



YARANG LLAMISI
foundation

2020 An Overview

What a year this has been! From worldwide protests, conflicts and wars, bush fires, floods, volcanic eruptions, a cyclone, an earthquake, plane crashes, several explosions in large cities, and as if these disasters were not enough, the world has been engulfed by a Pandemic. From those very first images of the devastation, Covid-19 was causing in Italy during those early days, very few could fully grasp how life would drastically change over the next couple of months. So many cities around the world went into lockdown. Schools were shut. We saw a steady rise in unemployment rates and recorded increases in cases of gender-based violence.



In Nigeria, this year 2020 was one for the books with the importation of the COVID-19 virus and the inescapable lockdown in major cities. We were already in the grip of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) strike, which had cast university students across the nation adrift in a sea of uncertainty. The borders were closed, affecting businesses from Ikeja to Hadejia. The border closure brought about the inevitable increase in foodstuff prices, which caused hardships for so many families, culminating in the sacking of palliative care warehouses by an already frustrated

nation. All these issues were simultaneously happening amid the unrest in the North-East, the abduction of school children, the killing of aid workers, and the Nationwide End SARS (Special Anti-Robbery Squad) protests' fallout.



We launched YLF in the UK as a response to these challenges and the needs we saw in our community. More than ever, we see the need to focus on mental health and find creative ways of interacting with each other, given the restrictions caused by the Pandemic. What has become evident to us is that we need a targeted approach that takes the unique cultural experiences of the women and girls we interact with within our communities.



YLF Nigeria saw the need to support women's vocation so that they can provide for their families; we saw the need to bring hope to young girls by inspiring and supporting their education.

So in 2020, with all the negative news in the world, here is an overview of what we were able to accomplish since our launch in 2020 for both YLF Nigeria and UK:

1.

When 1.53 billion students worldwide were out of school this year, YLF stepped in to provide free tutorials to girls and boys in Zambuk and its environs.



Free Tutorials

There are currently about **1.53 billion** students out of school and 184 country-wide school closures.

YLF will continue to offer an opportunity for senior high school pupils to learn and prepare for their final examinations.



We supported mainly the students preparing for the WAEC and NECO examinations, so the gap in a school structured studying wouldn't affect their caches of success.

2.

We also launched the 2nd Chance Initiative working with girls and women to develop and enhance their entrepreneurial skills by supporting them to learn vocations like tailoring and dressmaking or any skill they sought to develop.



2nd

chance Initiative

The program also focused on providing the basic needed education to enable the beneficiaries start their businesses and adequately manage their finances. This successful pilot has opened the door to new possibilities, which we look forward to deploying on a larger scale in 2021.



3.

In honor of the international day of the girl, we launched an essay writing competition with the theme “My Voice Our Equal Future.” We received so many entries from girls within and outside Gombe, all beautiful voices, united in purpose and the desire to see that all young girls in Nigeria live free from violence and harmful practices that hinder them from achieving their full potential.





16-year-old Maimuna Najat Aliyu Waziri,

from Darul Arqam Academy Gombe, emerged as the winner of the competition. We have decided to make this an annual event with bigger and better prizes, so look out for this in 2021!

4.

We supported 490 families in the payment of PTA dues across schools in Yamaltu/ Deba LGA, Gombe State. This was to enable the students to get the extra facilities that the PTA dues support. Typically, parents agree to this levy to support school structures in their communities that struggle with funding so that the students will not be affected by the lack thereof. Due to the recession and the financial hardships endured in 2020, YLF saw the need to step in and lessen this burden. We hope to secure funding in this 2021 to do more to support school systems and learning.

5.

We donated school uniforms to 150 pupils of Sirankiwo Primary School of Akko LGA in Gombe State.



For many children in Northern Nigeria the idea of school is a daunting endeavour. They begin by learning in a language they don't understand, handicapped by the school books and tools they don't have, and wearing clothes that make them stick out because they can't afford the uniform. This simple yet defining gesture gave the pupils of this impoverished community a sense of self-worth, identity and purpose.



6.

We kicked off **Phase 1** of our **Project Resonate Hope**, which was rolled out in Wythenshawe, Greater Manchester in December 2020, thanks to the amazing support and generosity of **The National Lottery Community Fund**.



Project Resonate Hope

We were able to send a box of much needed supplies to 25 young girls in our community.





The gesture aimed to bring hope, share our heart, and return a sense of self-worth to the at-risk in our community, and hopefully, we were able to do that. We were also supported by several volunteers who helped to coordinate and deliver these care packages.

7.

We have secured funding for **Phase 2 of Project Resonate Hope**. We will be providing hot meals over two months this winter to twenty carefully selected BME young girls/women regarded as living in fuel poverty. With the current COVID - 19 restrictions in the UK, it is our belief that this intervention will be a godsend to so many families.



8.

We have connected with several BME organisations in the UK to leverage the resources and knowledge gathered by these groups to benefit from a consolidated approach that has been tried and tested. Knowing we are new and knowing we are providing support to a vulnerable group, we are taking the necessary precautions to ensure that we protect our clients' rights and do no harm.

We are excited to take 2021 head-on, we know the year will present us with more opportunities to provide support and touch lives and we invite you to be part of this journey. We hope you will connect with us on all our social media platforms or through our websites.

Let us know what type of support would make a difference to you. If you are interested in giving back, we welcome the extra set of hands (monetary contributions). We truly believe that every little bit helps and pushes us closer to achieving our goals of seeing that every woman and girl live free from fear, poverty, mental wellness, inclusion and equality and ultimately thrives.

Happy new year!

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