

HELPERS Digest



EDUCATING GIRLS
for a
BETTER FUTURE

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Girls' education goes beyond getting girls into school. It is also about ensuring that girls feel safe while in school, complete all levels of education with the skills that can help them to effectively compete and productive in life.

If girls are able to go to school and have opportunity to quality education; there is a stronger likelihood that they can have a career, engage in production of goods and services, earn income, which will in turn be beneficial to them, the family and the community at large. This act alone helps increase economic growth, better wages and jobs for women; it saves the lives of children and discourages child marriage.

Although, some community members especially in the Northern part of Nigeria where your sex determines whether or not you go to school, are yet to understand the ripple effects of girl child education.

Every child deserves to be treated well and equally irrespective of their sex. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in collaboration with Life Helpers Initiative embarked on an innovative strategy to address the issue of low girl child enrolment and retention in schools especially in Zamfara State, Nigeria.

Girls Education Program is an initiative of UNICEF with International, National and State wide support to enhance girls' education with achievable objectives, innovative strategies and methodologies. Girls for Girls(G4G) is one of the strategies to enhance girls' ability to participate in their education, generate support for them, foster common bonds among them and enhance their learning.

Amazingly, luck smiled its way into the life of Rahila Bawa Saheed an 11 years old Primary Six pupil of Kwatarkwashi Model Primary School in Zamfara State. Unlike most parents who care less for a female child, Rahila's parents took interest in their children education and being a bright and very zealous in learn, Rahila found the environment to learn and through G4G gained tremendous knowledge and peer supports. During an interaction



Rahila Bawa Saheed an 11 years old from Kwatawkwashi LGA in Zamfara State.

with Rahila, she said “I will love to become a Medical Doctor to save lives and help women with complications during childbirth”. With more effort and persistence, her dream of becoming a Medical Doctor might come true and through as she is being presently recognised to represent Zamfara state in several platforms.

Basira Umar, a 14years old from Yandoton Daji Model Primary School Tsafe Local Government Area of Zamfara state is another young girl who benefitted from the G4G program. Speaking with her, she said " Since I joined the G4G, I have got lots of help and good education as well. I have just concluded my Primary education and will like to go to secondary school. In my family, there are lots of problems because the females are not allowed to go to Secondary school but my mentality changed when I joined G4G as I have learnt lots of skills and I want to further my education so I can become a Medical doctor in the future. I want to be able to help pregnant women at the hospital and reduce maternal mortalities. G4G, I pledge to remain in school".

With the help gotten from Life Helpers Initiative in collaboration with UNICEF executing the G4G program, Basira has transited to Girls Focal Secondary School and is now in JSS1. Truly, her dreams for a good education is becoming a reality.

It is said that no one has yet realized wealth of sympathy, the kindness and generosity hidden in the soul of a child. The effort of every true education should be to unlock that treasure.

Staff Corner



shafaatu musa

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LIFE HELPERS INITIATIVE

putting a smile on a face

www.lhinigeria.org



Mission

To be a leading regional non-governemental organisation empowering, children, youths, women and communities to live maximally in all aspect of life through advocacy, capacity development initiatives, community mobilization and socio-economic development.

Vision

A more fulfilled life for everyone.



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