



...empowering people for impact

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME TWO - Bi-Annual Publication

JOOF Newsletter; our e-newsletter that will be delivering the latest DEACONESS J.O. OBANIYI FOUNDATION news and stories to your inbox Bi-Annually



It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the second edition of JOOF bi-annual newsletter! We are pleased to share with you some exciting news from JO OBANIYI FOUNDATION.

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UPDATE ON JOOF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Our mission over the past two (2) years has been to provide support to indigent students and children of widows to access quality education through our Academic Support programme (ASP). This we have done through full scholarship to children of widows and other indigent students at the elementary and secondary school levels while we also have Advanced Academics Programme (AAP) that is mainly designed in form of bursary support for students that are in tertiary institutions. This is in line with our commitment to excellence and empowering people for impact through our various programmes.

• FULL SCHOLARSHIP THROUGH JOOF ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Through our JOOF ASP, we have partnered with reputable institutions of learning at both elementary and secondary education levels to provide scholarship to some orphans and children of widows who are in dire need of financial assistance to cater for their educational needs. In line with our focus to update you on impacts made in the lives of our beneficiaries, we have decided to highlight few cases that we have supported at the Foundation:

- A widow's son who has dropped out of school for some time due to the financial instability of his family was awarded a complete tuition scholarship during one of JOOF empowerment programmes that held in 2022. We have enrolled him into one of the best private schools in Ilesa since January 2022 where he has been schooling and the brilliant boy has improved in his academics and he's doing excellently well in his class activities.



- A 12year old orphan was brought to the Foundation office alongside her siblings by their guardian, JOOF intervened by providing full scholarship for the youngest of them while her elder sister was supported with graduation expenses. The beneficiary has been on scholarship in one of our partnered schools since April 2022.
- Another 13-year-old daughter of one of our widow beneficiaries was also given a full-term scholarship by the Foundation and has been withdrawn from the low-quality school she was attending before the intervention of JOOF and taken to a school of high standard where they use Montessori teaching method. She has also been on scholarship since April 2022 and has greatly improved in her learning.

To make learning experience fun for our beneficiaries, JOOF in addition to paying tuition fees, extra moral classes fees, also covers the cost of commuting to and from school for our students to make access to quality education very seamless for them

• BURSARY SUPPORT THROUGH OUR ADVANCED ACADEMIC PROGRAMME (AAP)

To ensure that we provide support across all levels of education and in furtherance to the full scholarship provided at the elementary and high school levels, we have designed our AAP to support children of widows and other indigent students at the institution of higher learning. The Foundation has placed some children of widows on bursary of #100,000 per annum to support their tuition. The Foundation encourage the beneficiaries of our AAP to maintain a minimum Cumulative Grade Performance Average (CGPA) of 3.0 to ensure that they are able to draw on the bursary annually throughout their studies, and to come out in flying colours at the end of their studies.

The AAP also caters for beneficiaries that want to pay for

registrations of regional examinations such as WAEC, NECO, and JAMB. The Foundation also assisted some children of widows and orphans to clear the bills fees they are owing in their various schools.

♦ SKILLS ACQUISITION PROGRAMME (SAP)

Beyond formal learning in the school environment where we have developed our **ASP** and **AAP** programmes, we have also developed the **Skills Acquisition Programme (SAP)** to support widows with vocational training. From our interactions with widows, and in our bid to support them to be financially independent, we realised that their inability to monetise any economically viable skill continues to hinder their journey to financial independence. JOOF has just developed our **SAP** to equip them with various skill set that they can monetise to become economically independent. As the old African adage says, "it is better to teach people how to fish than to give them fish to eat", we have enrolled some widows for skills acquisition training so they can own a skill of their own and be self-sufficient.

The widows were enrolled for fashion designing training, hair dressing and liquid soap production. During the period of their training, the Foundation catered for their transportation cost by paying them monthly stipend throughout the training programme. **JOOF** also take care of their graduation expenses and gave them the equipment they need to set up their own establishment after their training.



♦ JOOF Q1 2024 OUTREACH AND SUPPORT PROGRAMME

On Easter **Sunday 31st March 2024** **JO OBANIYI FOUNDATION** organized an Easter outreach and support programme at **Grip of Salvation Orphanage Mission Abiola Avenue Ilesa, Osun state.**

The purpose of the event was to give support to the children in the home to reaffirm the commitment of the Foundation to making positive change and impact in the lives of vulnerable individuals, **JOOF** made impact at **Grip of Salvation Orphanage Mission** by:

1. **Giving Educational support to the children:** as we are aware that availability of educational materials fosters conducive learning environment thus making the children to strive hard for academic excellence. **50 school bags** that were filled with **four (4) notebooks** each and pens were given to the orphanage by **JOOF** for the children to pursue their education effectively. The Foundation issued a cheque of **two hundred and eighty-two thousand naira (#282,000)** to the

orphanage. The cash is meant for registration fee of 16 students that want to sit for **JUNIOR WEAC** and a student that wants to write **NECO examination.**

2. **Nutritional Assistance:** Proper nutrition is essential for the growth and development of the children, food items such as rice, pasta, drinks, noodles, and biscuits were given to the children at the orphanage to ensure they have wholesome meals.



IMPACT ASSESSMENT CORNER

We have included impact assessment corner to showcase the impact that **JOOF** has made and is making in the lives of our beneficiaries. In this edition, we bring to you feedback from two (2) of our beneficiaries who have volunteered to share their stories and their experiences with **JOOF** with our audience.

SEGMENT A: INTERVIEW SESSION WITH:

Beneficiary A

JOOF: Please can we meet you ma? (Touch on your family background, life experiences since you became a widow and how you have been coping)

Ans: my name is Mrs C.F. I have been widowed since 2012. Being a widow is not easy but with the grace of God I have been coping fine, I did some menial jobs to train some of my children through school and some of them acquired skills. None of my husband's family has rendered any form of assistance to us ever since he has died.

JOOF: How did you get to know about the Deaconess JO Obaniyi Foundation?

Ans: I heard about **JOOF** in the church (**Methodist Church**), my name was shortlisted from church, and I was called for interview.

JOOF: Have you received any support or benefitted anything from the Foundation?

Ans: Yes, I have received grant from the Foundation. I was given a grinding machine with some cash.

JOOF: What impact has the grant that you received from **JOOF** made in your life?

Ans: The grinding machine that I received from **JOOF** has been put to work and is helping me to earn a decent daily living and I'm now financially buoyant to take care of my bills.

JOOF: Apart from the grant that you received on the day you were empowered; is there any other support or benefit you have received from **JOOF**?

Ans: in addition to the empowerment, I have also benefitted other form of support from the Foundation including skills

acquisition programme through my enrolment in the liquid soap making training which JOOF arranged for the beneficiaries. I was also given some cash to support my business and to cater for my feeding. I have also built a strong bond with the members of JOOF that I have come to also take as family. I invited them for my son's wedding, and they supported me with cash gift for the event.

JOOF: Are you a member of the Cooperative society set up to support JOOF beneficiaries? If yes, how has been a member benefited you.

Ans: I'm not just a member of the cooperative I'm one of the executives of the cooperative. The cooperative is set up to assist the widows by giving them **interest-free loan**, I have been given an interest-free loan to take care of an emergency and the mode of application, disbursement and repayment was very simple and easy.

JOOF: What have you learnt from being a member of the **JOOF**?

Ans: The major thing I learnt from the Foundation is giving to the needy without complaining or expecting anything in return, as a Christian it is a good thing to be a cheerful giver. JOOF always encourages us to also learn to give out to people no matter how small it is.

JOOF: What advice or feedback do you have for **JOOF**? Would you recommend **JOOF** to other widows? If yes or no, why?

Ans: My advice for JO OBANIYI FOUNDATION is that they should continue the good work they are doing. I have recommended

JOOF to people, and I'll keep doing that.



elder sister, she got the information from a past beneficiary, so I came to the foundation office to register immediately I was told, and I was asked series of question during the interview.

JOOF: Have you received any support or benefited anything from the Foundation?

Ans: Yes, I have benefited a lot from **JOOF**. I was enrolled for hairdressing training and during the period of my training, **JOOF** was paying me monthly stipend to cover my transportation expenses to my training institute. After the training, the Foundation sponsored my graduation, and I was issued a certificate of completion. The Foundation also gave me all the equipment I needed to do my hairstyling business without collecting a dime from me.

JOOF: What impact has the grant you received from **JOOF** made in your life?

Ans: the grants that I received from Obaniyi Foundation has positively impacted my life, I have been working with the equipment I received from the Foundation, and I have been empowered to take care of living expenses of my children and I.

JOOF: Apart from the grant that you received on the day you were empowered; is there any other support or benefit you have received from **JOOF**?

Ans: Yes, I was lucky to be among the beneficiaries that were given Christmas bonus and feeding allowance last December.

JOOF: Are you a member of the Cooperative society set up to support **JOOF** beneficiaries? If yes, how has been a member benefited you.

Ans: Yes, I'm a member of **JOOF** Cooperative. The Cooperative set up by **JOOF** is mainly to give support to the widows that have benefited from the Foundation, and I plan to access free loan to support my business.

JOOF: What have you learnt from being a member of the **JOOF**?

Ans: I have learnt to always lend a helping hand to people and to also be a giver wherever I find myself. This has also rubbed off positively on my family as my children said they will make sure they give out to people when they grow up and start earning a living after they saw what the Foundation gave to me on the day I was empowered.

JOOF: What advice or feedback do you have for **JOOF**? Would you recommend **JOOF** to other widows? If yes or no, why?

Ans: My advice for **JO OBANIYI FOUNDATION** is that they should keep up with the good work they are doing, and I pray that God



Beneficiary B:

JOOF: Please can we meet you ma? (Touch on your family background, life experiences since you became a widow and how you have been coping)

Ans: My name is Mrs O, I'm a native of Ife in Osun State. My husband died in the year 2019, his family turned their back against me and my children not long after he passed away. My family had to intervene to guarantee the safety of my children and I. Coping without my husband has not been easy for me, I did several menial jobs to be able to cater for my children and I was able to raise token to start selling petty items and my family also supported me with the little they have when I ran to them for assistance.

JOOF: How did you get to know about the JO Obaniyi Foundation?

Ans: I got to know about JO Obaniyi Foundation through my



will bless them more. I'll bring people around me to the Foundation so they can get help because **JOOF** doesn't disappoint, and they won't disappoint.



HIGHLIGHT FROM 2023 ACTIVITIES

2023 was an eventful year for us at JOOF and we use this medium to express our sincere gratitude to everyone that supported us to make 2023 a fulfilling year for us. The support we received from our generous donors was very instrumental to the successes we recorded in the year 2023. In line with the principle of the Foundation and with the permission of the board of trustees, the children of **DEACONESS JULIANA OLUWASESAN OBANIYI** have donated a matching sum equivalent to the total sum received from our donors as their counterpart funding.

In the spirit of transparency, the board of Trustees have approved for us to publish the list of our donors on our website and this is also reflected in our audited financial statements which can be found on our website: www.joobaniyifoundation.org

Operational activities at JOOF office were enhanced in the year 2023 and we equally launched the first edition of our newsletter to provide operational update to our esteemed audience.

In celebration of Christmas, in the last quarter of year 2023 JOOF organized an empowerment programme for the widows providing them with rice, vegetable oil and some cash to support their yuletide season so they can have wonderful celebration in their various households. Some new beneficiaries were empowered during the programme, each of the women were given reasonable amount of money to start up any business of their choice while some were enrolled for skills acquisition training.

FUNDING MODEL AND UPDATE ON FUNDING

As you are aware that our principle is to double any amount that comes into the Foundation account from our donors. Since the last time we published the first edition of our newsletter, we have had donation of six hundred and forty-five thousand naira (#645,000) from:



1. Anonymous donated the sum of #150,000 on the 3rd of Sept. 2023
2. Rev. Philips Oladosu donated the sum of #5,000 on the 5th of Sept. 2023
3. Pastor Chris Bidokwu donated the sum of #50,000 on the 27th of Sept. 2023.
4. RCCG Life Spring donated the sum of #100,000 on the 29th of Sept. 2023.
5. Mrs Abosede Oreoluwa Olurin donated #15,000 on the 10th of Oct. 2023.
6. Mrs Bolu Obaniyi donated the sum of #100,000 on the 27th of Nov. 2023.
7. Anonymous donated the sum of #200,000 on Sunday 1st Apr. 2024.
8. Barrister Musa Bello donated the sum of #25,000 on Monday 2nd Apr. 2024.

HOW YOU CAN PARTNER WITH US

If you would like to support the work of touching lives that the Foundation is doing, you can make your donations directly to our bank account with details below:

Account name: **JULIANA O OBANIYI FOUNDATION**

Bank name: **United Bank for Africa (UBA) Plc**

Account number: **1024810646.**

You can also make donations with the payment link on our website: www.joobaniyifoundation.org We encourage you to visit our website from time to time to read about us, keep yourself abreast our operations and support us.

Thank you.

We would like to specially honour one of our spiritual fathers who was very supportive and instrumental towards the setting up of JOOF, and whom the Lord has called to higher glory in the person VERY REVEREND OLANIYI A. OKE. Very Rev. Oke answered the higher call on the 16th November 2023 and he is fondly remembered by all of us at JOOF for his unwavering support, prayers, and presence that graced all programmes we had while he was here with us. His spirit continues to inspire us, and his legacy of faith and compassion will remain deeply ingrained in our hearts. We enjoin you to support the family he left behind.



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