



ILEAD

MAGAZINE

NIGERIA

2018 EDITION

- * **Paves Way For Persons With Disabilities**
- * **The Ilead Team Celebrates Ilead Team Day**
- * **Mental Reformation Training at The Nigerian Prisons, Ikoyi**
- * **Road Sweepers Receive Acclamation In Lagos.**

EXCLUSIVE!

WHAT'S STOPPING YOU?

LAURETTA ONWUEGBUZIE



12 MONTHS OF IMPACT

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Our Vision

We are ready to raise leaders who would occupy every sector of the nation by 2050 and those who would speak the truth, shun corrupt practices and stand for what is right at all time.

Publisher's Note

"Invest in Nigerian youths."

Despite the varying challenges currently experience in our dear nation, it is worthy of note that with the commitment and resilience of the citizenry, especially the youths our national growth and success will be inevitable.

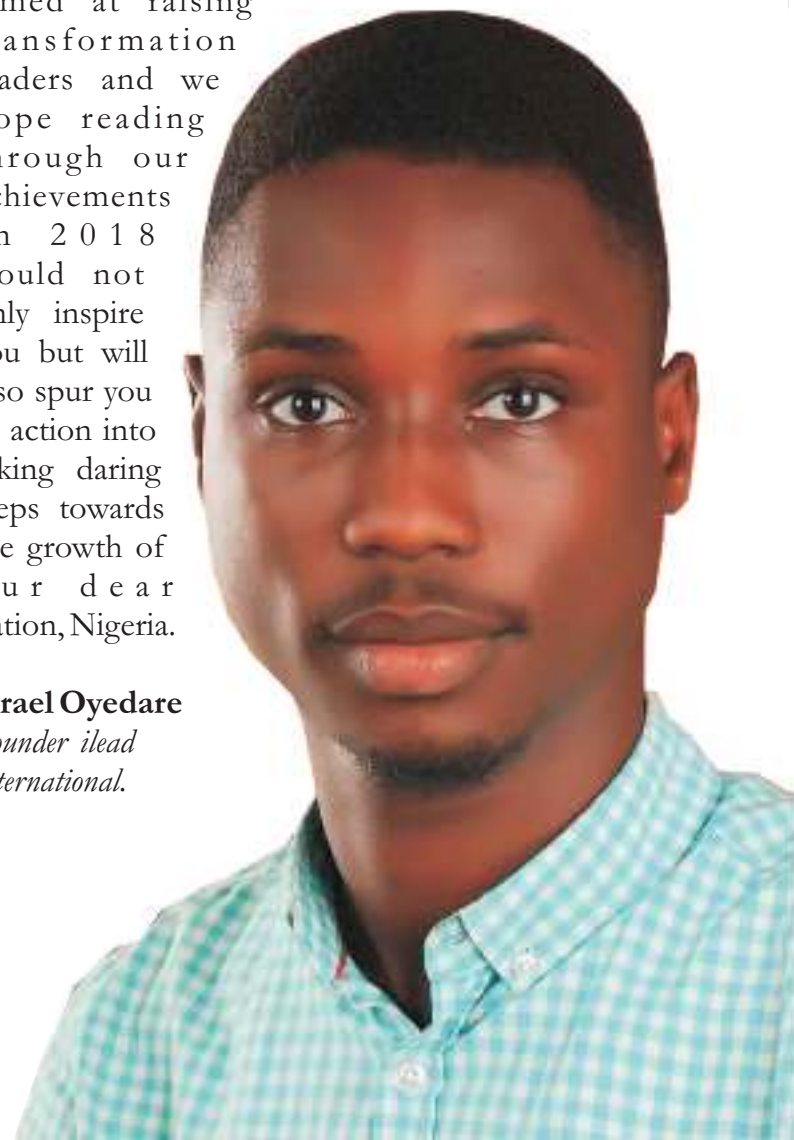
This quarterly newsletter is aimed at sharing the impacts and collaborative work done by the iLead Team and her volunteers.

We hope to change the perspective of the world and to invite more individuals to invest in our darling nation Nigeria. We are ready to raise leaders who would occupy every sector of the nation by 2050 and those who would speak the truth, shun corrupt practices and stand for what is right at all time. We also aim at ensuring we increasingly solve social problems as those we have already begun.

iLead International is a growing organization aimed at raising transformation leaders and we hope reading through our achievements in 2018 would not only inspire you but will also spur you to action into taking daring steps towards the growth of our dear nation, Nigeria.

Israel Oyedare

Founder ilead international.



ROAD SWEEPERS RECEIVE ACCLAMATION IN LAGOS

Six (6) Lagos state road sweepers met fortune on Saturday, 19th of February, 2018 as the iLead Team acclaimed the efforts of these people to ensure Lagos remains a clean state with meagre pay from the state government which doesn't come in handy.

The team after a chat with some of road sweepers expresses a displease in the unfair treatment by the state government towards the road sweepers as it was revealed that these people wash their sweat in the mud on daily basis only for the 'hand to mouth' amount they're being paid to be delayed or withheld unapologetically by the state officials.

The road sweepers/ cleaners who are aged men and women are among the numerous Nigerians that work tirelessly like an elephant to ensure the cleanliness in Lagos State is maintained, they endanger their lives by going on roads to pick dirt with bare hands and non-standardized tools.

However, the aim of the iLead Team Mini Project was to see that these people were recognised, to acclaim their hard work and also, to put a smile on their faces by supporting them with food stuffs.

At the end, the six (6) road sweepers expressed intense gratitude and appreciation to iLead International for the acclamation and food stuffs given to them in cheer.



iLEAD

INTERNATIONAL PAVES WAY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs)

The iLead team, on Friday the 4th of May, 2018 headed out to Modupe Cole Centre, Akoka Yaba for Project 18.1 (Project for Persons with Dissabilities). The centre is a Special Needs School for Physically Challenged Children. iLead's goal was to showcase the immense creativity and abilities of people living with disabilities at the centre.

Amongst many other abilities, these set of people have the world of creativity as their footstool in bead making, creating artworks, shoe building and singing beautifully.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there are over 20 million persons with disabilities and at least one person out of every ten people is identified with disabilities. Despite the Nigerian Persons with Disabilities Act of 1994, there is still a high rate of discrimination against Persons with Disabilities. Thus, the Act passed is largely not implemented. This retarded culture has immensely denied People with Disabilities (PWDs) of their rights and dignity as Nigerians and more extensively, their human rights which has overtime prevented these PWDs from achieving or reaching their full potentials, it has also locked them out of the opportunity to participate in the developmental process of Nigeria Our volunteers interacted with the beneficiaries with a high level of professionalism and empathy, however, their responses (verbal and non-verbal) moved us to tears.

The innately creative children were happy to see people visiting, teaching them the word and bringing gifts. We were privileged to meet successful and zealous people who have signed in for reaching the zenith of their passion despite their disabilities amongst which we met Toma, who despite having no hands has been painting since 1996 and Michael, who draws stunning works of art with just one arm.

In a nutshell, it was a very inspiring time well spent, and a 'take away' nugget from the numerous speakers was the need to strive to be and do better in life regardless of any hindrance.



THE ILEAD TEAM CELEBRATES ILEAD TEAM DAY



Every November 3rd of the year is a day set aside to celebrating the iLead Team for their commitment, resilience and efforts to seeing that the organization achieve its goals.

The iLead Team has five core members and several volunteers and participants of her monthly program on the team. This day is set aside for the team to celebrate themselves for every accomplishment made in the year.



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PATRON

The iLead Team will like to thank Mr. Fafore for the fatherly advice, backing and love shown.





WHAT'S STOPPING YOU?

LAURETTA ONWUEGBUZIE

Ola and Titi, had been married for the past 8 years. They met at a business function and Ola was greatly drawn to Titi's confidence while she gave her presentation that day. After they got married and gradually years began to roll by, they became more and more desperate to have a child. Infertility was not a topic that was so easy to talk about whether between spouses or with counsellors or even the doctors so they decided to wait patiently for God's time.

Eventually after waiting for 8 years, Titi took in and gave birth to their daughter Morenikeji. The families were overjoyed and there was a big celebration for Keji's birth. However, 3 months on, something was not right with Keji, she constantly had seizures, concussions and turned out to be very sickly.

During one of these episodes, she was rushed to the hospital. The doctor said

that she had a heart disease. A surgery was to be done as soon as possible. This cut the family's joy and one can only imagine Ola and Titi's worry for their only child. The doctors did not think that Keji would survive the surgery but to their surprise she did!

The little baby's recovery was quite speedy. She became vibrant and was always full of life. Keji grew up, a child with big dreams. She often talked about how she wanted to be a professor and even though that was not a career, it only reflected her love for reading and knowledge. Keji wanted to write many books on chemistry and make it simple for students in secondary schools as well as the university to understand.

In her first year at the University, there was an opportunity for students to participate in a Chemistry competition with a cash prize of N2, 000,000 (two million naira). However the

competition was to hold in South Africa. Ola and Titi were not particularly wealthy and so could not afford to help their daughter achieve this her dream. Despite this, Keji did not give up. She had 2 months to raise the money and thought of all the ways through which she could raise money for this trip.

She started a provisions business where she helped students on campus and in hostels, to make arrangements on getting their food stuff in school. She equally worked as an assistant to many lecturers and got paid for this. Her lecturers were proud of her ambition and determination and about 3 of them supported her with extra money to complete her travel fare for the competition.

During the semester break and on her way home to make her travel arrangements, Keji was mobbed by some touts in the area and they took all the money that she had been saving up. She was devastated. Her parents were very happy that she was unhurt and tried to console her telling her to forget all that had happened and put it all behind her, but Keji could not miss out on the opportunity to achieve her dream and to show the world how good she was at Chemistry. She stood a chance to win a scholarship too.

Keji decided to write letters to the staff in the Chemistry department of



her university appealing for sponsorship to go for the competition. The Head of Department came across one of these letters, informed the Dean of sciences, who convinced the school management to sponsor Keji's trip to South Africa for the competition.

Keji was the 2nd best participant in that competition. Even though she did not win, it opened many doors for her and she was eventually given a scholarship by one of the foreign universities present at the competition. She would never have done it without courage and determination. If Keji could do it despite all odds, what's stopping you?

Written by: LAURETTA ONWUEGBUZIE



Poem by Amara Sesay:

iLead when the storms threaten
 iLeads when mountains crumble
 when thunder makes men shudder
 iLead when caves crack
 iLead even where sharks rule
 where crocodiles seek to tear the body
 politic of a blessed nation
 iLead through valleys of death
 and brandish my divine swords
 in front of cobras and vipers

iLead by what the womb invested
 by the power of being born I chose to borne
 the travails and tribulation of this mission
 hands full of blisters, yet I shall not lack
 corruptions shreds me in bits,
 yet I shall fight back

this call came from above
 iLead because I was born king
 just they way you were born king
 we lead because the crowns live in us

Amara Sesay

Teacher/Writer/Public Policy Analyst.

*Amara is an iLead
 volunteer from
 Sierra Leone.*

*He is currently a
 postgraduate student at
 the
 Department of English,
 University of Lagos.*



12 MONTHS OF IMPACT



MENTAL REFORMATION TRAINING AT THE NIGERIAN PRISON AUTHORITY, IKOYI

On Friday, 7th September, 2018, the iLead team visited the Nigerian Prison Authority, Ikoyi Lagos to speak to inmates on mental reformation.

The team invited a psychologist, Mr. Adebayo Adegun who spoke elaborately on Mental Reformation and how freedom is first a mental positioning before it is actualized physically.

Mr Adebayo who spoke on the mind of man, expounded that a man's mind is an encapsulation of his environment, education, exposure and experience. He progressed in

the session by advising over sixty (60) inmates who attended the training to accept the responsibility to lead and choose their response to what life throws at them.

Stories of Nelson Mandela, Former President Olusegun Obasanjo and Joseph in the Bible who went to the prison but came out strong and victorious were told.

Unfortunately, we were not allowed to visually record the moment as part of the policy of the Nigerian Prison is prohibition of pictures in the prison environment for security reasons.

INSTILLING VISION IN YOUNG MINDS

A career talk programme was organized by the iLead team in two senior secondary schools in Lagos. Barrister Lauretta Usiade, an Human Resource practitioner was invited to speak to the students of Oduduwa High School, Mushin and Gec Comprehensive College, Ipaja on “Guide on how to choose your course of study/career for the future”.

Barrister Usiade did justice to the topic by stating some points to choosing a career course which includes the discovery of purpose, passion and individual's core strength and ability.

The Barrister also encouraged the students to attend classes every day, pay attention in classes, copy/write notes properly, keep smart friends and study daily. Also, she maximized time teaching on hard work and diligence in one's assigned duty and task.

At the end of the session, students with outstanding performances were given gifts to appreciate and motivate them to keep up with their good performances.

In an interview with the students, the students submitted that they were inspired and impacted by the teachings and accomplishment of the Barrister.



PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR 2019:

READERS CLUB FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:

The organization aims at starting a readers club targeted at developing reading culture and interpersonal skills among persons with disabilities. This project was initiated in order to mitigate the level of discrimination against persons with disabilities during employment opportunities, education and social benefits.

ESSAY COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS ACROSS THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA:

The organization also aims at starting an annual essay competition for secondary students in Nigeria. Topics of this competition will be largely influenced by the social issues of the nation at that time. Winner(s) will be given cash prizes.

TO EXECUTE MORE PROJECTS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES:

As part of her mission to improve the quality of education in Nigeria, iLead International intends going to rural communities outside Lagos to execute projects. These projects will basically be targeted at encouraging the less privileged to embrace education, establishing schools and improving the quality of schools in rural communities.





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NATION
BUILDERS**

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So instead, we bought a new beginning"*

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AS WE MAKE EVEN GREATER IMPACT

