

ANNUAL REPORT

THE SEDOO INITIATIVE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS- SECHILD

2022

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PRESIDENT'S REMARK

In the small office of The Sedoo Initiative for Children with Special Needs (SECHILD), while a physio-therapy session is taking place in the next room, and I am proud of the work we have done so far. Although, the successes we achieved wasn't without precarious moments. However, with technical and financial support of our partners we have worked acidulously to deliver quality health services, capacity building, care, mental health support and information to children with disabilities, particularly Cerebral Palsy. The ongoing insecurity, high level of inflation and other social crisis has made implementation of projects challenging, On a sad note, SECHILD's Advisory Board Chairman Gen. (Rtd) Emmanuel Tshemba Nienge passed on in 2022. He worked tirelessly to ensure the equipping of the expanded SECHILD Center. However, we remained resilient and motivated by the impact. We have

not stopped working to improve the health and living conditions of children with disabilities, their caregivers and parents. In Nigeria, with an estimated 32 million people with disabilities, most of whom are children, there is always more work to be done and we will not stop fighting for the protection of the rights of our heroes and heroines. One of the feats achieved in the year, was launch of the new and expanded Sechild Center, where we provide residence care, physio/occupational therapy, special needs education, rehabilitation and host of other services to children with Cerebral Palsy.

While the wellbeing of our heroes and heroines are paramount, we recognize the critical role played by parents and caregivers to provide holistic, timely and quality care. We built the capacity of caregivers and parents as well as provided group and individual counselling to further strengthen their resilience. We traversed through to the hard-to-reach communities engaging community gate keepers with advocacy campaigns to stop the killing of children with Cerebral Palsy. We also leveraged on strategic partnerships with the media and CSO networks to add to voices of change makers demanding for implementation of Prohibition Against Disability Act (2020).

I urge you to read through this report for more information about our work and achievements. We appreciate the support we received, both within Nigeria and from all over the world, so we can continue to do what we set out to do. We also appreciate our Chairperson and the entire Board of Trustees for providing the necessary leadership. We are equally grateful to our very committed staff for providing standard care and ensuring projects align with SECHILD's vision. We are moving forward to achieve incredible milestones in our work. We cannot wait to show you where we are headed next.

ABOUT THE SEDOO INITIATIVE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS-SECHILD

The Sedoo Initiative for Children with Special Needs-SECHILD is a not-for-profit Organisation established in January, 2011 with the vision of improved well-being of vulnerable children and their caregivers in the society. The initiative is committed to addressing the needs of vulnerable children while promoting their rights through strategic collaboration.

SECHILD advocates for the rights to life and dignity of children living with Cerebral Palsy, access to Special needs Education, Medical and Mental Health Care and Protection against Gender Based Violence. We provide residence care services such as rehabilitation, physio/occupational therapy, intervention and information on case management.

SECHILD is registered with Federal Ministries of Health, Education, Women Affairs and Social Development, National Human Rights and National Planning Commission agencies, NACRAN, NACTAL and WASH networks and is a recipient of many awards namely; Inner wheel Club, Woman on Fire Makurdi, Rotaract Club, Red Cross, Ontiv Professionals Association and Woman on Fire Abuja.

Since establishment, SECHILD has impacted directly and indirectly over 10,000 lives positively across Nigeria through her interventions in Advocacy for Disabled Children/Persons, Special Educational Needs, Rehabilitation, Intervention Support Programmes, Disability and Mental Health Support, Disability and Gender Based Violence.





Our Mission

To collaborate with partners in addressing the needs of vulnerable children while promoting their rights.



Our Vision

Improved well-being of vulnerable children and their caregivers in the society.

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

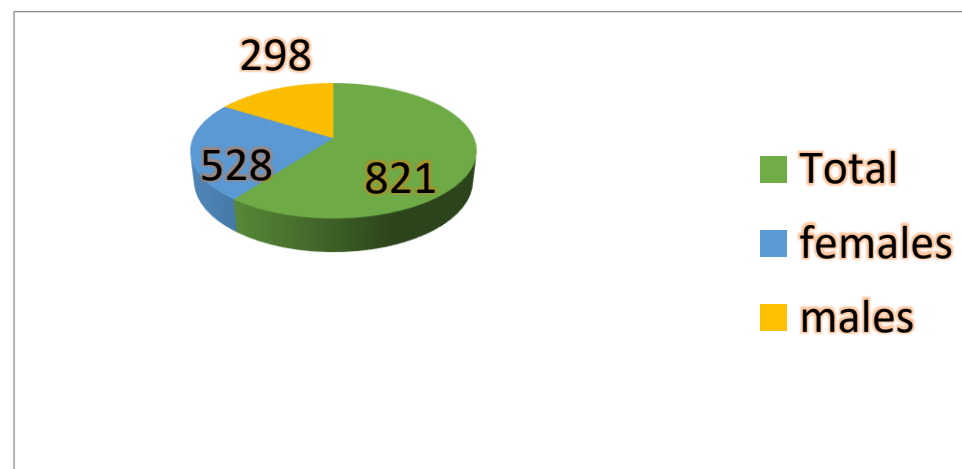
1. Advocacy and Research for Disabled Children/Persons

In Nigeria, living with a disability particularly Cerebral Palsy can be an exhausting situation. Cerebral Palsy (CP) is a non-progressive life-long condition that affects that affect a person's ability to move and maintain balance and posture.

Despite the legal frameworks such as Child Rights Act 2003 which guarantees the provision of 'special protection measures or special needs of disabled children to enhance their enjoyment of rights, evidence show that killing of disabled children and those with Cerebral Palsy is prevalent particularly in rural communities. Children with disabilities are perceived as cursed and disgrace to the families. These children are targeted because of their vulnerability and disabilities, they are also not protected by the Human Rights law and the Child Rights Act, given their existence as members of society as guaranteed by law.

The Sedoo Initiative for Children with Special Needs (SECHILD) is working to address the dearth in information and knowledge about children with Cerebral Palsy. The project ***“Collective Action to Promote the Rights and dignity of children with Cerebral Palsy (CP) was implemented in the FCT”***. The project is aimed to advocate for the promotion of the rights and dignity of children with Cerebral Palsy. The project, supported advocacy and sensitization of religious leaders to lead the campaign on ending violence and address stigma against children with CP. Religious and traditional leaders, Children, community members, and disability stakeholders were targeted and

sensitized about the Cerebral Palsy, existing laws that criminalize the barbaric practice and support groups were promoted to provide guidance and support for caregivers and parents of children with this condition. The project reached 600 persons including women's groups, religious leaders, media and young people. The remarkable result attributed to the project is attitudinal change and transformed negative perceptions about children with Cerebral Palsy and indeed disabilities. So far, three (3) religious leaders have undertaken frequent sermons deterring the killing of children with disabilities. Also, 5 parents that initially abandoned their children have taken full responsibility for the care of these children. Communities have been conscientized and are giving information on communities where these children are most at risk of being killed.



2. Special Educational Needs

Education is a fundamental human right. The better the access to quality education, the greater the chance of achieving potential and living a fulfilling life. But it is not just access. Children need to be and feel included to support their physical, social and emotional development. For children with Cerebral Palsy, being included is more difficult than it is for other children. They can often be left out, which may be intentional or unintentional.

At The Sedoo Initiative for Children with Special Needs, we believe that education for children with disabilities should be a reflection of pedagogical practices. However, schools are under developed or lack the necessary infrastructure to support inclusive education for pupils/students with Cerebral Palsy. Under the *‘Policy Dialogue to Support Education Budget for Children with Special Needs project’*.

The project aims to advocate for increased public budget allocation to Primary education for children with disabilities. Primary education is critical to the development of any child, it lays the foundation for the advancement of any child.



Media Advocacy for increased budget to support basic education for children

Therefore, the project supported media engagements to foster the advocacy for access to quality primary education which influences a child’s economic future, social and emotional development and identity. Since special education particularly at the Primary level recognizes individual differences and accommodates them. Increased budget for special education at the primary level will accelerate provision of the necessary infrastructure to support education for children with Cerebral Palsy and enable them achieve their potential in all these areas such as:

3. Counselling, Rehabilitation, Intervention Support Programmes

Cerebral Palsy is not a single pathological entity and encompasses disorders in various motor functions including but not limited to body movement, muscle control, muscle coordination, muscle tone, reflex, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, oral motor functioning, posture, and balance.

SECHILD provides residence care, respite and therapy to improve the conditions of children with Cerebral Palsy. We incorporate play and art therapy through art and music, physio/occupational therapy, expressive therapy for physical, psychological and mental health support to improve the quality of life of the children and their families. In the year under review, 100 children benefitted from these therapies aiding to develop their physical abilities, cognitive functioning levels and emotional needs in a safe and supportive environment.



Feeding at SECHILD Center

4. Disability and Mental Health Support

Children with Cerebral Palsy, their parents and caregivers experience social isolation that can lead to low self-esteem and depression, as well as lack of full participation in greater society. Other issues affecting individuals include depression and mental health-related issues, physical barriers and general systemic discrimination. Most of these parents/caregivers abandon their children due to the shame and stigmatization. Other parents who have undertaken full care of their children particularly mothers have lost their jobs. The cost of care for these children causes physical and financial stress.

Under The Self-Care//Therapy for Caregivers and Parents of Children with Special Needs, Parents Forum was organised with 25 parents and 35 caregivers to train and educate them on self-care as well as care of their wards. Their capacities were enhanced on understanding the rudiments of Cerebral Palsy. They were empowered to speak up, manage expectations, discrimination and educate other people on the condition of their children. They were equally counselled by pro-bono psychologist.



The President addressing Parents at the 2022 Parents forum

SUCCESS STORIES

Leading the Change

'I am a member of traditional council in Azaru community. In the community, children born with CP are perceived to be evil spirits, possessed and bring forth misfortune to their families. These children are usually eliminated to avert this misfortune. However, my encounter with SECHILD changed my perception about these children, it has been 100% reversal. I now work with other members of the traditional council to ban this barbaric custom''. Ucha Bami: 2022¹

Tersoo The Hero

'Tersoo is a hero with Cerebral Palsy who was abandoned because he was assumed to be an evil child due to his condition. He was malnourished, lost his sight and mobility. Due to the timely intervention of SECHILD he was rescued and brought to the SECHILD Center for Care and rehabilitation. After 9 years, Tersoo has fully regained his sight and mobility, he is schooled on sign language, he reads, writes and improved social skills''

¹ Disclaimer: The original identity of beneficiaries and communities has been concealed



Tersoo and President during learning session

Empowered!

“Mary was enrolled into the center at the age of six years to access residence care, occupational, physio-therapy, expressive therapy for physical, psychological and mental health support. By the time she was 14 years she improved her motor skills and talks clearly. She demonstrated high intellectual capacity and has enrolled in Junior Secondary School.



SECHILD Center

Inspired, Physical and Mentally Ready

“Aishat is a young mother of 31 years; she brought her 2 years old daughter to the center to enrol her for resident care. Following capacity building on Cerebral Palsy management and counselling, she changed her mind and decided to take full responsibility of her daughter at home”



The President counselling and training a parent on management of Cerebral Palsy

2022 FUNDRAISING

The Board of Trustees Chairperson Barr. Aver Gavar and the Advisory Board Chairperson Gen. (Rtd) Emmanuel Tsehemba Nienge (of blessed memory) led Friends of SECHILD to fundraise towards equipping the expanded SECHILD.

Barr. Aver Gavar called on all good spirited personalities that are passionate to issues of children to support SECHILD achieve this vision of a society where children with special needs have their basic needs.

The burden of care for children generally is high and even greater with those born with special needs. The parents, families and caregivers of these children are usually overwhelmed. The society and all of us have an obligation to the duty of understanding, acceptance and love for these children so that they can grow and live fulfilled and productive lives.

The event was held at Zuma Hall Rockview Hotel Wuse 11 Abuja-FCT Nigeria in March 2022. It was attended by Friends of SECHILD, Development Partners, good spirited individuals, corporates and and the media.



Board of Trustees Chairperson Barr. Aver Gavar



Advisory Board Chairman Late Gen. (Rtd) Emmanuel Tsehemba Nienge

LAUNCH OF THE EXPANDED SECHILD CENTER

In view of the increasing number of children with Cerebral Palsy awaiting to be admitted in SECHILD Center and the burden of care faced by families and caregivers. SECHILD through the philanthropic support of partners relocated to an expanded center.

The launch of the expanded center was also used for advocacy and awareness creation on the rights and needs of children with special needs especially Cerebral Palsy. The expanded SECHILD Center was launched by the Advisory Board Chairman Gen.(Rtd) Emmanuel Tshemba Nienge, Trustees-(blessed memory) assisted by the Board of Trustees Chairperson Barr. Aver Gavar, Rev.Fr. Emmanuel Nyinya and Rev.Pastor Terseer Shagba and other Clergies. It was attended by Development Partners, Parents, Caregivers, Children with Disabilities and the Media.

The President said the relocation to the expanded Center figuratively and literally represents the actualization of dreams. A proof of God's faithfulness over the years. A story that began with how a couple comes to understand parenting in peculiar circumstances, and then move with determination to forge ahead despite the uncertainties and be of support to others.

Expanding SECHILD Center will afford us the opportunity to enroll more children who are on the waiting list and provide sustained care.

She called for more partnership to be able to purchase a generating Set and a vehicle for SECHILD Center.



The Expanded Center



The President engaging Media at the Launch



The Chairperson Trustees, President, Co Founder, Trustees and Friends of

MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS

<https://sechild.org/killing-of-children-with-celebral-palsy-on-the-increase-says-group/>

<https://guardian.ng/news/group-seeks-support-for-children-with-special-needs/>

<https://naijablitznews.com/2022/03/28/dont-give-up-on-children-with-cerebral-palsy-ngo-urges-parents>

https://tribuneonlineng.com/nhrc-kicks-against-killing-of-children-with-special-needs/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

<https://tdpelmedia.com/ngo-seeks-support-for-children-with-special-needs>

<https://theideal.ng/don-children-cerebral-palsy/>

<https://dailytrust.com/stakeholders-seek-increased-support-for-children-with-special-needs>

<https://nnn.ng/ngo-urges-increased-attention/>

<https://frontlinenews.com.ng/fg-urged-to-recognize-cater-for-children-with-special-needs/>

<https://newsbarng.com/2022/06/05/we-need-to-advocate-for-the-rights-of-children-with-special-needs-sechild/>

<https://radionigeria.gov.ng/2022/06/07/cerebral-palsy-centre-opened-in-abuja/>

<https://newsdayonline.com.ng/we-will-advocate-for-the-rights-of-children-with-special-needs-sechild/>

<https://nnn.ng/ngo-urges-increased-attention/>

<https://radionigeriaabuja.gov.ng/2022/06/05/sechild-seeks-support-care-for-children-with-special-needs/>

<https://newsdayonline.com.ng/we-will-advocate-for-the-rights-of-children-with-special-needs-sechild/>

<https://nnn.ng/ngo-urges-increased-attention/>

<https://frontlinenews.com.ng/fg-urged-to-recognize-cater-for-children-with-special-needs/>

<https://newsbarng.com/2022/06/05/we-need-to-advocate-for-the-rights-of-children-with-special-needs-sechild/>

Experts Seek More Rights for Children with Special Medical Needs <http://africasti.com.ng/experts-seek-more-rights-for-children-with-special-medical-needs/>

<https://radionigeria.gov.ng/2022/06/07/cerebral-palsy-centre-opened-in-abuja/>

<https://youtu.be/7rPMdJl81Xs>

<https://guardian.ng/news/group-seeks-support-for-children-with-special-needs/>

https://youtu.be/hY0kMmSj_SI via @YouTube

CHALLENGES

1. Access to Education

Access to education involves limited access to comprehensive and inclusive education for the children up to secondary school. The center outsources other schools to enrol these kids. Although most schools averse to admitting children with Cerebral Palsy.

2. Logistical Issue

The Nigeria's protracted economic hardship has brought a variety of challenges such as lack of vehicle for movement, the shortage of fuel and other supplies. There are also frequent power cuts throughout the day that affect our workshops and the way that we run our classes.

3. Staff welfare

The care for staff is also a challenge, while SECHILD has committed volunteers, it is important that the welfare of Staff and care workers is under paid. It imperative to raise funds and address the issue of staff payment for a more sustained service.

4. Diversifying/Funding

As our project increases in size and scope, it has been a challenge to keep up with fundraising efforts. To date, the majority of our funding are from personal donations and crowd funding. This however, is not a very reliable source for planning ahead. We have grown in our grant application process and hope to continue to reach new funding partners in the coming year.

THE SEDOO INITIATIVE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME DEC. 2022

	#
	47,006,864.36
	<u>12,006,864.36</u>
Revenue	-
Less Direct Beneficiary	
Gross Revenue	-
Distribution Expenses	(11,023,720.70)
Administrative Expenses	202,000.00
Depreciation	-
Other Expenses	781,143.66
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	-
Finance Income	-
Finance Cost	
Excess Of Revenue Over Expenses Before Income Tax	781,143.66
Income Tax Expenses	-
Excess of Revenue over Expenses after Income Tax	781,143.66
Retained Revenue b/f	(6,071,326.00)
Accumulated funds	<u>(5,290,182.34)</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT DECEMBER

2022

NON CURRENT ASSETS:	#
Property, Plant, & Equipment	7,135,052.00
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(3,481,032.00)</u>
Net PPE	3,654,020.00
CURRENT ASSET:	
Inventory	54,700
Receivables	574,779.17
Cash and cash receivables	460,663.49
Total Assets	<u>4,744,162.66</u>
 TRUSTEES FUND AND LIABILITIES	
Trust fund:	
Capital contribution	<u>100,000.00</u>
Accumulated funds	5,290,162.34
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
Trustees Current Account	9,534,345.00
Borrowings	-
Loans & Advances	-
CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
Payables	500,000
NGO income tax payable	-
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>4,744,162.66</u>

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW AS AT 31ST DEC. 2022

Cash flow from operating activities:	—
Profit before tax	—
Depreciation	9,534,345.00
Cashflow before changes in working capital	—
Changes in working capital:	—
(Increase)/Decrease in inventory	9,534,345.00
Increase/decrease in receivables	408,363.49
Increase/Decrease in payable	<u>52,300</u>
Provision for tax	<u>460,663.49</u>
Net cashflowfrom operating activities	
Cashflow From Investing Activities:	<u>460,663.49</u>
Purchase of fixed assets	
Net cashflow from investing activities	<u>460,663.49</u>
Cashflow From Financing Activities:	
Share capital	
Loans and advances	
Deposit of shares	
Director's current Account	
Movement in net liquid funds	
Cash & cash equivalent at the beginning	
Cash & cash equivalent at the end	
Cash & cash equivalent consist of	
Cash and Bank balances	

#

781,143.66

202,000.00

983,143.66

—

(574,779.17)

—

—

408,364.49

CONTACT US



The Sedoo Initiative For Children With
Special Needs



Sechildcenter



SECHILD



thesedooinitiative6992



+2347037734576

COST OF RESIDENCE CARE, THERAPY AND EDUCATION FOR ONE CHILD AT SECHILD

S/N	ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	COST	
		₦	\$ @ ₦450
1	Cost of Physio therapy for One Child three times a week	₦ 10,000	\$23
2	Cost of Speech therapy for One Child three times a week	₦ 10,000	\$23
3	Cost of Sign Language teacher for One Child five times a week	₦ 12,500	\$30
4	Cost of Aquatic therapy for One Child for once a month	₦ 10,000	\$22
5	Cost of 3 square meals for One Child a day	₦6000	\$14
6	Cost of Diapers for One Child 1 month	₦10,000	\$22
7	Cost of Medication and Supplements for One Child	N 5,000	\$12
8	Monthly Toiletries other essentials per child	₦15,000	\$34

Every therapy we give requires money to pay for it and every money we raise provides an hour of ‘SECHILD Care’.

Every Hour of SECHILD Care depends on the generosity of people like you who believe in the uniqueness of our children.

It might be the hour a child learns to take his/her first step in life, that hour a child learns to sit independently for the first time in life or it might be the hour a child learns to dress or feed him/herself.

Your donation keeps us true to our sincere commitment to respite, advocacy, awareness, special education, care and therapies for children with Special Needs.

We’re so grateful that you made this possible

PARTNER IN FINANCES

ACCOUNT NAME:

**The SEDOO Initiative for
children with Special Needs**



1013520015
Zenith Bank



0028497548
GT Bank

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE YEAR 2023

Moving into the next year, our goals focus on growing our technical team and project scope, as well as formalizing our work and expand our frontiers in the area of policy advocacy and research.

In the year 2023, SECHILD we will also focus on securing long term funding for the project. Funding that is secured for multiple years will aid us in planning for the future, expanding our services, and ensure our ability to grow our staff. Finally, we would continue to broaden our horizon, expand our networks and amplify the advocacy for access to improved health, education and developmental opportunities.



The President and members of BAM U Mkom MPCs supports SECHILD