

COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR EDUCATIONAL CHANGE WEB STRUCTURE

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Home
<p>Landing Page</p> <p>COEC Nigeria is working to ensure that every child gets quality education irrespective of social class and location. Every Child should learn. Location is no barrier!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Learn How</p> <p>Around 61 million primary school-age children remained out of school in 2014—a third of them in India, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Sudan, many from poor households. In Nigeria 71 percent of children from poor households were not attending school in 2013, compared with only 5 percent of children from rich households. There is also inequity in education between children from rural and urban areas in many countries: those from urban areas are almost three times more likely than children from rural areas to complete nine years of schooling... And girls are disadvantaged in either case. Girls from poor households are less likely than boys from poor households to complete nine years of schooling; and the trend is similar for girls from rural households.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Donate</p> <p>Our SDGs of Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 2 Zero Hunger • Goal 3 Good Health and Well-Being • Goal 4 Quality Education • Goal 5 Gender Equality • Goal 10 Reduced Inequalities • Goal 17 Partnership for the Goals <p>Where we Work</p> <p>We work in rural and disadvantaged communities of Northern Nigeria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southern Kaduna • Plateau State • Kebbi State <p>A Child's location should not determine the quality of education s/he gets. Every child should learn!</p>

The education of children in rural and disadvantaged communities is our collective responsibility.
Sign up to learn how you can help support COEC Nigeria and receive latest updates on our work...

COEC Nigeria	About	What We Do	Take Action
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About

Who We Are

Community Outreach for Educational Change is a non-profit organization that exists to influence the total school experience for children in rural and disadvantaged areas. It creates a platform for quality classroom experiences, renovation and redesign of classrooms, sets up school management systems and ensures that community schools are stocked with relevant learning resources in line with the 4th SDG.

Mission: To influence learning outcomes through educational interventions for quality education in rural and disadvantaged communities, one school at a time.

Vision: To reach all Nigerian children with quality education irrespective of their social class and location.

Philosophy: A child's location should not determine the quality of education s/he gets. We believe that consistent, purposeful collaborations and relevant educational interventions will give all Nigerian children a chance at enjoying quality education no matter their location.

Motto: Fixing today's student experience one school at a time.

Slogan: Educate, Empower, Liberate!

Objectives:

- To reach all rural children with quality education and present them with the options and endless possibilities that true education offers in and outside their immediate realities
- To empower teachers with more efficient 21st Century best practices in education for improved learning outcomes and global citizenship
- To motivate communities to become better and more active participants in the education of their children through meaningful and purposeful collaborations in influencing the educational process
- To ensure that education and all its participants are given the necessary attention needed to change current educational outcomes
- To broaden the mind of teachers and learners alike to the liberating yet equipping power found through exploring books

Progress Report

Since we started in 2016, your support and partnership has helped us accomplish a lot through the following projects.

The Rural English Literacy Program - REL

This which exists to give basic literacy skills to both teachers and learners in rural community schools for meaningful learning to occur through its free English Lessons and Book Club started in August 2016 with 96 school children in rural southern Kaduna of Kaduna State. In 2019 we set up a Literacy Centre. Painted, rugged and equipped with a plasma and cable tv, to enhance the teaching of basic literacy skills where 16 students are currently the first cohort of beneficiaries currently going through a Learning-to-Read curriculum package in ECWA Oakland Schools, Pisabu, Kebbi State. Thus we are currently running 1 Literacy Centre, 1 After School Literacy Program and have reached 8 rural community schools, 50 teachers and 342 school children.

2016

Extreme Makeover - School Edition

In our campaign for healthy and conducive learning environments in rural schools, we started this program in November 2016 and have been able to provide

- Pipe Borne Water to one public school in rural southern Kaduna
- 3 Painted Classrooms in two rural schools
- 2 white boards in one rural classroom
- 1 tiled classroom in one rural school
- A 3-in-1 machine for printing, photocopying and scanning in one rural school
- A repaired Well for clean drinking water in one rural school
- A WC Toilet in one rural school
- Total rehabilitation of a classroom into a Literacy Centre equipped with painted and decorated walls, Cable TV, a plasma, a mini Library, bulletin boards, a curriculum package, classroom furniture

2016

Teacher Volunteer Network - TVN

In our desire to see more qualified teachers in the classrooms spread across rural and disadvantaged areas, our TVN program started in 2016 with a team of 7 volunteers teaching various subjects in LGEA Primary School Samaru Kataf. One went on to volunteer as a Principal/Head Teacher in 2 rural schools till date. TVN helped us to directly influence learning outcomes and improve enrollment to school. TVN helped us provide Learning Materials ranging from photocopied worksheets, pencils, crayons, glue, scissors, exercise books, school uniforms, sandals, etc.) Through this program, 41 pupils got to see and use wax crayons for the first time and we have reached 847 pupils (and still counting) through this project.

Through our TVN volunteers, we have been able to implement the Teacher Development Forum in Kebbi which has had teachers meet for an hour once a week throughout the academic session to discuss on topics relating to their classroom practices. Through this we have reached 3 rural community schools, 50 teachers and 891 school children.

2016

Registration as an NGO

On the 9th day of OCTOBER 2017, Community Outreach for Educational Change- COEC got registered with the Corporate

Affairs Commission of Nigeria as an NGO.

2017

Curriculum Design:

In our desire to see that rural schools use age appropriate curricula, we were able to kickstart this project in September 2017 and so far, we have

- sourced for 3 age appropriate curriculum packages for preschool for 2 rural schools
- Registered one rural school with the ministry to allow the use of the curriculum
- trained three classroom teachers on the implementation of the packages and currently implementing them in two classrooms in Kebbi State.

2017

Scholarship Hub

We launched our scholarship scheme in September 2018. This is aimed at placing deserving rural kids in better schools. Through this, we have reached 11 families and 14 school children. We have also been able to facilitate the payment of WAEC fees for 16 Females spread across rural communities of Southern Kaduna in the just concluded Examinations

2018

The Teachers' Meet

Our annual 3 day conference for school owners, school administrators, teachers, and other Child Care Providers in rural communities tagged the Teachers' Meet launched in August 2018 has impacted over 100 schools and communities, over 300 teachers, school owners and school administrators and over 10,000 school children.

2018

Campaigns

Our campaigns namely #GetASchoolChildOffTheFloor; #FedToLearn; and #PayARuralTeacher were launched in 2019 and have so far provided classroom furniture, mattresses and salary support in 1 rural school community for 184 school children, 7 teachers and 4 volunteers. Through the Fed to Learn school feeding program, for two terms now, we have been giving free meals (both Breakfast and Lunch with Eggs) to 136 school children in ECWA Oakland Schools, Pisabu, Kebbi State.

2019

The School Project

2020

Team

- **Key Staff**
Bartholomew Benjamin - Regional Director, Northwest Nigeria
Gift Bonat - Volunteer Coordinator
Tabitha Ibrahim -
Gideon Andrew
James Awan Socfa
Godwin Gwani Fidelis
Jedidiah Thomas

- **Board and Advisory Council**

Swanta Blessing Bonat- Founder/Board Chair/Trustee

Swanta is the Executive Director of Community Outreach for Educational Change. Popularly known as Tr. Swanta, she is an educator with special interests in children development. She loves children and has been dedicated to the cause of ensuring that children acquire quality education, particularly children from rural areas. Prior to Community Outreach for Educational Change, Swanta worked as a Hostel Administrator at Africa International College, Abuja.

Armed with a B A in Education (CRS), a Masters degree in Christian Education and certified with the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria, she has a vast experience working at all levels of education and school systems. Her career started as a Class Assistant after which she rose through the ranks of being a Class Teacher, House Mistress, Hostel Administrator, School Administrator and now a School Manager. She has also undergone series of trainings and workshops which have given her the license to dare the odds in the profession.

In her journey to contribute to the education sector in Nigeria and in her approach to be the change she sought to see, she resigned her job and left the city of Abuja to pursue active educational evangelism – taking basic education to underserved and unreached communities. She founded Community Outreach for Educational Change- COEC in 2016 to enable her accomplish the singular goal of reaching more children with quality education regardless of their ethnicity, religion, location, social status, political affiliation or age.

Swanta uses her social media platforms to inspire sacrifice and educational activism amongst many of her followers through the detailed narrations of her experiences in the various schools and educational interventions she has been involved with. A journey through her Public School Experience and HeadTeacherDiaries series on Facebook will leave you drawn into the plight of the many school children in rural and disadvantaged communities. Through these narrations, many school children in rural communities have been reached. Swanta has gotten many awards in recognition of her contributions as a teacher and especially as a school leader who worries about the welfare of her staff and students. And also had many interviews and features on online magazines, educational websites and social media pages.

Swanta also serves on the board of Thinking Cap Literacy Initiative another NGO whose main goal is to roll back illiteracy among Nigerian children and teenagers using various creative methods.

Mark Paul Amaza - Trustee

Mark Amaza is a sustainable development professional currently working in circular economy, specifically used-battery management and recycling.

He has previously worked in off-grid renewable energy access and sustainable development policy.

He is a co-founder of MINDcapital, a brands and strategy firm.

Mark is passionate about youth development through education, entrepreneurship and political participation.

Besides serving on the board of the Community Outreach for Educational Change, he is also a member of the Strategy Team of the Not Too Young To Run Movement, which seeks to increase youth political participation in Nigeria.

He holds a degree in Environmental Management from the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi.

Onoviran Orimisan Onoviran - Trustee

Onoviran Orimisan-Onoviran, a Senior Assistant Manager, is the Head of Marketing Zenithbank Jos Branch

Onoviran has over 17 years of banking experience especially in Marketing. He has worked in Kano, Sokoto, Niger and Kaduna States as both Head of Marketing and Branch Manager. He has headed various marketing units in Northern Nigeria.

A graduate of International Studies of the prestigious Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, he proceeded to the Usmanu Danfodio University Sokoto where he obtained a Masters in Public Administration.

He has done various trainings in Credit analysis, Accounting/Financial analysis, High Performance Sales, Operational Risk, Sustainability, Environmental and Social Risk Management.

He is a passionate voice for equitable access to a better world through quality education and sustainable innovation in Nigeria which made him establish his own NGO to reach out to young people in primary and post primary schools with quality education. He is an outspoken education advocate and has used the powerful tool of advocacy and community engagement to speak out for quality education so as to bring change to the Nigerian system of education.

He also serves on the board of EE&M Integrated a Micro- Credit company as a Financial Consultant.

Philip Hayab John - COEC School Governing Board Chair

Philip is a teacher educator with strong experience strengthening pre-service and in-service teachers' capacity, developing teaching, and learning resources to strengthen learner-centred pedagogy. In addition to being a teacher educator, Philip provides education development and technical support as a Master Trainer, Educational Facilitator, Consultant and Education Quality Assurance (EQA) Advisor, enabling best classroom practices for improvements and better-quality learning outcomes, supporting the British Council, UNICEF, UBEC, NSF Developments Ltd - World Bank-led programmes and DFID funded projects. Equally, Philip has a catalogue of publications on Language Teaching and Development and speaks at conferences and the community level promoting a multilingual approach to teaching and instruction.

Partners

EMS of ECWA
Hedges of Mercy Nigeria
Viable Community Initiatives
The Deborah BTS Foundation
The Global Student Alliance
Teacher Swanta Consults
Thinking Cap Literacy Initiative
New Frontiers Youth Forum
Mentor an African Child Initiative
U Chess
Rayfield Chess Club
Global Leaders and Readers Club
Transcend Leadership Foundation
Teach For Change Nigeria
The Protégé Network

Events

1. JANUARY

24th International Day of Education
Every Friday: Community Day

2. FEBRUARY

3rd Community Innovation Lab- All Programs Begin
(BookClub, Game Hub, TDF, Adult Education etc)
6th Awareness on Female Genital Mutilation
Every Friday: Community Day

3. MARCH

1st Zero Discrimination Day
8th International Women's Day Event
21st World Poetry Day
Every Friday: Community Day

4. APRIL

21st World Creativity and Innovation Day (21st)
23rd World Book Day
Every Friday: Community Day

5. MAY

16th International Day of the Boy Child
25th Africa Day
27th Children's Day
28th Menstrual Hygiene Day
Every Friday: Community Day

6. JUNE

5th World Environmental Day

7th World Food Safety Day

12th World Day Against Child Labour

19th Fathers' Day

Every Friday: Community Day

7. JULY

1st - 31st COEC Month

15th World Youth Skill Day

20th World Chess Day

25th Inter School Competitions (Quiz, Essays, Bees, Performing Arts, Cooking, Pageants, Games, etc)

Every Friday: Community Day

8. AUGUST

2nd - 27th Holiday BootCamp and Annual Convention for Students

19th World Humanitarian Day

19th - 21st Teachers' Meet 3.0

23rd Day of Sign Language

Every Friday: Community Day

9. SEPTEMBER

8th World Literacy Day

1st - 30th COEC Model Schools Month

18th World Cleanup Day

Every Friday: Community Day

10. OCTOBER

5th World Teachers' Day (TASON Launch/Community Teacher Awards)

11th International Day of the Girl Child

SOHGOS Event (SoSheCanSchool Campaign)

Every Friday: Community Day

11. NOVEMBER

10th - 12th Inter School Competitions

19th International Men's Day

20th World Children's Day

Every Friday: Community Day

12. DECEMBER

3rd International Day of People with Disabilities

16th End of Year Funfair for Schools

Every Friday: Community Day

Two

Our Work

Programs

- **School Interventions:** We visit and intervene in community schools to ensure that their school environment is conducive for learning. Designated buildings, Classroom furniture, hostel facilities etc
- **Educational Consulting:** We offer services to schools and their owners on best practices and all that pertains education in the 21st century
- **School Management Systems:** We help set up school management systems in community schools located in rural and disadvantaged areas
- **Teacher Retraining:** Knowing that the quality of education is solely determined by the quality of teachers, we offer various forms of teacher retraining via conferences, workshops, seminars and competitions. We use fora like our annual Teachers' Meet and weekly Teacher Development Forum.
- **Teacher Recruitment and Placement:** we help schools recruit and train teachers for placements. We also recruit volunteers who are willing to commit to teaching in underserved areas for a minimum of two years through our Teacher Volunteer Network.
- **School Documentaries and Teacher Profiling:** we help collect important data about schools hardly talked of and highlight their stories, triumphs and challenges in order to make way for appropriate attention to be given to them. We also focus on telling the stories of various teachers across various states of the country and provide a platform for them to talk about the profession and how the journey has been for them. We do this through Teachers and Students of Nigeria- TASON and Schools of Nigeria- SON
- **Holiday Boot Camps:** We host an annual Holiday Boot Camp for students solely focused on teaching them life skills for global citizenship. Vocational skills, computer skills, performing arts, social etiquettes,
- **Guidance and Counseling:** we offer career guidance and counselling services to students to prepare them for successful lives after school.
- **Student Annual Conventions and Interschool Competitions:** we organize competitions amongst schools to promote inter school networking and innovative collaborations.
- **Curriculum Design:** to ensure relevant and meaningful learning occurs in schools, we recommend, prescribe and administer age appropriate curriculum packages

Projects

- Business Summit for Schools
- Prefects Leadership Summit for Schools
- **Community Innovation Lab:** A hub for teachers and students in rural communities to access 21st Century learning resources for better teaching and learning outcomes. Highlights include; Teacher Development Forum (TDF), Rural English

Literacy (REL), Public Library, Game Hub, Book Club, Lab Extras

- **Rural English Literacy- REL:** Exists to give basic literacy skills to both teachers and learners in rural community schools for meaningful learning to occur through its free English Lessons and Book Club. It is currently running 1 Literacy Centre, 1 After School Literacy Program and has reached 8 rural community schools, 50 teachers and 342 school children
- **REL Book Club:** this has school children meet to listen to stories read to them and interact with books.
- **The Teachers' Meet:** The Teachers' Meet is an annual 3 day conference for school owners, school administrators, teachers, and other Child Care Providers in rural communities. For the past two years it has reached. Over 100 schools and communities. Over 300 teachers, school owners and school administrators. Over 10,000 school children
- **Teacher Development Forum:** provides in-house continuous professional development to teachers in rural schools through a variety of topics. Since 2016, it has reached. 3 rural community schools. 50 teachers. 891 school children
- **Teacher Volunteer Network:** there are a lot of rural communities in Nigeria without schools nor access to schools. Our current focus is on North West Nigeria where many of such typical communities are begging for schools to be established in their communities. We train, equip and send out volunteer teachers to such communities. These volunteers start and set up COEC Literacy Centers that will eventually transition to full-fledged schools built and sustained by such host communities.
- **Public Library:** A school without a functional library is hugely handicapped. A library is the sustaining life of any school that thrives. Many public schools do not have libraries and where they have them, such libraries are poorly equipped with the relevant books and materials that aid teaching (for the teacher) and learning (for the student).

To this, COEC's Public Library Program exists to solely serve both teachers and students in equipping them with up-to-date books. Semi libraries equipped with all relevant textbooks in all subject areas for both primary and secondary school levels will be set up in (rural/low income) schools.

Public libraries will be set up in choice locations across the country for use by members of the host communities.

However, COEC is currently running a model library at its Community Innovation Lab in Takau, Kafanchan of Kaduna State.

- **Scholarship Hub:** One of the greatest threats to the students is being able to pay school fees. 80% of the students are coming from daunting backgrounds that do not empower them to pursue an education. Being in school can be emotionally and mentally sapping for them as a result of the economic pressure they have to bear. Often, food is even a problem. Thanks to those who donate food items. This exists to provide scholarship opportunities for children in rural areas or low income homes and gives children the opportunity to get sponsorship to schools in their communities and also to better schools outside their rural communities up till the tertiary level. A hub is created where individuals can partner with COEC and send a child to school. This way, children from families that cannot afford to pay their children's school fees through post primary education get a chance at a decent education paid for by other well-meaning individuals or corporate bodies.
- **The School Project:** This program exists to provide high quality education for children in rural communities or from low income homes. The building of a modern boarding school facility equipped with a school clinic and a feeding program; a Community Innovation Lab which would have a fully-equipped and functional public library, an ICT/Research Hub to teach

computer skills and a Game Hub for play therapy sessions is in view. This will exist to pick children from the worst of living conditions and give them an opportunity to develop, grow like normal children should and give them top notch quality education to enable them become global citizens. This group of schools will be from Preschool through High School.

- **Documentary and Profiling:** this project exists to highlight schools, teachers and students in Nigeria especially in rural and disadvantaged communities. This it does via the following platforms:
 - a. Teachers and Students of Nigeria (TASON):** Little attention is given to the stories of the great and committed teachers that have worked tirelessly to uphold the education sector and make a difference from the teaching profession. TASON will serve as a platform that puts teachers on the spotlight by profiling them and sharing their individual stories as it relates to the collective story of teachers who have served or are still serving in Nigeria. This will be done in print and online via a website and social media platforms. TOFN will not be focused on a particular aspect of teacher life or on teachers from specific regions. It will focus on any and every aspect of the story that the teachers desire to share with the world cut across all parts of the country likewise students from all levels of education.
 - b. Schools of Nigeria (SON):** This platform exists to solely talk about the thousands of schools spread across Nigeria. SON will tell the story of Schools and how they were established, how many communities they serve, staff strength, condition of school structures, student population, access to good roads, community involvement, alumni, etc.
- **Extreme Makeover: School Edition:** Exists to ensure healthy learning environments in rural and disadvantaged communities. Hence, it handles school rehabilitation for deserving schools to ensure conducive learning environments for better learning outcomes.
Pipe Borne Water, Water Closet, 3 classrooms, 3 community schools

Campaigns

- **#GetASchoolChildOffTheFloor:** exists to assist rural community schools with appropriate classroom furniture and hostel facilities, 8 Tables, 64 Chairs, 100 Mattresses, 184 School Children, 1 Rural School Community
- **#FedToLearn:** exists to feed students rural schools healthier meals in our fight against malnutrition, stunted growth and hunger as a barrier to learning. and get their teachers paid to aid and improve the quality of teaching and learning.
- **#PayARuralTeacher- PaRT:** exists to give salary support to teachers in rural and disadvantaged communities
- **#SoSheCanSchool:** this campaign is focused on equipping the girl child with basic skills that will enable her to get an education without interruptions nor limitations.

Three

Our Stories

Impact Stories

- REL
- Literacy Centre
- The School Project
- Business Summit
- Prefects Retreat
- School Feeding Program
- Community Innovation Lab
- Extreme Makeover
- Community Interschool Competitions
- Teacher Retraining -The Teachers' Meet, TDF and SDF

Blog Posts

Annual Reports

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- 2021
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Financial Reports

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- 2016/2017