



I HAVE A VISION TO AFFECT PEOPLES' LIFE SUSTAINABLY.

Oluseyi Bisiriyu
MD/CEO Oluseyi Bisiriyu Foundation

I'm very pleased to introduce you to the purpose of our foundation. The idea to engage in this philanthropic work to change people's lives was as a result of other entity's philanthropic impact on my family. In the recent past few years, two very important member of my family were diagnosed with malignant cancer cells that would certainly have drastically decreased their lives' longevity, and cause irrecoverable financial depletion to me due to the cumulative excessive medical bills associated with cancer treatments.

We received the news with a mixture of sadness and joy: sadness because of the possibility of losing these loved ones to these extremely potent diseases, and the cost of the medical for trying to save them; and joy because the medical diagnosis show that the diseases were in their early stages. A few months into the treatment, we found a locally based philanthropic medical institution that supported us with payment of the medical bills which ran into hundreds of thousand dollars.

We are thankful to God that with the institution's help and God's grace, I did not go bankrupt due to medical bills to save my family members, and these family members have recovered tremendously from the disease via early medical intervention. My family is very grateful to this people for their timely support.

As a result, I was moved by a sense of gratitude and compassion to start affecting other less privileged people in my country of birth, Nigeria and consequently the rest of Africa. This is because despite the abundance of natural resources available in the African continent, it still accounts for one of the largest numbers of extremely poor people in the world. The socioeconomic issues that plague the people is beyond leaving it to governments alone to solve; private philanthropists must also engage in a capacity that show love, caring, and understanding of these people's situation on a multi-level of social problems. They need some sort of social supports that create and allow them equip themselves to actively participate in self-sustaining economic activities that will liberate them financially and by extension, benefit the country and the continent of Africa.

The *OBF* foundation is focused on a robust set of programs that will always keep us engaged to solve many social problems that are affecting the daily lives of many Nigerians. We have chosen not to limit our reach to just one cause because the social problems are too numerous and interconnected to really make an impact by focusing only on one program.

I hope that you will have a passion for at least one of these programs to support our efforts both morally and financially to the best of your abilities. The people whose lives will be impacted will be eternally grateful through their prayers, just as my family is eternally grateful to the institution who helped saved our family members' lives.

I thank you in anticipation of your generous support. Please check on our website evidence of our efforts to relief the pain of COVID-19 restrictions during the pandemic crisis.

Thank you



ABOUT US

WE ARE CREATED TO SERVE HUMANITY

The Oluseyi Bisiriyu Foundation (OBF) was established in March 2020 as a non-sectarian, non-segregated, non-racial, non-religious and non-discriminatory charitable organization saddled with the responsibilities to create awareness on community development and citizen's rights in order to promote social and economic change towards improved living standard.

It is observable from the present global economic situation that hunger, poverty, insecurity and environmental hazards, among other factors, have taken their toll on general standard of living.



Invariably, government interventions alone have not achieved the desired expectations of the global agenda for good governance. We are therefore daily confronted with numerous cases of forced displacement of people due to insecurity, high rate of unemployment, health hazards, kidnapping, human trafficking, rape and acts of terrorism among other related crises which have greatly affected the lives of citizens and delivery of good governance in most African nations.

This is why ***"we are entirely focusing our activities primarily on humanitarian and cooperative***

objectives. We are therefore dedicating our operations towards protecting human rights and ending of human rights abuses in order to impact positively and meaningfully on lives of citizens We are determined to promote public interest and public good in a non profit oriented programmes and projects". Our intention is to contribute towards ending hunger and poverty and to join other NGOs in creating favourable environment for sustainable development.

At OBF, we engage in research, training and intervention programmes to equip citizens with adequate knowledge in humanitarian services and rights protections. We collaborate with appropriate government agencies and private organizations to organize and participate in conferences, seminars and workshop on global contemporary issues on Sustainable Development Goals' (SDG) objectives. Our main objective therefore is to partner with league of Agencies in envisioning a world where better living conditions and rights to live are legally protected, revered and improved considerably.

To achieve this, **"we are employing our enormous human resources to empower citizens in skill acquisition knowledge in order to prepare them for self reliant job opportunities and to broaden their horizons for productive economic activities for life changing prospects".** We want to remain in the business of developing and providing technical assistance and training capacity to assist jobless school leavers in order to enhance their living standard and to contribute to development of world peace, and to fundamentally transform the landscape of human rights and gender equality in Nigeria and globally. We want to teach our youth the technologies of catching fishes and not only to be consumers of fishes

We connect local and international organizations and agencies in capacity building programs, research, consultancy services in advocacy projects, Bill drafting, health intervention projects including taking part in enlightenment programmes through pilot projects and publicizing research results and case studies in our newsletter to influence government policies and programmes towards promoting an enlightened , a just and egalitarian



society. Our duties among other things include initiating innovative pilot projects to support government's desire to end hunger and poverty in the land. We are carrying out programmes that will facilitate provision of grants and aides assistance in many cases where our intervention and technical assistance can be meaningful and decisive.

We have linkages with local, international agencies and non-governmental organizations in the discharge of our duties within the spectrum of the cardinal principles of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We harness every opportunity to actively engage our staff and volunteers in local and international engagements advocacy services, enlightenment campaigns, and job creation opportunities with

necessary incentives from our staple of donor funds.

Management of the Foundation

We have effective and purposeful management team to actively drive our visions with needed professional expertise and commitment to working to the highest standard. In addition to the Board of trustees comprising eminent Citizens from different professional backgrounds, the Foundation also has a Management Board that meets regularly as need arises to advise on general policies regarding programmes, projects and funding activities of the Centre and to see to the implementations of Board policies concerning the Centre with emphasis on efficiency, transparency, accountability and dedication to service.

We welcome you to our world of service to humanity, come and partner with us in our endeavours to promote a just and egalitarian society

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OLUSEYI BISIRIYU FOUNDATION: FOCUSSEING ON THE ENVIRONMENT FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



The imperative of a sustainable environment in accordance with SDG objectives encompasses a wide range of environmental goals which includes clean energy and climate actions as well as economic growth, hunger, poverty, equality, education,

peace and justice. Environment therefore is the totality of all external conditions affecting life, development and survival of an organism context.

Significantly, the environment plays active roles in reducing poverty and achieving higher living standard as well as increasing human development. The United Nations in its definition of Millenium Development Goals in 2000, recognized that there is full integration between human development and environment as mutually reinforcing each other. It is therefore a common knowledge that by protecting the environment we are protecting human lives and we are promoting citizens rights to life and rights against exploitation including fundamental rights of all organizations dueling on earth.

We are aware that a clear environment is essential for healthy living, if we don't care about our environment we would be contending with pollution with contaminant and toxins that have impact on our health.

We are also ware that air pollution can cause respiratory diseases and

cancer among other problems and diseases.

We know that Water problem is massive in our nation. Without water human being cannot live a comfortable life. We are also fully aware that deforestation poses a greater challenge including pollution and climate change to sustainable standard living. The health and wellness of human begin is an important issue to watch. What people eat, drink, the air they breathe and the environment they leave all plays significant roles in their wellness.

The Oluseyi Bisiriyu Foundation (OBF) is in the fore front of advocacy that environmental issues must take the driver seat in global agenda for development and growth policies. Our position is that environment should be considered as a welfare determinant having causal relationships between economic growth and human development.

This explains why the Foundation is partnering with government and non-governmental agencies in the drives towards protecting the natural environment which nature had bestowed on humanity to build a sustainable development path. We have as part of our objectives the goals of consuming natural resources, the natural environment and to repair damages and reverse trends.

Our activities are therefore geared towards restoration of quality environment, health living and hygiene, provision of water and promotion of wildlife including issues of Waste disposal, land management and urban sprawl public health

REPOSITIONING THE NIGERIAN YOUTH FOR GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

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INTRODUCTION

You must have heard it several times that the youth are the leaders of tomorrow.

This had been the popular slogan since the times immemorial that create the hope that the future belong to the young elements of the population. The questions we perhaps need to ask ourselves are who the leaders of yesterday were, who the leaders of today are and when will the tomorrow opportunity come for the present day youth of our nation.

THE LEADERS OF YESTERDAY

Of course the leaders of yesterday in our nation were youths of their time who had the opportunities of playing leadership roles during the pre-colonial and post colonial era. They are:

Herbert Macaulay ,Chief Obafemi Awolowo ,Dr Nnamdi Azikiwe Chief Anthony Enahoro etc They all became prominent political leaders at their youthful ages. They were the educated elites of the pre colonial Nigeria who took active part in the Independent struggle and were the post independent leaders . General Yakubu Gowon and many Military officers who ruled Nigeria after the first and second republic were also in their youthful years when they were in the saddle.

These young school leavers of the post-colonial era, on graduation gained employment into the civil service and they rose through the ranks to the top level of their careers. Some of them held leadership positions in the government and in their communities. They spent their most active years serving the nation , they had the best moments having been sponsored through government scholarships in the best Universities in the world and were gainfully employed while many of them retired to join politics and started another work experience .

THE LEADERS OF TODAY

The leaders of yesterday have transformed themselves into the leaders of today. Some of them in their late 60s and 70s are in the Presidency, Senate, House of Representatives and many of them are State Governors and Ministers etc. The public service no longer have vacancies for the school leavers hence many of the youths who are supposed to be the active populations of the economy are daily being left to roam the streets in search of jobs and means of survival

CONSTRUCTING THE BARRIERS

It appears there are very much invisible barriers for the upward movement of the youth to leadership roles and positions in the present day Nigeria. These barriers and limiting factors continually prevent upward movement of the young elements in our population to take up leadership and management positions. Thus some youth who managed to rise steadily through ranks and

dint of hard work eventually crashed into an impenetrable barriers thereafter

THE BARRIERS

1. The Socio-economic barrier

People born into economic lower class are being prevented from moving to the upper and more affluent class. This group of elites lack resources and economic power influence to create equilibrium in the quest for political power. Invariably, corruption is a major threat to political economic transformation of common man to move up the ladder of political leadership. It is a serious blockage to economic development.

2. Political and Administrative control factors

Our political and Administrative system creates opportunities for few people at the expense of the majority. Political empowerments that create economic power for upward mobility are in the hands of some powerful Oligarchies who had failed to put in place necessary structure that will prepare and equip the youth for leadership roles. A higher percentage above 70percent youth are dependent thus making independent decision largely dependent hence the advent of godfatherism in our nation politics and public service

3. Gender issues and ethnicity

There are also some invisible barriers women faces in some aspect of leadership. Only few women are able to move up to the organizational hierarchy. This invariably holds women from top –level jobs just because they are women and not because they lack capacity to hold such positions. Men and women also do not generally support women leadership hence opportunities are lost not because of in capabilities but just because of gender issues. What we have therefore is a society where the underprivileged are perpetually kept at the mercies of the privileged few just “because they have and we have not”

We are equally faced with the problem of ethnicity and the resultant rising levels of ethnic tension which limit opportunities to effective networking and idea sharing among the youth for nation building

Corruption

Corruption is a global threat to leadership positions. It is a serious blockage to economic development and a limiting factor to human resources empowerment and development. The same leaders who had acquired ill-gotten wealth often used that affluence to retain themselves in the corridor of power to the exclusion of ordinary man in the society. It is therefore a we-we affairs and situation. Democratic change in this situation became very difficult as the wealthy individuals use their economic powers to remain in power perpetually

Resultant effects of the Barriers

Youth leadership opportunities are knowingly and unknowingly overlooked by the adults who had held on to leadership positions perpetually. Most adults in most cases consider themselves as the champions for youth leadership. That's why they determine who are suitable among the youth for leadership position, youth who must be on oath to remain tied to their apron of oligarchy leadership and when such youth can be put forward for leadership positions. Many adults who are supposed to be advisors recommend themselves for leadership position rather than allow the youth take up such positions

The youth are therefore kept out of power and without means of livelihood to propel their growth for upward mobility.

DECONSTRUCTING THE BARRIERS

We can see how our refusal to think about our tomorrow in our yesterday has significantly affected our today and how soon our inability force a change



Nigerian young Graduates; leaders of tomorrow

will be affecting our tomorrow that we have not planned for. The youth has to make deliberate efforts to deconstruct all these barriers impeding their upward socio-political mobility so that the tainted leaders of tomorrow become the leaders of the present. The youth of this nation must wake up to their responsibilities, be ready to overcome the today's leadership challenges that have made our younger generations less involved in leadership roles

The adults should be prepared to provide leadership opportunities for young peoples. The youth should see the adults as capable of providing leadership for the young people. The youth should be actively and adequately engaged in their own development, they should be participants rather than recipients in the leading processes.

The youth must recognize and appreciate the multiculturalism and heterogynous nature of our nation in their drive to lead with moral compass. They need to grow and contribute to nation building as active citizen through services and leadership opportunities since they have realized that the future belongs to them regardless of the challenges. We must seek legislations for youth inclusiveness in all sphere of political and economic activities of

governance.

There is need to harness global opportunities in our learning process especially general knowledge of technology and growing importance of multicultural dimension of socio-economic agenda of the international communities. We must promote gender equality in leadership opportunities in line with the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) also known as international bill of rights for women (1979) and the Beijing platform of actions (1995)

CONCLUSION

If our younger generations want to seek leadership roles in the changing world of the 21st century, they must be ready to change their servile orientation. You have made yourselves toiling instruments in the hands of political class and like in the proverbial relationship of the cock and hyena, there is no longer the vibrancy the youth enjoyed in the colonial struggle for our nation's independent.

The youth of this generation are no longer regarded critical stakeholders in government welfare programmes once they are able to give out some cash as empowerments or sponsor some programmes where few people will benefit. Let me emphasise that social welfare and employment programmes of the government are key economic matter that are meant to transform the citizens' life to face the future challenge of global relevance.

The time for change of attitude is **NOW**

“ If our younger generations want to seek leadership roles in the changing world of the 21st century, they must be ready to change their servile orientation” .

OLUSEYI BISIRIYU FOUNDATION OFFERS MEDICAL SUPPORT FOR STRANDED PATIENTS, PAYS DISCHARGED BILL

In its mission to continuously assist the poor and vulnerables they could not afford the payment of their hospital bills; a charity organization known as Oluseyi Bisiriyu Foundation recently visited the State General Hospital at Ijaye, Abeokuta, the Capital City of Ogun State.

The Foundation team on their arrival to the Hospital were warmly welcomed by the Head of Department, Nursing Unit. Mrs. Oluremi Monsuro, alongside other staff of the hospital.

The hospital team thanked the Foundation for its humanitarian intervention and assistance to patients who were in serious urgent needs to pay for their drugs and hospital bills.

The Foundation led by the Programme Officer, Engr. Emmanuel Ojo Enitan were later conducted round the wards to see the patients.

Among those who benefited from the financial medical assistance were those who are still receiving treatment at the ward and those who are supposed to have been discharged but could not afford the payment of the Hospital bill.

While Blessing Godstime received immediate discharge after the Foundation magnanimously cleared off her payment, it was a different case for Tobiloba Akinbode who suffers from Birth Asphyxia, a medical condition resulting from deprivation of oxygen to new born infant that last long enough through the birth process to cause physical harm.

Tobiloba was in a critical condition that the Foundation had to pay all expenses till the last day of her discharged.

Mr. Kehinde Ademuyiwa the Public Relations Officer of the Foundation however assured the management of the Hospital that the Foundation shall continue to give necessary assistance to the hospital in carrying out

health service delivery to indigents and vulnerable patients who could not afford the cost of their treatments. He thanked the Hospital management for their cooperation while appreciating the state government for its roles in management and control of Covid 19 in the state.

It will be recalled that the Foundation had also offered financial and medical support to some Ogun state dwellers who suffered from breast cancer and other sicknesses.

Prior to the commencement of this medical assistant program by the Foundation, the Foundation team visited the Medical Director of the Ogun State hospital Dr. Oladeinde to find out the needs of the Hospital and some of the patients who are in critical situation and in need of urgent intervention and assistance.

The medical director lauds the Foundation for such interest in helping the poor, giving life to many and raising their hope, while elucidating on the areas where the foundation could be of assistance to the hospital.

