

RAISING STAR AFRICA

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2025



Raising
STAR
Africa Foundation

Letter from the Chairman, Board of Trustees

Children and young people with disabilities represent some of the most silenced voices within marginalized communities. Too often, they are excluded from decision-making spaces, particularly in the development and formulation of policies that directly affect their lives. At Raising Star Africa, we are guided by a simple but powerful principle: *“Nothing about us without us.”*

Raising Star Africa exists to ensure that persons with disabilities are not passive recipients of support, but active contributors to society. We place representation at the center of the disability ecosystem, intentionally amplifying the voices of children and youth with disabilities so they are heard, valued, and included in social, educational, and policy processes. Our work recognizes that sustainable inclusion cannot be achieved without the meaningful participation of those most affected. Our approach is firmly rooted in a rights-based framework, addressing not only individual needs but also the systemic barriers that perpetuate exclusion.



Dr. Kola Olugbodi

The Founder's Speech



Michael Showunmi

At Raising Star Africa, we believe that lasting change is only possible when solutions are co-created with those they are meant to serve. We work alongside diverse stakeholders—children and youth with disabilities, parents, educators, communities, government actors, and partners—to design programs and influence policies that address exclusion at its roots and drive systemic change.

Our vision is bold and intentional: to raise one million persons with disabilities across Africa who are self-reliant, confident advocates, and active contributors to the economic and social development of their countries. We are committed to shifting narratives from dependency to agency, and from limitation to possibility.

Central to our work is mindset transformation. Beyond programs, we walk the journey with every child and young person we serve. Our work is about dignity, opportunity, and unlocking the potential that already exists within every person with disability.

OUR 5 YEARS JOURNEY



242

Projects implemented



16

Countries



3

States in Nigeria



795

Communities



252

Schools

28,285

Direct Beneficiaries

482,760

Indirect Beneficiaries

241,820

Educational Materials Donated

32

Assistive Device Donated

8

Schools Renovated

32

Classrooms Upgraded

22

WASH Facilities Upgraded

2

Solar System Installation

262

Children trained in Vocational Skills

▲ Reach

4M+

▲ Total hours contribution

17,220,000

(Team and Volunteers)

Our work includes:

Education | Skill Empowerment | Advocacy | Awareness | Social Skills | Inclusion

Over the years, these focus areas have enabled us to create inclusive environments and sustainable platforms for community integration, where children and young people with disabilities are not only supported but empowered to thrive. By combining access to quality education with practical skills, leadership development, advocacy, and inclusive infrastructure, we ensure that participation extends beyond enrollment to encompass dignity, confidence, and long-term opportunities.

At the core of our approach is a fundamental belief: persons with disabilities are contributors to society, not receivers of charity. This perspective shapes how we design and implement our interventions. It enables us to co-create solutions with communities, schools, parents, and policymakers that are practical, rights-based, and responsive to real-life experiences.

Our tools include:

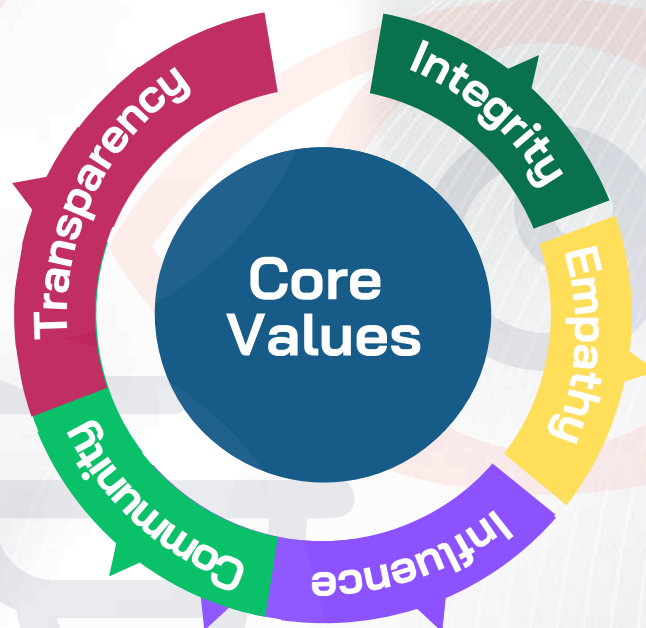
Literacy Skills | Psychosocial Wellbeing | Sports | Renewable Energy Integration | Mental Health

Vision Statement

Our vision is that every person with disability becomes self-reliant and able to contribute their quota to society, irrespective of their disability.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to support, empower, and inspire high-quality, inclusive education and life skills among persons with diverse abilities across Africa.



OUR IMPACT

In 2025, we implemented **38 projects** across **2 states**, reaching **182 communities** nationwide. We impacted **2,104 children** and young adults with disabilities with access to education and economic opportunities to become self-reliant and active contributors in society.

Coverage & Reach

4

Countries Covered

2

States Covered

38

Projects Implemented

182

Communities Reached

52

Schools

722,240

Total Reach

2,104

Direct Beneficiaries

47,490

Indirect Beneficiaries

Programme Outputs

21,290

Educational materials distributed

3

Schools Renovated

14

Classrooms Upgraded

16

WASH Facilities Upgraded

2

Solar Systems Installed

104

Children trained in Vocational skills

610

Children equipped with leadership skills

322

Students gained access to education

1,000+

Sports Champions

1,227

Young changemakers

Human Resource Contribution

3,168,000

Total hours contributed (staff and volunteers)

OUR AWARDS



2025 SOCIAL IMPACT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR BY IMPACT INVESTMENT FOUNDATION (IIF) AND INNOCENT CHUKWUEMEKA CHUKWUMA EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION (ICCEF)

Raising Star Africa was awarded the 2025 Social Impact Organization of the Year by Impact Investment Foundation (IIF) and ICCEF for her groundbreaking work helping 2,104 children and young adults with disabilities across Nigeria.



OUR PROGRAMS

- * Support Inclusive School Initiative
- * ThisAbility Education and Leadership Empowerment Accelerator
- * Stars Out Initiative
- * Vocational and Self-sufficiency Skills
- * Stars to School
- * Provision of Educational materials and resources
- * Disability Awareness and Advocacy
- * Light for Inclusion

Support Inclusive School Initiative

We renovate inclusive schools to stimulate accessibility, create enabling and dignified learning environments, and improve educational outcomes for children and young people with and without disabilities. Our goal is to ensure that students with disabilities learn in safe, accessible, and well-resourced classrooms where they are seen, valued, and supported to reach their full potential.

In 2025, Raising Star Africa renovated 3 public inclusive schools- Ipakodo Local Government School (Ikorodu), Community Primary School (Ojo), and Sari Iganmu Primary School (Sari-Iganmu)- consisting of 14 classrooms to give 322 children and young persons with disabilities access to quality education. In addition, 16 WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene) facilities were upgraded and reinstalled to stimulate hygiene. These renovations integrated renewable energy (solar power), improved ventilation, lighting, flooring, classroom furniture, and learning aesthetics, creating modern, inclusive, well-lit classrooms where children and young persons with disabilities learn with dignity, fostering access to an equitable future. Furthermore, we installed projectors and interactive boards to enhance the visual representation of concepts for children with disabilities, aiding understanding.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Location | Ikorodu, Ojo, and Sari-Iganmu, Lagos |
| Direct beneficiaries | 322 children with disabilities |
| Indirect beneficiaries | 6440 persons, including teachers, parents, community members |

Impact:

- 45% increase in enrollment of children with disabilities due to improved accessibility and community confidence in school quality
- 100% retention rate, with no recorded school dropouts among students with disabilities after renovation
- 100% improvement in attendance, as well as well-lit, safe, and accessible classrooms, reduced absenteeism
- A decrease in the rate of contraction of diseases by 90%
- Improved learning outcomes by 95%, driven by better classroom conditions, visibility, and teacher engagement
- Strengthened teacher-student relationships, as inclusive classrooms fostered better interaction, communication, and trust
- Improved psychosocial well-being of students, evidenced by increased confidence, participation, and classroom engagement
- Reduced stigma and discrimination within school environments as inclusive infrastructure normalized disability inclusion
- Enhanced teacher motivation and instructional quality, with teachers reporting increased effectiveness in lesson delivery
- Increased parental trust and involvement, leading to stronger school–community relationships
- Improved safety and dignity, especially for children with physical, visual, and hearing impairments, through accessible design and lighting

Impact Story

*"I want to say a special thank you to the sponsors FIRST EandP and NNPC. Thank you. In fact, the solar is one of the most important things for us because the school is always dark even in the daytime, but I am grateful you came to our aid. Now, there is a power supply every time, and our children are enjoying their classes with their furniture. The teachers, too, have new furniture, and I have been telling my colleague, This is a private school, not a public school again. All our toilets have been renovated." - **Head Teacher Mrs Odunlami***

*"I have had a daughter here since they rebuilt this school; she told me so many things about it. She said they have solar in their school, new fans, and so on. She said the environment is now conducive. Since the renovation, my daughter has always wanted to come to school. Even when they said there is no school, she always wants to go to school" - **Mrs Osinachi, A parent from Community Primary School, Ojo***

*"Since the renovation of the school, my daughter comes home more joyful. Also, when I come to the school, I see that she is more relaxed and learning in a conducive learning environment. I am very happy with the renovation. As a parent, I am happy. I want to say thank you to BIC and Raising Star Africa." - **Mrs Ibekwe Ngozi, A parent from Sari Iganmu Primary Inclusive School***

Sari Iganmu Primary School, Lagos



Sponsors



Local Government Primary School, Ipakodo



Sponsors



FIRST E&P
FIRST EXPLORATION & PETROLEUM
DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED



Community Primary School, Ojo



Sponsors



FIRST E&P
FIRST EXPLORATION & PETROLEUM
DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED



■ ThisAbility Education and Leadership Empowerment Accelerator (TELAP)

We empower children and young persons with disabilities with leadership skills, self-awareness, and career sensitization to shift mindsets from dependency to purpose, agency, and contribution. Many students with disabilities grow up with limited exposure to diverse career pathways and internalize societal narratives that confine their aspirations to survival rather than leadership or professional success. Our leadership and career sensitization interventions are designed to rewire these narratives by helping students recognize their strengths, abilities, and potential.

In 2025, Raising Star Africa empowered 610 students with disabilities across 9 inclusive public primary and secondary schools through structured leadership development sessions and career sensitization programs. The program combined interactive leadership workshops, career exposure sessions, mentorship conversations, visual storytelling, and practical life-skills engagement tailored to students' abilities. Using the StrengthFinder test, we assessed the strengths of each student to stimulate self-awareness.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Location | 9 Public Primary and Secondary Inclusive Schools, Lagos |
| Direct beneficiaries | 610 students with disabilities |
| Indirect beneficiaries | 6710 (teachers, parents, peers, and caregivers) |

Impact:

- 60% of participants can clearly articulate the qualities of a leader, compared to baseline levels, where most had no leadership vocabulary
- 52% demonstrated improved self-confidence and communication skills, particularly among students with hearing, physical, and intellectual disabilities
- 65% of students identified at least three career pathways aligned with their interests and abilities, beyond informal or survival-based options
- 60% showed measurable improvement in classroom participation, including asking questions, volunteering for tasks, and engaging peers
- Improved self-advocacy skills, with students increasingly expressing needs related to learning, accessibility, and support
- Positive behavioural changes observed by teachers, including increased responsibility, cooperation, and peer leadership
- Reduced internalized stigma, as students began to describe themselves as “leaders,” “future professionals,” and “contributors.”
- Stronger school engagement, with teachers reporting improved attendance consistency among participating students
- Increased parental optimism, as parents reported renewed hope and clearer future pathways for their children

Impact Story

When asked what they want to become in the future, a student with disability (deaf) named David Abel said, "I want to be hawking pure water in Lagos traffic,.". Following our leadership and career session, he is now aware of the diverse career paths available and plans to pursue a career in medicine.

During our leadership engagement, Wura, a girl with intellectual disability and ADHD, was discovered to be extremely intelligent but takes time to process her answers, which she always gets correct. The teachers realised that Wura was a brilliant student whom they had overlooked due to her disability.

"I am really happy that our students get to know and see diverse careers because some of them only want to become hairdressers and tailors. After all, that is what they see within their society. Now, they can see doctors, surgeons, pilots, and several leaders with disabilities who are doing great in Nigeria and beyond. This is the exposure we have been craving for these students." - **Mrs Lydia Toyin**



Stars Out Initiative

We promote community rehabilitation and social integration by taking children with disabilities beyond the four walls of the classroom into real-life social environments. Many children with disabilities are socially isolated and rarely exposed to public spaces such as recreational centers, shopping areas, or cinemas, limiting their social confidence, independence, and life skills. Our excursions and outings are intentionally designed to help students practice communication, decision-making, self-expression, and appropriate social behaviour in everyday community settings.

In 2025, Raising Star Africa organized a community rehabilitation excursion for 60 students with disabilities and 5 teachers across 2 public primary inclusive schools, including a guided picnic, shopping experience, and movie outing. This intervention provided practical exposure to social environments while reinforcing dignity, inclusion, and independence.

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|------------------------|---|
| Location | Lagos State |
| Participating Schools | All Saints Primary Inclusive School and Ojuwoye Community School |
| Direct beneficiaries | 60 students with disabilities |
| Indirect beneficiaries | 500 parents, caregivers, and peers |

Impact:

- 85% of students demonstrated improved social confidence, engaging freely with peers and members of the public
- 70% showed improved communication skills, including expressing preferences, asking questions, and interacting respectfully in public spaces
- Increased independence, as students practiced decision-making during shopping and recreational activities
- Improved emotional regulation, with students displaying patience, cooperation, and self-control in unfamiliar environments
- Enhanced teacher insight, enabling educators to better understand students' social needs and tailor classroom support
- Strengthened peer bonding, fostering friendship, teamwork, and a sense of belonging
- Positive parental feedback, with parents reporting increased confidence and independence at home following the outing



Disability Awareness and Advocacy

Awareness in Mainstream Schools:

We promote inclusive mindsets and long-term social change by intentionally engaging mainstream schools and students without disabilities to foster understanding, empathy, and inclusion. Social exclusion of persons with disabilities is often driven by ignorance, stereotypes, and a lack of early exposure.

In 2025, Raising Star Africa collaborated with the Outliers School, a private mainstream school in Lagos, to deliver a Disability, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) sensitization session for 60 students without disabilities. The session focused on disability awareness, respectful language, empathy-building, accessibility, and the role of young people in creating inclusive environments.

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|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Location | Surulere, Lagos |
| Participating Schools | The Outliers |
| Direct beneficiaries | 60 students with disabilities |
| Indirect beneficiaries | 1200 persons |

Impact:

- 90% of students demonstrated increased understanding of disability, shifting from stereotypes to rights-based perspectives
- 85% showed improved empathy and inclusive attitudes, expressing willingness to support peers with disabilities
- Increased awareness of accessibility and equity, including the importance of inclusive classrooms and public spaces
- Reduction in stigma and discriminatory language, as observed during post-session reflections
- Long-term mindset shift, positioning students as future advocates for disability inclusion in education and employment

Impact Story

Stephanine Nubi, an Outlier student, said, "All my life, I have never realized something like this. I promise to help every person with disability I come in contact with, and I will never look down on them".



Parent Sensitization and Community Engagement – Owu Kingdom (2025)

We recognize that sustainable inclusion for children with disabilities begins at home and within the community. In 2025, Raising Star Africa conducted a high-level parent sensitization and community engagement session at the Owu Kingdom, engaging 300 parents, 120 children with disabilities, 40 caregivers, 20 traditional leaders, including the King Olowu of Owu, 25 teachers, and 60 community members. The session focused on reshaping perceptions of disability, promoting acceptance, and equipping parents with the knowledge and confidence to support the education, well-being, and future aspirations of their children with disabilities and mitigate cultural barriers.

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|------------------------|---|
| Location | Owu Kingdom, Ogun State |
| Direct beneficiaries | 505 parents, traditional leaders including the King, children with disabilities, caregivers, and teachers. |
| Indirect beneficiaries | 10,100 persons in extended families and the Owu community. |

Key Outputs:

- 3 community sensitization sessions conducted
- 150 parents and caregivers reached with disability inclusion and rights-based education
- Engagement of traditional leaders and community influencers as inclusion champions

Impact:

- .78% of participating parents demonstrated improved understanding of disability rights and inclusive education, measured through post-session surveys
- .65% reduction in stigma-related beliefs, including perceptions of disability as shame or spiritual punishment
- .72% of parents are committed to enrolling or retaining their children with disabilities in school
- .58% increase in parental advocacy, with parents engaging teachers, school leaders, and local authorities on accessibility and learning needs
- .40% increase in school attendance among children whose parents participated in the sensitization
- Traditional leaders endorsed inclusion, resulting in two community-wide advocacy announcements promoting education for children with disabilities

Impact Story

"Honestly, I have been thinking about abandoning my child because I have been facing so many stigmatizations with members of my family, but this meeting has further energized my belief that my child is full of abilities and I will continue to take care of her and enrol her back in school". - Mrs. Komolafe

"We appreciate what the Raising Star Africa is doing across the world, and that's why we have invited over 300 parents to this occasion so that they can believe in their child again because there is ability in disability." - The King, Prof. Saka Adelola Matemilola (Otileta VII), Olowu of Owu Kingdom



Awarenes Events

This Ability 4.0:

This is the biggest awareness and advocacy event that spotlights and showcases the talents of children with disabilities in Nigeria. It is used to commemorate Children’s Day for children with disabilities and to celebrate the resilience of young entrepreneurs with disabilities. The event consists of a panel session for parent sensitization, a talent competition, and an art exhibition for children with disabilities, and grants for young entrepreneurs with disabilities. The theme for the event was “Empowering Voice”. A panel of disability experts was set up to sensitize 70 parents of children with disabilities. 240 students with disabilities from 9 public and private inclusive schools across Lagos State participated in the event, including 25 teachers. Luke Marvelous, a standout student, won the talent competition. He drew a stunning portrait of the Governor of Lagos State, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, and emerged the winner. He received a cash prize of 100,000 NGN sponsored by Air Peace. The event is a high-engagement event that includes sponsors and partners like Premium Power Solutions, Aliko Dangote Foundation, Airpeace, FIRST EandP, NNPC, IHS Towers, BIC, ICCEF, and others, including Honorable Mobolaji Ogunlende, the Lagos State Commissioner of Youth and Social Development. A total of 2,000,000 NGN (\$1,500) was awarded to 10 entrepreneurs with disabilities. In addition, 500,000 NGN worth of materials were being sold by young entrepreneurs with disabilities at the event. The event took place at the Darlington Hall, Ilupeju, Lagos.

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|------------------------|--|
| Location | Darlington Hall, Ilupeju, Lagos. |
| Participants | 9 private and public inclusive schools |
| Direct beneficiaries | 240 children with disabilities |
| Indirect beneficiaries | 6,800 persons, including parents, teachers, and community members |

Impact:

- Luke Marvelous, winner of the talent competition, received a royal invitation to the Olowu Palace in Abeokuta, where he drew a live portrait of Oba Prof. Saka Adelola Matemilola (Otileta VII) and was gifted 20,000 NGN - an inspiring testament to how inclusion fuels talent recognition and confidence.
- Reached 475 attendees, including students with disabilities, parents, educators, and stakeholders. Empowered 10 entrepreneurs with disabilities with a total of ₦2,000,000 in grants.
- 7 schools engaged in a talent showcase, highlighting the creative potential of children with disabilities and promoting positive attitudinal change towards people with disabilities.
- Fostered multi-sector partnerships for future inclusion and employment pathways.
- Increased visibility of disability advocacy through government, private, and media collaborations.
- ThisAbility 4.0 reached over 100,000 views across social media platforms, amplifying disability awareness, advocacy, and positioning our sponsors and partners as visible champions of inclusion in Nigeria.
- Strengthened parent and caregiver support systems through shared knowledge.
- Promoted dignity and representation for children with disabilities through media, art, and performance.

Testimonials

"I want to thank Raising Star Africa and all sponsors. They gave us everything, and they treated us well, celebrating Children's Day for us. Thank you." - **Patrick (student)**

Haa!! I want to say thank you to the organizers and sponsors of this event; they did a great job by bringing these children together. Even the environment (The Darlington Hall) is okay for the children. As I just entered the hall, I was so happy. Even the children will feel recognized, seen, and counted worthy to be seen with other children. - **Mrs John (Parent)**

"A big shout to Michael for the great work he is doing, and a huge shout-out to all the stakeholders who are here today. God bless you; we thank you. This Ability 5.0 will be bigger, better, brighter, because we all believe there is ability in disability. See you there!!! Thank You." - **Hon. Mobolaji Ogunlende (Commissioner of Youth and Social Development, Lagos State)**

"AIRPEACE believes that children are a special gift from God and the future leaders of tomorrow, irrespective of their disability. We are happy to be part of this initiative to champion inclusion and continue to showcase the abilities of every child. We at AIRPEACE always believe there is ability in disability." - **Mr Ikeena Nnabuife (Marketing Manager, AIRPEACE)**



Sport Fest 4.0

This is the largest inclusive sporting platform organized by Raising Star Africa to showcase the abilities, leadership, and social participation of children and young adults with disabilities in Nigeria. Held under the theme “Let’s Play,” the event leveraged adaptive sports as a tool to reduce stigma, promote dignity, and foster inclusive education and community integration.

240 students with disabilities from 10 private and public primary inclusive schools participated in the sports, including 25 teachers. We had the privilege of hosting the representative from His Royal Majesty, the Ooni of Ife in Nigeria. Also, our guests include Mrs. Ogunkoya Adetutu, representative of the Permanent Secretary of Lagos State Ministry of Education, Mrs. Funmi Peters - Flour Mill of Nigeria Coordinator, Mr. Oladimeji Sodunke - Human Resource Manager of BIC_Nigeria, and others. The event took place in Abalti Stadium in Surulere, Lagos. By centering inclusion in a public stadium setting, the program challenged prevailing narratives of disability as inability and positioned children with disabilities as capable, visible contributors

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Location | Abalti Stadium, Lagos |
| Participants | 10 private and public inclusive schools |
| Direct beneficiaries | 240 children with disabilities |
| Indirect beneficiaries | 7200 persons, including parents, teachers, and community members |



Impact:

- 82% of participating students demonstrated improved confidence and social interaction
- 74% of parents reported improved perceptions of their child's abilities
- Teachers reported improved student participation and teamwork behaviours
- Increased community awareness of disability rights and inclusion
- Fostered social change and access to an equitable future for every child.

Testimonials

"These children are full of abilities; they are just like any other human being. Disability is not inability; society needs to change its perspective and see the skills in every individual."

- Mrs Funmi Peters – Coordinator of Flour Mill Nigeria (FMN)

"The King is here to celebrate with you because we believe in every person and we support people with disabilities. We want to be identified with events like this, and we are so happy to support this awareness in society; to encourage them to believe in these children."

- King – Representative of His Royal Majesty, Ooni of Ife

Provision of Basic and Educational Materials

We distributed over 21,290 basic and educational materials such as bags, stationery, etc., to children with disabilities in schools and diverse communities to stimulate access quality education.

**Light for Inclusion**

We integrate renewable energy solutions by installing solar power systems to address energy poverty and improve learning conditions in public inclusive schools. In 2025, we installed solar systems at Community Primary School and Sari Iganmu Primary Inclusive Unit, creating reliable, well-lit classrooms that support inclusive teaching and learning. This intervention directly benefited 176 children with disabilities, enabling them to learn in safe, accessible, and dignified environments without disruptions caused by power outages.



Sari-Iganmu Primary Inclusive School in Lagos



Community Primary School, Ojo

Psychosocial Support

Welcome Wagon

To promote school reintegration, attendance, and positive psychosocial wellbeing, we mobilized 88 trained advocates to deliver a coordinated Back-to-School Cheerleading and Welcome Campaign across 3 public primary inclusive schools in Lagos State: LG Ipakodo Primary School, Community Primary School, and Oki Primary Inclusive School.

The activity engaged 352 children with disabilities, using dance, music, celebration, and peer encouragement as tools to reduce school-related anxiety, restore confidence, and foster a sense of belonging at the start of the academic term. The intervention was designed to address common barriers to retention, including fear of stigma, low self-esteem, and negative prior school experiences.

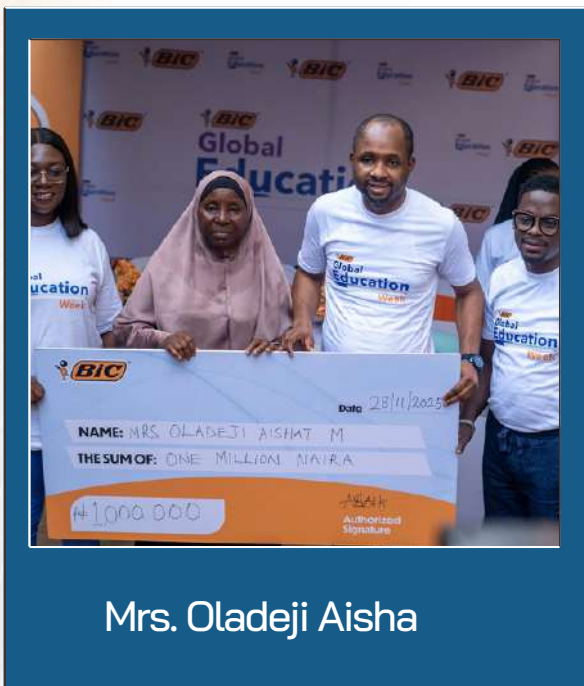
Key Output:

- Improved student morale and emotional readiness to resume school
- Increased enthusiasm toward learning and classroom participation
- Strengthened peer interaction and social inclusion among students

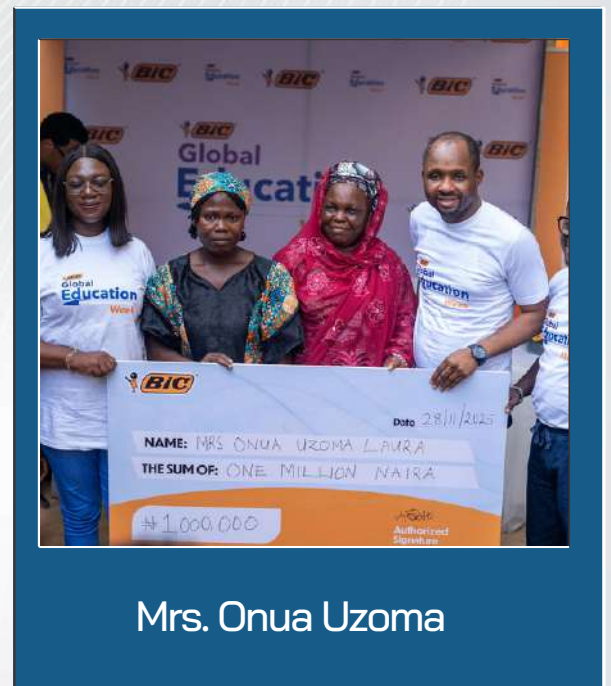
Side Attractions with Schools

Teacher's Reward:

To recognize and incentivize excellence in inclusive education, two teachers at Sari Iganmu Primary Inclusive School were awarded a cash prize of ₦1,000,000 (USD 1,000) each in 2025. This recognition honoured their exceptional service, commitment, and dedication to supporting the learning, well-being, and development of students with disabilities.



Mrs. Oladeji Aisha



Mrs. Onua Uzoma

Christmas Party

We organized a Christmas party for 60 students with disabilities at Roman Catholic Mission Primary Inclusive Schools to increase bonding, a sense of belonging, and community integration. The party also hosted 75 students without disabilities to facilitate inclusion.



Individual Intervention

Esther Bewaji

Esther is a 12-year-old girl living with severe cerebral palsy in Ikorodu, a rural community in Ogun State, Nigeria. Since birth, Esther has been unable to walk or sit independently. Her mother has carried her physically for all daily activities, placing significant physical, emotional, and economic strain on the family. The lack of mobility support also caused Esther's chronic hip pain, significantly limiting her comfort, health, and quality of life.

Through targeted fundraising and community support, Raising Star Africa mobilized ₦1,500,000 to address Esther's most urgent needs. The funds were used to provide a specialized cerebral palsy wheelchair, enabling safe mobility, improved posture, and daily comfort. In addition, Esther was enrolled for a hip-joint corrective surgery, aimed at reducing chronic pain, preventing further complications, and improving long-term physical well-being.



Samuel Ogwuche

Samuel is a young adult with a hearing impairment who was out of school for over two years due to financial constraints, limited access to inclusive schools, and systemic barriers faced by students with disabilities in Nigeria. Prolonged exclusion from education placed Samuel at risk of long-term academic disengagement and reduced life opportunities.

In 2022, Raising Star Africa intervened by reintegrating Samuel into formal education, enrolling him at DO-ESTDOT Private Inclusive Secondary School, Igando, Lagos, an institution equipped to support learners with hearing impairments. This intervention focused on restoring access, ensuring retention, and creating an enabling learning environment tailored to his needs. In his first assessment, he had 80% overall in all subjects. In 2025, Samuel is in Year 9 and performing excellently.

THE GLOBAL RAISING STAR AFRICA

Raising Star Africa was in partnership with the University of Georgia in Athens, USA. The collaboration was a reciprocal cultural exchange that was fully sponsored by the Department of State, USA, through the Mandela Washington Fellowship. Prof. Scott and Prof. Kevin travelled to Lagos to train 25 teachers on modelling life skills and classroom behaviors for children with disabilities.



Volunteer's Corner

In 2025, our volunteer base grew by 35%, reflecting increased community trust, visibility, and commitment to disability inclusion. Since our inception, volunteers have contributed a cumulative 3,168,000 hours of service, supporting program delivery, school renovations, advocacy campaigns, community sensitization, sports events, and administrative operations. Here is what one of our outstanding volunteers has to say about volunteering in our organization.

"I joined Raising Star Africa in December 2021. Honestly, I can't stop pouring my heart into children with disabilities. I was the lead facilitator in our leadership sessions, and for me, it's a great responsibility because I see these children as leaders and contributors to society. My desire is that they focus on their abilities, and I believe they can be what God has destined them to be." - Assam Glory



2026 PROJECTS, BUDGET, AND PROJECTED IMPACT

In 2026, we will holistically empower **5,120 children with disabilities** with accessible education, skills, confidence, and dignity, enabling long-term inclusion, leadership, with an equitable future and meaningful economic contribution.

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. Renovation of 5 Public Inclusive Schools | N210,652,040 |
| 2. Light for Inclusion (Solar Installation) for 8 Public Inclusive Schools | N152,825,110 |
| 3. Assistive Devices Distribution for 520 students with disabilities: | N85,950,000 |
| 4. This-Ability 5.0 Awareness and Advocacy Event | N36,500,000 |
| 5. Digital Literacy and Innovation for 200 children with disabilities | N79,340,330 |
| 6. Leadership Accelerator Program for 600 students with disabilities | N42,820,000 |
| 7. Sport Fest 5.0 - sports for 300 children with disabilities | N31,100,000 |
| 8. Vocational Skills for 200 children with disabilities | N72,794,280 |
| 9. Provision of Basic and Educational Materials for 400 students with disabilities, | N25,000,000 |
| 10. Storytelling of Struggles of Children with Disabilities for Impact | N10,000,000 |
| 11. Dinner Night for Sponsors/Fundraising Event | N8,000,000 |

Be the reason **5,120 children with disabilities** learn, lead, and thrive.

Partner with US

OUR PARTNERS



Aliko Dangote Foundation



Tedbree

