



# Annual Report 2018

## House of Mercy Children's Home Lagos, Nigeria (HOM)

NGO No CAC/IT/No 21690

### Preamble

It is with mixed feelings that we arrive at the end of an extremely productive 2018. While we are very grateful for all that we have achieved throughout the year, we have been deeply saddened and shocked by the internecine strife and the tragic events that unfolded in Nigeria this year. Our deepest sympathies are with the victims of these incidents and their families.

Never has working with children been as important or as challenging as it is today. Our health, literacy rates, air and water quality and affordable housing are the factors that reflect our quality of life as a nation and that quality of life is being compromised daily by poverty.

At House of Mercy Children's Home Lagos, Nigeria (HOM), our overarching mission is to support children who are marginalised, disadvantaged and excluded in society, improve their wellbeing and help them achieve their full potential. Not only do we design, implement and manage impactful programmes that support children when they are at their most vulnerable and in desperate need of help but we also embed child rights and child safeguarding in our programmes.

2018 has been a year of continued and significant growth and we achieved enormous progress across every area of our operations from nutrition, health care, education, poverty relief and humanitarian assistance to child protection and advocacy. There have also been numerous unforeseen tasks that have kept us busy on top of our other duties.

This report sets out House of Mercy Children's Home Lagos, Nigeria's (HOM) progress towards its vision and mission between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2018.

To gain further insight into our work, we invite you to visit our [website](#). A PDF version of our brochure titled [HOM in a Nutshell](#) featuring major highlights of our work from October 2006 to October 2018 is also available on our website.



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## Our Year at a Glance

### Child Feeding Programme

Growing up healthy has become quite a challenge in Nigeria. Simply having access to food, let alone a good, square meal, can be a daily struggle for the average family.

Although food insecurity is harmful to any individual, the impact of hunger on children can be absolutely devastating due to their increased vulnerability and the potential for long-term consequences.

Since the launch of our Child Feeding Programme (Mobile Kitchen) to combat child hunger twelve years ago, we have provided over 200,000 highly nutritious and life-saving meals to child beggars, street children, child scavengers and other needy and vulnerable children and distributed grocery items to over 2000 destitute families in Lagos, Oyo and Ogun States in Nigeria.



At a time when there have never been so many hungry people in Nigeria, providing people with sustainable options of legitimate livelihoods is critical to breaking the cycle of poverty and helping them become self-sufficient. However, we do not see a wholehearted commitment on the part of the government to realistically address these needs.

In an attempt to provide some kind of solace to families living in grinding poverty, we engaged in multiple actions of solidarity on a monthly basis throughout 2018. The video of one of our actions of solidarity titled [Solidarity with the Poor](#) is available on our YouTube Channel.

The video of our 2018 [Christmas outreach](#) to disadvantaged children, the elderly, destitute families and disabled persons is also available on our YouTube channel.

### Child Hygiene Programme



Many children living in poverty lack appropriate clothing and shoes and most of these children must have shoes in order to attend school.

In 2018, we distributed children's clothing, shoes, diapers, toiletries as well as adults clothing to over 2000 children and families living in abject poverty to help protect them from over-exposure to the elements and enable children to actively participate in school.

## Children's Home



House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM) is a children's organisation that passionately believes every child has the right to a happy, healthy and positive childhood.

Through our children's home, we are enabling homeless children to have a safe and secure place to live. We are helping children heal from the trauma of abuse and neglect and improving their access to education and healthcare. Most importantly we are giving them hope.

In 2018, we welcomed 6 children (3 girls and 3 boys) into our children's home. While some of the 60 children who have passed through our children's home since March 2011 have been reconciled with their families, those who have no home or parents to care for them; and those who cannot be safely reunited with their families remain in our care. We provide security and the right support to build brighter futures for children who are unable, temporarily or permanently, to live with their birth families.

In 2018, we prepared a video featuring holiday activities of children in our children's home. The [video](#) can be viewed on our YouTube Channel. A playlist of [School Holiday Events](#) can also be viewed on our YouTube channel.

## Child Health Programme



Across Africa, countless sick children do not have access to the healthcare necessary for their survival and development. Living in poverty, in remote regions, or in the midst of political turmoil, many children facing life-threatening and/or complex medical situations are unable to receive the specialised medical care they need.

In 2018, in an attempt to address the unmet surgical needs of some of these children, we provided assistance for life-saving surgeries, medical care, and support to enable sick children who could not be operated in their home countries to be transferred to another country to undergo surgery and receive the medical treatment they require to live a healthy and happy life.



## Child Education Programme

The situation with regard to education continued to be of concern in 2018.

Although there is sufficient documentary evidence to demonstrate that education plays a vital role in lifting people out of poverty and that the education of girls has a positive bearing on the whole of society, education for children of poor families is often sacrificed due to the need for their labour thus creating a vicious circle of poverty. Simply put, poverty is both a barrier to accessing education and a consequence of lack of access and insufficient education.

From mobile schools and school sponsorship to informal literacy programmes and educational support, HOM strives to ensure that girls, children with disabilities, child beggars, street children, and other categories of excluded children, whom no one thinks of educating, have access to learning as a step towards greater opportunity, freedom and empowerment.

It would not be an overstatement to say that one of the greatest legacies that one generation can leave to another is access to educational opportunities.



## Children with Disabilities



**DISABILITY  
AWARENESS**

At House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM), our goal is to contribute positively to a country where children with learning, physical or other disabilities have opportunities to experience a better quality of life, increased independence and self-esteem.

As such, we constantly strive to bring disability issues out of the social shadows and improve both the support and understanding that is available to children with disabilities.

In 2018, we prepared a video titled Disability Awareness featuring some of our actions of solidarity with children with disabilities. The video is available on our [Video Gallery](#) and also on our [YouTube Channel](#).

We also have an article entitled "[Children with Disabilities: An Invisible Group in Need of Attention](#)" available in English, French and Spanish on our website.

## Humanitarian Assistance: IDPs in Northeast Nigeria



For the fifth consecutive year in 2018, we continued to step up our efforts to provide much needed assistance to children and families in crisis in the Northeast region of Nigeria particularly in the three worst-affected states of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe in northern Nigeria.

The complexity of the operational and security issues in the region continues to create challenges and constraints for humanitarian operations.

The video of our emergency humanitarian assistance work in the Northeast region of Nigeria is available on our [Video Gallery](#) and also on our [YouTube Channel](#).

The video aims to raise awareness about the plight, courage and resilience of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Northeast Nigeria.

## Humanitarian Assistance: Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

The Democratic Republic of Congo is experiencing extreme poverty and tribulation as a result of over three decades of internal armed conflict that have devastated infrastructure, ruined the economy and brought about massive suffering and mass population displacement.

At Bukavu in the Democratic Republic of Congo traumatised by years of conflict, violence and poverty, we are focusing on delivering lifesaving services and supplies for most vulnerable children and their families, many of whom are facing severe food insecurity and malnutrition.

We are also striving to support child education programmes to ensure that interruptions to the education of this vulnerable group of children are minimised.





We are working against a backdrop of violence, political instability and several obstacles hindering the provision of life-saving humanitarian assistance. These include lack of shelter and basic necessities for survival as a result of the destruction of homes, food stocks, and the looting of property and livestock.

There is still a lot to be done because even in areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo not directly affected by the conflict, a considerable number of children live in multi-dimensional poverty.

The video of our humanitarian assistance work in Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo is available on our [Video Gallery](#) and also on our [YouTube Channel](#)

## Humanitarian Assistance Programme - Africa



During the past 12 years, House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM) has worked in some of the most difficult areas and in conflict and high-risk zones to assist some of Africa's most deprived and marginalised children irrespective of their origin, ethnicity, gender or religion.

Our humanitarian assistance programme has created opportunities for us to work closely with local NGOs and grassroots organisations to find durable solutions to the problems of refugees, displaced people and others affected by internal conflict across Africa.

By working with grassroots organisations who not only understand the languages of the affected populations and are familiar with the cultural and political setting but also have a proven record of addressing the needs of their communities, we are more adequately able to assist vulnerable populations by providing for basic needs such as homes, potable water, access to food, education, health care and income generating activities.

We work wherever there is great need and the geographical reach of our [humanitarian assistance work](#) includes the following:

- [Northeast region of Nigeria](#)
- [Democratic Republic of Congo](#)
- [Central African Republic](#)
- [Ebola affected nations](#) (Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea)
- [The Sahel](#)
- [Horn of Africa](#)

In our work, we see children and families across Africa suffering daily from the consequences of corruption at every level and in all fields, corporate greed, constant looting of African resources, the terror of violence, the complicity of politicians in wars, government ignorance and inaction, indifference and silence on the part of the main social players and the acquiescence, complicity and involvement of the international community for economic interests.

All political attempts to sweep things under the carpet will be to no avail because Africans are becoming increasingly aware of what is really happening in Africa.

Through our programmes in Nigeria and across Africa, we will continue to address the root causes of poverty and injustice, organise solidarity initiatives for poverty alleviation and promote solutions and actions that really correspond to the complexity of Africa's political and economic problems.

We operate all our humanitarian activities from our [main office](#) in Lagos, Nigeria. We do not have branch offices in any other country in Africa. Please [beware](#) of fictitious branch offices as well as fake agents and ambassadors!

## Child Protection and Advocacy

Part of our work at House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM) includes advocating for children's interests, rights and welfare. Our advocacy work includes undertaking research and publishing articles on current topics related to children's interest, rights or welfare. We continually endeavour to include the views and voices of children in all we do.

Given our relatively small size, we always need to work strategically to influence others to deliver the services and support that poor, oppressed and marginalised children need to thrive.

We have been deeply appalled and profoundly saddened by the alarming increase of child abuse cases including the sale of children by their birth parents and families in 2018. In an attempt to trigger action and create a safer society for children, we published a video entitled [Stop Child Abuse](#). The video is available in English and French on our [video gallery](#) and on our [YouTube channel](#). We encourage you to play an active role in helping to change practices and attitudes, raise awareness and combat violence against children by sharing this video with your family, friends and colleagues.

Protecting children from commercial sexual exploitation, worst forms of child labour, child trafficking and migration and child abuse is a very important aspect of our work. Articles we have published in recent years to raise public awareness and highlight steps to take to prevent, recognise and react responsibly to the reality of child abuse include "[Child Abuse is Everyone's Problem](#)", [The Little Match Girl](#) and [There is a Mouse Trap in the House](#). These articles are also available in French and Spanish on our [Blogger](#) page

Simplified versions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#) are available on our website to facilitate an awareness of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

The [Events](#) Page of our website also includes a list of dates for raising awareness and understanding of the key issues facing children.

This disturbing upward trend of child abuse underscores the need for each one of us to protect children from becoming victims of exploitation, neglect and abuse. The challenge for all of us, government officials, policy makers, criminal, civil, and social justice systems, the media, community leaders, civil society organisations, NGOs and the general public, is to work together to end this scourge.

House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM) is a member of the Child Protection Network, Alimosho Local Government, Lagos State Chapter. We will continue to work closely with government agencies, community organisations, groups and individuals and actively take part in the collective efforts aimed at devising measures to halt child abuse and make Nigeria a safer place for children.

## Telephone Counselling and Email Enquiries on Child-related Issues

In 2018, we witnessed a substantial increase in the number of telephone calls and e-mails received with callers and email enquirers seeking assistance and practical advice on a wide range of child-related issues.

As a one-stop-shop for enquiries on child-related issues, we aim to help enquirers by providing information and support. If an enquirer requires support that does not fall within the scope of our NGO, we refer them to other organisations that are able to offer the appropriate support.

## Charity Scam: A No-Holds-Barred Cybercrime

Throughout the year, we continued to alert the public about incidents of fraudulent money transfer schemes and scams being perpetrated in the name of House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM) through our [Scam Alert](#) and [Disclaimer](#) pages, a [Scam Alert Video](#) and regular updates on our social media platforms.

Charity scam is one of the most sickening manifestations of the growing phenomenon of cybercrime and children's charity scam is more sickening still.

Clearly, these scammers have no scruples nor do they have any compassion in the face of human suffering and misfortune of the vulnerable and neglected children we strive to assist.

Many will agree that how well a nation which values moral principles lives up to its ideals is crucially dependent on the principles of the individuals who comprise it.

Majority of the social ills in our society stem from an unbridled greed for wealth and power and contempt for and insensitivity towards the poor. It is not unusual to find the poorest members of the population exploited and oppressed because they cannot pay the bribes necessary to obtain essential services.

When high standards of integrity and probity are not upheld in every sphere of the society, we can hardly expect the standards in politics to be any higher. It further follows that If we all act without regard for the welfare of Nigeria or the common good, we can hardly complain about political leaders being more concerned with holding the reins of power than they are interested in the health and welfare of the nation.

From time immemorial, the greatest battle has been that of man's inhumanity against his fellow man and that battle can only be won in the bedrock institution of society, the family. Indeed, the family is the natural environment for the growth and well-being of children and it is where we learn values of integrity of character, interest and respect for fellow human beings, civic responsibility and patriotism.

We therefore appeal to parents and all those who have an influence on children to teach the emerging generation the 'Golden Rule' as well as ethical and moral principles so that they can follow the better path.



## Africa Wake Up Campaign



In 2018, we launched our [Africa Wake Up](#) campaign against poverty and injustice.

The [Africa Wake Up](#) campaign is built around the following three notions:

- First, we are in this together. When one of us is threatened, we are all at risk.
- Second, it is our responsibility, as Africans, to solve our own problems. We should not delude ourselves into thinking that other countries, international organisations or the myriad of charitable and non-profit organisations will solve our problems for us. History has proved this time and again.
- The third notion is that there is probably no more compelling form of power than the force of large numbers of people united for a common cause and for the common good.

Over the past 12 months, we worked tirelessly and patiently to raise awareness, educate, engage and mobilise Africans, both in Africa and in the Diaspora, in the fight against poverty and injustice through both online interactions via social media and face-to-face interactions.

The question that frequently comes to mind as we seek to capture people's attention and interest is: Why do people, even those most affected by poverty and injustices, seem disconnected and disengaged?

Ruben Um Nyobé (1913-1958), the first African political leader to claim independence for his country Cameroon before the General Assembly of the United Nations and who was assassinated in 1958 said:

Naive Africans or those acting in bad faith, to justify their unwillingness to defend our interests, claim not to meddle in politics, because they have been told in the corridors of power that politics is a bad thing. Politics affects everything and everything affects politics. To say that one does not meddle in politics is to admit that one does not have the desire to live. Do not meddle in politics, for the authorities and the colonial government in general, simply means that you must not defend your interests. This can be translated as: "Do only my politics, the one that approves my injustice and my unlawful activities".

We are still turning pages in our history, and every new page offers opportunities to Africans who wish to do something of significance to put African nations on the path of self-government and self-sustained economic development.

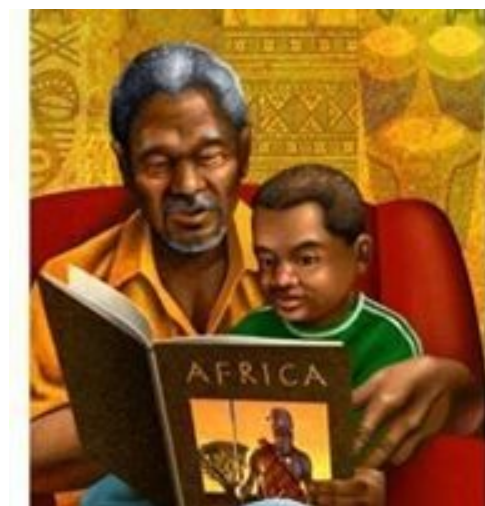
Our Africa Wake Up blog is available in English and French at the following addresses: <http://africa-wake-up.blogspot.fr> and <http://afrique-reveille-toi.blogspot.fr>

Our Africa, Wake Up video can be viewed on our [Video Gallery](#) and on our [YouTube](#) channel.

Our article [Africa: from Neo-Colonialism to True Independence](#) is also available on the Africa News website

## Commemorative Events

### Africa Day - May 25



H.I.M. Haile Selassie 1 of Ethiopia (1892-1975), who played an instrumental role in establishing the African Union (formerly known as Organisation of African Unity), in his speech to the delegates of the first gathering of the independent African Nations at the launch of the OAU in Addis Ababa on May 25, 1963 said:

An awareness of our past is essential to the establishment of our personality and our identity as Africans.

How very true! A lack of understanding and unbiased knowledge of African history leaves plenty of room for presumptions and assumptions.

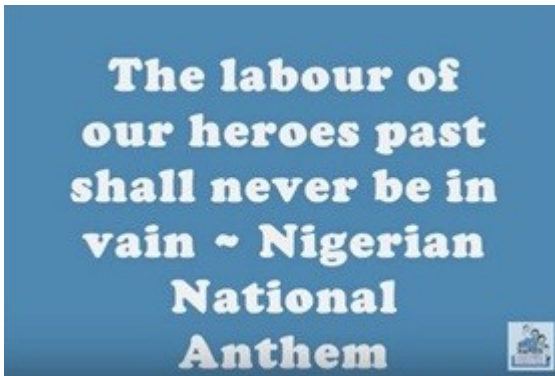
At House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM), we are very enthusiastic about sharing stories of Africa's rich history.

We have compiled historical documents and pictures in the form of videos that offer glimpses back to the very beginnings of the human race, as well as several historiographies about specific periods in Africa's history.

Our videos are rich with images and are designed to allow those who wish to expand their knowledge of history to learn more.

The videos are available in English and French on the [Video Gallery](#) page of our website and also in the [History Corner](#) of our YouTube channel.

## Independence Day, Nigeria – October 1



We stand on the shoulders of all the great men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice for a free and independent Africa.

Without the steadfastness and resilience of these great African revolutionaries and freedom fighters over the many long years of oppression, suffering and struggle to achieve their legitimate national aspirations and inalienable human rights, including their rights to self-determination and to freedom, we would not be who we are.

We owe them and their families a tremendous debt of gratitude for their sacrifices for this continent and their willingness to ensure a brighter future for the African people.

In an effort to honour the memory of all the sung and unsung African heroes and heroines and nameless campaigners for freedom who gave their lives in the defence of freedom, we prepared a video titled Homage to African Revolutionaries and Freedom Fighters on the 58<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the independence of Nigeria. The [video](#) is available on our YouTube channel.

The onus is on us to continue the struggle of our independence heroes for a fully sovereign and politically and economically independent Africa while paving the way for future generations to go even further and accomplish much more.

## World Food Day - October 16

The inability of Africa's agriculture to match the needs of its growing population not only keeps millions of people hungry but it also compels the continent to spend billions of dollars on food imports annually.

Given the continent's vast land resources suitable for agriculture, about 60 percent of which are unutilised, and ample freshwater bodies, Africa must rise to the challenge and reverse the perennial food deficit scenario.



We commemorated World Food Day on October 16, 2018 with a child feeding outreach programme which extended into Oyo state, a distance of about 231km from Lagos State where HOM is based. Our [World Food Day 2018](#) video is available on our YouTube channel.



## Challenges Encountered

### Ideological Colonisation: The Insidious Cost of Development Aid

An extremely troubling phenomenon we are seeing throughout Africa is that of ideological colonisation through which western countries impose population policies and programmes, in many of the same countries they once physically colonised, in exchange for development aid.

The specious argument about the need for population control in Africa is largely a red herring for at least two reasons.

- First of all, Africa is one of the most under-populated continents on the planet in terms of land mass.
- Secondly, it addresses only the symptoms, without addressing the root causes of the problems.

More perniciously, claiming that contraception is a lifeline out of poverty or forcing women not to have children by secretly sterilising them is a flagrant violation of their most basic human rights. This is tragic, to say the least.

The issue of population control is both complex and controversial. And like any topic, the more controversial the issue, the more opinions.

When this issue is discussed, one of the most troubling points is the way in which things are not seen from the point of view of those directly affected by the problem but from a western perspective.

This problem, among many others, shows how useful it would be to reject the imposition of solutions from outside when seeking solutions to our continent's political and economic problems, and instead support the solutions developed from the ground up by Africans in the different African countries.

Simply stated, the problem of Africa is not overpopulation but the inability of African governments to enact coherent policies and programmes aimed specifically at addressing issues of food security and education and are more clearly focused on growth and poverty reduction.

#### **1. The Inability to Enact Innovative Policies for Agricultural Productivity**

As mentioned earlier in this report, the inability of Africa's agriculture to match the needs of its growing population not only keeps millions of people hungry but it also compels the continent to spend billions of dollars on food imports annually. Given the continent's vast land resources suitable for agriculture, about 60 percent of which are unutilised, and ample freshwater bodies, Africa must rise to the challenge and reverse the perennial food deficit scenario.

Lack of access to electricity is another major challenge hampering economic development in Africa. Food security cannot be achieved without sufficient energy. Energy drives not only agricultural production but also transportation, trade and consumption. An insufficient energy supply and limited access to generated power have contributed immensely to the persistence of poverty in Africa.

Africa's capacity to feed itself now and in the future, drive its economic growth and provide employment opportunities for its young and rapidly growing population will require the adoption and implementation of agricultural development and energy policies by African governments.

## 2. The Inability to Develop and Implement Education Policies and Programmes

As stated previously in this report, although there is sufficient documentary evidence to demonstrate that education plays a vital role in lifting people out of poverty and that the education of girls has a positive bearing on the whole of society, education for children of poor families is often sacrificed due to the need for their labour, thus creating a vicious circle of poverty. In other words, poverty is both a barrier to accessing education and a consequence of lack of access and insufficient education.

The challenge to African countries, therefore, is not only to expand education opportunities to encompass children from poor families but also to ensure access to lifelong learning for all and in particular for those with the lowest levels of education and skills.

These are all economic, social and education policy issues that fundamentally need to be addressed. However, policies alone will not solve our problems.

## 3. The Need for Development Cooperation through Commercial Relations between Equals

It is equally necessary to question the concept of “aid for development”. Aid for development is a clear case of the emperor’s new clothes. Everyone can see that it does not work but no one dares to say so publicly. Aid for Development is undoubtedly one of the major obstacles to poverty eradication and economic growth in Africa. It is high time to move on from extolling development aid and to set about development cooperation through commercial relations between equals.

Any nation that wishes to remain fully sovereign and politically and economically independent must carry a very substantial load of personal responsibility for its own well-being. The paths of escape from the conditions mentioned above require that we make sustained and disciplined efforts to mobilise our own material, intellectual and moral resources for investment in our own economic future.

A point that was frequently reiterated in our [Africa Wake Up](#) campaign is that African nations should take the bull by the horns and explore and choose their own path to development rather than allow themselves to be bribed, bullied or intimidated politically, financially and economically.

If we address these underlying drivers of poverty instead of attempting to tackle the symptoms, vulnerable populations will find their way out of poverty.

We look forward to a day when African Governments will fully assume their responsibilities, build their own solutions, take ownership of their own futures and boldly protect Africans from predators of all kinds who seek to impose their own values and laws.

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*Aid for Development is undoubtedly one of the major obstacles to poverty eradication and economic growth in Africa.*

*It is high time to move on from extolling development aid and to set about development cooperation through commercial relations between equals.*

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## Financial Overview

Financial year 2018 was another successful year, albeit challenging, for House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM) against a backdrop of significant economic uncertainty.

Our 2019 Strategic Plan looks at strategies to increase not only public awareness of our programmes but also to increase the support that will flow from this raised awareness.

We are committed to helping as many children as possible today while ensuring that we have the funds available to help tomorrow's children and our strategy reflects this position.

Copies of our [financial statements](#) are available on our website. These documents reflect how we support and sustain our mission through responsible financial management.

House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM) is funded entirely by the voluntary contributions of individuals, companies and foundations. All donations, large and small, regular and occasional, make a huge difference in the lives of the children we serve.

House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM) cautions the public to beware of money transfer (Western Union, MoneyGram) scams implying association with House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM). Our official email address is [contact@homchildrenshome.org](mailto:contact@homchildrenshome.org) and we do not communicate with our supporters with any other email address. Neither do we send messages to random people on social media platforms or on digital hangouts requesting for donations.

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## Objectives for 2019

The future holds great opportunities and challenges for House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM). Focus and determination has brought us this far on our journey and such resolve will sustain us as we continue to advance on many fronts.

In 2019, we aim to significantly scale up our reach and impact as we continue to deliver and develop high quality programmes which make a real and measurable difference in the lives of deprived and marginalised children.

Within the limits of available funds, we will gear all our actions to the priority areas outlined below as we strive to meet the unmet nutritional, health, educational and protection needs of needy and vulnerable children.

1. [Reduction of child hunger and malnutrition through provision and distribution of free nutritious meals](#)
2. [Education through school sponsorship including girls' empowerment and literacy projects](#)
3. [Family preservation and reunification through reintegration of children into family and community-based care](#)
4. [Reduction of child homelessness through provision of family-based residential home](#)
5. [Child protection and advocacy](#)
6. [Humanitarian assistance and health care programmes for children and families in crisis across Africa](#)

As our strategy and activities evolve, we will continue to highlight our progress on our [website](#).

In 2019, we also intend to carry on with our [Africa Wake Up](#) campaign against poverty and injustice. Our purpose is to challenge the power structures that fuel poverty and injustice while promoting responsible and responsive governance.

Suffice to say, the average person throughout Africa is not seeking Utopia but the opportunity to live a decent, dignified life and the ability to work, feed his family adequately every day, educate his children and have proper housing, potable water, sanitation, access to electricity, health care and other essential resources.

At House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM), we dare to believe it is possible.

Marcus Garvey (1887-1940), whose lifelong mission was the redemption and emancipation of "Africans at home and abroad" said:

All of us may not live to see the higher accomplishment of an African Empire, so strong and powerful, as to compel the respect of mankind, but we in our life-time can so work and act as to make the dream a possibility within another generation.

History is watching, waiting for our decision.

## Acknowledgements

House of Mercy Children's Home, Lagos, Nigeria (HOM) is immensely grateful to have the wonderful support of generous and caring citizens who believe strongly in its mission.

The amazing level of support from our donors, supporters and friends since the onset of the national economic crisis has been both heartening and inspiring. We can attribute HOM's many accomplishments to the kindness and generosity of its donors, supporters and friends. Without you, we would not be able to bring hope to most vulnerable children. Your continued support has been instrumental in helping us to weather these stormy times and to push forward in new directions. For this, we are truly grateful.

### **Our Heartfelt Thanks to the following Individuals as well as to those who chose to remain anonymous:**

Mr. Olanrewaju Lateef - ₦102 500	Ms. Busola Soyoye - ₦20 000
Mr. Kolawole Oki - ₦145 000	Ms. Ruze Kamara - ₦130 000
Mr/Ms. Oluwaseun Amusa - ₦21 500	Ms. Jennifer Ojogbo - ₦5 000
Mr David Atawodi - ₦100 000	Mr. Olayinka Olaluwoye - school uniforms
Mr. & Mrs. Animashaun & Family - ₦40 000	Ms. Hannah Omolola - ₦3 000
Mr. Godspower Timpa - ₦10 000	Ms. Esther Komolafe - ₦10 000
Mr. IK Onwugaje - ₦10 000	Mr. & Mrs. CP Uzoma - ₦30 000
Ms. Aminat Usman - ₦30 000	Mr. Ugochukwu Martins - ₦40 000
Ms. Kafayat Adeoye - ₦1500	Mr. Adekola Lawal - ₦2 000
Mrs. Kehinde Olaleye-Akib - ₦100 000	Mrs. Olubunmi Oritsemone - ₦4 000
Ms. Oyovwi Attah - ₦17 700	Mr. Olamilekan Shomorin - ₦44 335,20
Mr. Prince Edidiong and Family - ₦10 000 and miscellaneous items	Ms. Abidemi Daniyan - ₦17 000
Mrs. Anna Towobola - Invitation to a picnic at The Lord's Garden Children's Playground	Ms. Ifeoma Nwafor - ₦3 000
Ms. Laura Davies-Holloway - ₦14 382	Mrs. Lande Awotona - ₦20 000
Mr. Babawande Akinbamijo - ₦347 666,54	Mr. Adebayo Adepoju - ₦5 000
Ms. Blessing Okai - ₦10 000	Ms. Blessing Igumbor - ₦30 000
Mrs. Shola Soetan - ₦10 000	Mr. Ebhohime Hanson - ₦5 500
Ms. Omoyemi Ajamugbayi - ₦10 000	Mrs. Mobisola Shobayo - ₦45 000
Ms. Helen Onyeokoro - ₦440 000	Mr. Ikechukwu Udenkwo - ₦5 000
Mr. Olayinka Esan - ₦10 000 & clothing	Mrs. Adaobi Anekwe - ₦10 000
Mr. Rip - Lumix digital camera	Mr. Babatunde Akinpelu - ₦4 000
	Mrs. Joan Olaiya - Food & miscellaneous Items
	Mr. Michael Ajose - ₦70 000

Mrs. Obafemi - ₦100 000

Mr. Austin Redemi - ₦50 000

Mr. Ayuk Ebenson Senior - ₦8 000

Mr. Ezekiel Jackson - ₦10 000

Mr. Michael Anyaegbu - ₦500 000

## Our Deepest Thanks to the following Groups, Corporations, Foundations & Institutions

British International School, Lagos - ₦100 000

Church of Pentecost Anglican Church - ₦30 000

Toklak Group of Schools Iyana Ipaja - Food items

Trans-Nationwide Express PLC - Food & miscellaneous items

Transmadi Port Harcourt - ₦3 000

Fanmilk Company - ₦152 000, toiletries, food & miscellaneous items

Hyde Energy Limited - Food items & toiletries

Gowon Estate Archdeaconry of Anglican Church Mothers' Union & Women's Guild - ₦10 000, food & miscellaneous items

Compassionate Group - food items and drinks

Mr. Ademosu Adepoju & Friends - Invitation to Mega Orphanage Fair on Children's Day 2018

Dazzles Integrated Services Ltd - food items and toiletries

Love Concept International - Invitation to Easter event & donation of a Nexus Deep Freezer

Feed-A-Million Project – ₦72 000 and food items

Dufil - Food & miscellaneous Items

Mr. Rufus – Invitation to workshop for Caregivers & Administrators in Orphanages and Homes

Before & After 2 become 1 Outreach - ₦100 000

CHEGCAF - vocational skills training for children

Mr. Femi Ayodeji & Friends - Renovation of our children's library and painting of our children's playground in memory of Ms. Rachel Adebayo.

Cratus and Caerus International Ltd - ₦5 000

Mrs. Mercy Okewole on behalf of her church - ₦11 200

FOGMMON - ₦10 000, food items, drinks and toiletries

Titus Owofe Foundation - ₦170 000, food items and toiletries

CWO St. Michael's Chaplaincy Macerata - ₦20 000

Last but certainly not least, our sincere gratitude to our dedicated team who lovingly devote themselves to our mission every day. It is only through the collaborative efforts of our own personnel that we are able to achieve our goals. The daily commitment of our Coordinator, a long-service volunteer, and her empathy with the needs of the children we serve play a large part in our success and we are grateful for her remarkable devotion.

Once again, on behalf of the many beneficiaries of your benevolence, we thank you for your generosity and your confidence in HOM and its mission.

Every day we are changing the lives of children for the better, and with your help, in 2019 we will do much more.

With Deepest Appreciation,

*Bunmi Awoyinfa*

Bunmi Awoyinfa





## House of Mercy Children's Home Lagos, Nigeria



**La Maison de la Misericorde**

**Casa de la Misericordia**



**Touching Lives, One Child at a Time!**

Founded in October 2006, House of Mercy Children's Home Lagos, Nigeria (HOM) is a grassroots NGO focusing on child hunger, child poverty, child homelessness, child illiteracy, child advocacy as well as emergency aid to children in crisis across Africa.

Questions, comments or feedback? Get in touch with us.

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[www.homchildrenshome.org](http://www.homchildrenshome.org)

**Beware of Scams !**

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