sanitary pads to girls in rural area
- enlighten teenage girls to overcome the stigma surrounding menstruation
- and address public health concern regarding menstrual hygiene.

The program took place at Secondary School Ntan Mbat in Ibiono Ibom LGA and Ini LGA respectively.

## 4.0 Network and Partners

- \* National Agency for the prohibition of trafficking in persons and other related matters.
- \* Ministry of women Affairs and social welfare.
- \* Youth Alive Foundation.

**Ukeme Ubong**  
Coordinator







# Girls' Power Initiative (GPI)

Bayelsa - Yenagoa Centre

## Annual Report

*"Towards an empowered womanhood"*



**JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019**



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## 1.0 Educational Programmes for The Girls

### 1.1 CENTRE MEETING

GPI activities commenced humbly in Bayelsa State in 2018 with about fifteen (15) girls as we had regular Centre meetings where girls were intimated with information that border on their reproductive health, rights and responsibilities among other topics that enables them to appreciate, values, the uniqueness in themselves.

The Centre activities also afford the girls to share experiences on how GPI information has impacted their lives and how they have been able to make use of the knowledge and information gained from GPI in improving their lives at homes, and bringing about positive changes in the larger society.

#### 1.1.3 Girls Voices

Some experiences shared by the girls

#### **Dorothy (13 years old)**

I was so passive. I thought the girl child is to be seen not heard. Thank God for GPI that has made me to know how to express myself assertively in the society.

#### **Ebere (14years old)**

I did not know that some parts of my body is not to be seen by everyone hence is referred to as private. Through information gained during our lessons on reproduction and body image, I now know such part is to be kept private and not for general consumption.

#### **Ebitimi (12 years old)**

Oh! What a wonderful organization, I know that I am so unique now and different from every other person. The difference in our bodies makes us unique, thus, I am a unique person and I appreciate the way I look. .



## 1.2 SCHOOLS' OUTREACHS

The desire to establish GPI School based outreach activities in some selected schools in Yenagoa, I wrote letter of permission to the state ministry of education to seek approval to this regard. But on several occasions, it has proved abortive as favorable response is still being awaited. I hopefully believe my application will be given the due consideration, as to grant approval.

## 2.0 Media Campaigns

In the year 2019 GPI Yenagoa erected a billboard in some strategic positions/areas in the state metropolis with the message clearly stated, **“STOP GIRLS/ WOMEN TRAFFICKING”**. A renowned feminist ambassador in the state the person of the state FIDA president Barr. Dise Ogbise – Ehisere was used to pass the message.

## 3.0 Overview

### 3.1 CHALLENGES/PLANS

In the year under review, Yenagoa center encountered some challenges as to the successful take off of GPI activities in Yenagoa as expected. The Centre meetings has not been going on due to the fact that some of the girls has relocated, some gained admission into higher institution and boarding schools.

The state ministry of education in which I have written severally to seek permission for approval to conduct GPI school outreach activities in some selected schools in Yenagoa as approval is still being awaited, thus has hindered the successful take off of GPI schools outreach program/activities.

I am more determined and passionately ready to work to ensure successful take-off of both the Centre and school outreach activities.



Also, to organize more sensitization programs/activities using notable dates dedicated to girls/women both national and internationally to address some of the issues that border on girls/women in our society.

With the help of God and your individual prayers I promise to work relentlessly so as to establish a vibrant GPI Centre in Yenagoa. By God's special grace I hope to surmount all the challenges and fulfil stated plans.

**Jacinta Cocodia**

**Coordinator, GPI Bayelsa State**

