

gene mutations that result in abnormal brain development  
severe jaundice in the infant  
maternal infections, such German measles and herpes simplex

### Strategic Objectives

- To advocate for the rights of children with special needs
- To provide professional information on Cerebral Palsy re-orienting people on traditional beliefs and myths and the need for the acceptance of all children irrespective of their condition.
- To provide residence care, physio/occupational therapies to children with special needs, and professional information to their families and caregivers.
- To facilitate access to basic services for the development of children with special needs and attainment of better living standards.
- To create equal opportunities for children with special needs.
- To empower caregivers, families, and create a society where children with special needs are accepted and loved thereby giving them full and participatory life in our community

### What We Do

- SECHILD provides children with special needs, the care and items that they need for their day-to-day living.
- Runs a facility where children with Cerebral Palsy are admitted for professional care, (at the moment, some of our registered children who ought to be in the facility are not, due to limited availability of space) physio/occupational therapies and support;
- Support with professional information and other therapy services.
- In collaboration with other institutions, persons and parents, SECHILD creates general awareness Cerebral With so many children on the waiting list, SECHILD center has expanded to cater for many more, but the task to give holistic care at this center and beyond is enormous, thus we solicit your support in the various forms:
- With your financial support, SECHILD will reach out to more children and provide sustained care and

- services to them and their families/caregivers.
- Join your voice in amplifying awareness on the needs and plight of children with special needs.
  - Let your voice be heard in building a society that accepts, cares, and trains children with special needs.
  - Advocate for a world where all children irrespective of their condition are accepted, loved, and cared for.
  - Collaborate with us to give professional care and therapy to children with special needs, provide information and support to their families/caregivers.
  - Kindly volunteer your time and services.

### Volunteers:

We welcome volunteers at the centre to help with general office duties, fundraising, specialized services, etc. If you are interested, please contact us indicating your area(s) of interest.  
Donor/ Support Acknowledgement Gifts/Aid  
Your donation gives the SECHILD family respite, it is the wherewithal SECHILD is built upon.

**Please make cheques payable to**  
**THE SEDOO INITIATIVE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**  
**ZENITH BANK: 1013520015 (NAIRA)**  
**GUARANTEE TRUST BANK: 0028497548 (NAIRA)**  
**GUARANTEE TRUST BANK: 0028497555 (USD)**

### Appreciation

We are indeed grateful that you have identified with SECHILD, we appreciate every support we have had and will have. While appreciating the journey so far, we count on your continued partnership to improve greatly the lives of children with special needs.

TOGETHER WE WILL OVERCOME THE ENORMOUS BUT BEAUTIFUL CHALLENGES OF CARING FOR A CHILD WITH SPECIAL NEEDS!

**Thank you and God bless.**




*Love for the Unique Child*

THE  
**Sedoo**  
INITIATIVE  
FOR CHILDREN WITH  
SPECIAL NEEDS

11 C Close, Phase 3, Trademore Estate ,  
Airport Road, Lugbe, Abuja-FCT, Nigeria.

Plot 16, Light Gold Phase 4, Airport Road,  
Lugbe, Abuja-FCT, Nigeria.

 **0703 773 4576, 0806 734 5457**  
**0909 999 1509**

 [Info@sechild.org](mailto:Info@sechild.org)  
 [www.sechild.org](http://www.sechild.org)

Children with Special Needs have only got a condition. We MUST educate ourselves and communities and not allow them to continue living in lack of correct information thus wasting the precious lives of our children.

The Sedoo Initiative for Children with Special Needs (SECHILD)

### Profile and Underlying Philosophy for the Formation of SECHILD

The idea of the Sedoo Initiative for Children came in AONDOFA & KAWAN's quest for answers, and care for nurturing two of their children born with Cerebral Palsy; a form of brain abnormality. The couple's second child-Sedoo was born on the 22nd August 2005 (died 24th June 2007) and Aondofa the third was born 18th January 2007 (died 14th June 2014).

Faced with the challenges of raising two children with Cerebral Palsy in a society where this category of children are regarded as spirits or snake incarnate, coupled with the non-availability of accessible information, health, support centers and comprehending the plight of other parents with children requiring special care; Kawan who hitherto cared for the less privileged during her National Youth Service days while working as a volunteer Nanny at Abuja Children's Home Karu supported by her husband Aondofa conceived the framework of a home for children with special needs.

Committed to a lifetime project aimed at improving the lives of children with special needs who require much attention, extreme love, extra care and support despite many challenges, Aondofa and Kawan undaunted by the passing of their daughter Sedoo (to whom the NGO is named after) mustered strength and resilience to establish The Sedoo Initiative for Children with Special Needs (SECHILD).

The Sedoo Initiative for Children with Special Needs (SECHILD) was registered by the Corporate Affairs Commission on the 6th of January 2011 as a not-for-profit, community-driven development and non-governmental charity.

SECHILD advocates for the rights of children with special needs, provides residence care, physio/occupational therapies, professional help, an information resource center on therapy, education, succor and support to parents/ caregivers of children with Cerebral Palsy.

The organization operates a center (SECHILD center) for the care of children with Cerebral Palsy. The center is premised on the belief that every child is a gift from God, loved by Him and should be cherished and that every child should be accepted, given the opportunity to experience care, love and affection of a family and community. The Center provides services ranging from advocacy, shelter, residence care, physio/occupational therapy and education, counseling for families and caregivers.

SECHILD is working with people and institutions who share a common interest in advocating for the rights of children with special needs, developing support and creating a community of understanding, acceptance, care, and rehabilitation of this category of children and is re-orienting those who see them as gifts from the devil to end the brutal malpractices of neglect and indiscriminate killings due to myths and traditional beliefs.

#### Vision

SECHILD envisions a society where children with special needs have all the basic needs of life.

#### Mission

To advocate for the rights of children with special needs, promoting their acceptance and quality of life through re-orientation, professional information, and the provision of accessible care centers and support to their families/caregivers.

#### WHAT IS CEREBRAL PALSY??

Cerebral palsy (CP) refers to a group of disorders that affect muscle movement and coordination. In many cases, vision, hearing, and sensation are also affected.

CP is the most common cause of motor disabilities in childhood. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Trusted Source, it affects at least 1.5

to 4 out of every 1,000 children worldwide.

The word "cerebral" means having to do with the brain. The word "palsy" means weakness or problems with body movement.

#### WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF CEREBRAL PALSY?

The symptoms of CP vary from person-to-person and range from mild to severe. Some people with CP may have difficulty walking and sitting. Other people with CP can have trouble grasping objects.

The symptoms can become more severe or less severe over time. They also vary depending on the part of the brain that was affected. Some of the more common signs include:

Delays in reaching motor skill milestones, such as rolling over, sitting up, or crawling  
variations in muscle tone, such as being too floppy or too stiff  
delays in speech development and difficult speaking  
spasticity, or stiff muscles and exaggerated reflexes  
ataxia, or a lack of muscle coordination  
tremors or involuntary movements  
excessive drooling and problems with swallowing  
difficulty walking  
favoring one side of the body, such as reaching with one hand  
neurological problems, such as seizures, intellectual disabilities, and blindness  
Most children are born with CP, but they may not show signs of a disorder until months or years later. Symptoms usually appear before a child reaches age 3 or 4.

#### CAUSES OF CEREBRAL PALSY??

Abnormal brain development or injury to the developing brain can cause CP. The damage affects the part of the brain that controls body movement, coordination, and posture.

The brain damage usually occurs before birth, but it can also happen during birth or the first years of life. In most cases, the exact cause of CP isn't known. Some of the possible causes include:

asphyxia neonatorum, or a lack of oxygen to the brain during labor and delivery