



# Cardinal Onaiyekan Foundation for Peace



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🌐 (COFP) Cardinal Onaiyekan Foundation for Peace



# 2018 REPORT ANNUAL

*Uniting people of different faiths for peace through dialogue*



### **Mandate**

To provide the platform for inspiring and equipping grassroots leaders to work together genuinely in building their own solutions for social change & common humanity



### **Our Approach**

*The COFP is convinced that transforming violent extremism is impossible without building community resilience therefore, we address issues of violence and social injustice non-violently by building network of community peacebuilders, by promoting leadership ethos and by encouraging interfaith/intercultural cooperation at all levels.*

## From the Executive Director



The Cardinal Onaiyekan Foundation for Peace (COFP) continued to engage faith leaders and communities around Nigeria in efforts to bridge divisions and promote peace. Guided by our vision, our focus was to enhance peace through our three thematic program areas. Thus, 2018 presented us with the opportunity of harnessing the support we received from our donors to continue relentlessly in our efforts towards building interfaith relations, strengthening communities and fostering culture of peace.

Improving the way we do things is key to tackling the challenges of our time especially that of violent extremism. Therefore, joining forces with other actors to strategically increase citizen participation, strengthen community resilient and create peace narratives against violent extremism remains our priority. Building commitment for lasting peace and development becomes the bedrock of our peacebuilding work. The ground-breaking progress made in 2018 culminated in the introduction of the COFP Fellowship Program which was one of the first of its kind in Nigeria.

The COFP Fellowship Program was purposely introduced to effectively facilitate the empowering of religious men, women and youths with the needed skills for facilitated conflict management through techniques such as dialogue, negotiation and mediation. The advancing of peace efforts through this process will build the capacities of grassroots community leaders as critical actors and peace agents in conflict transformation, building and enhancing social cohesion, integration and peace in our communities.

Notwithstanding our challenges, many other initiatives were introduced in 2018 and previous ones consolidated with new ideas founded on shared values and concerns. The COFP remains committed and steadfast to our mandate of inspiring grassroots leaders to work together genuinely in building their own solutions for social change and common humanity.

Thanks to your partnership and support which has seen us beyond tough challenges as we pledge to continue to work more assiduously for sustainable peace and development

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Agatha O. Chikelue Sr.', written over a circular scribble.

**Agatha O. Chikelue Sr., DMMM**

Executive Director

Cardinal Onaiyekan Foundation for Peace (COFP)

Co-Chair, Religions for Peace-African Women of Faith Network

## Who We Are

The COFP is committed to building the processes of peace and social change in Nigeria and Africa. Established in 2010 by John Cardinal Onaiyekan, the Foundation recognizes that most conflicts in Africa are symptoms of deeper structural problems with ethno-religious colouration arising from all manners of exclusion including religious, ethnic, political, economic, gendered - that can only be adequately resolved through governance structures that are both ethical and just. COFP therefore strives to address these challenges by, among other things, promoting ethical leadership, offering a space for faith leaders, citizens and political actors at all levels to engage in discussions for peace and development. We believe in designing and supporting programs that drives local solutions for lasting positive change.



## Our Vision

A peaceful, cohesive and inclusive society that upholds dignity of human person, good governance and rejects all forms of violence

## Our Mission

Fostering lasting peace, harmony and transformative development through social justice, dialogue and resilience building

## Our Goal

Use dialogue to lead community driven social change, build mutual respect, prevent & resolve conflicts and enhance cooperation among adherents of different faiths and culture

## Our Thematic Program Areas

Rather than focus all our energy on the barriers, we concentrate on creating more sustainable communities, opportunities and potentials that bring the change that we want to see through our thematic areas:



“We build dialogue that forms the foundation for actionable project at COFP”

## Success Spotlight

- 35** One-year Fellowship Program conducted for 35 Religious Leaders from the six geo-political zones on Inter-faith Dialogue and Mediation.
- 30** Teachers and caregivers equipped to protect children against abuse and violence.
- 45** IDPs and destitute children received scholarship to access basic education.
- 152** Over 152 IDP women received vocational skills training and starter packs to set up their own businesses.
- 30** Youths empowered and supported to live healthier, non-violent and drug free life.
- 404** Provided free medical outreach services to 404 children in IDP camps.
- 198** Youths Participated in 18 Matches in Soccer for Peace Tournaments.



## BUILD COMMON GROUND FOR PEACE

Interfaith cooperation is one of the key essential elements in building sustainable peace in the twenty-first century. The COFP believes that the role the religious leaders can play in building peace and harmony cannot be underestimated. Building common ground for peace should not just be the responsibility of government but task for every individual and much more, a duty for every religious leader.

Equipping religious leaders with peacebuilding skills has become a necessity for countering violent extremism. Fostering peaceful and healthy human development requires changing the narrative for peace which means empowering the people with a mind-set that enhances peaceful co-existence.

The COFP encourages major stakeholders and religious leaders to rise above extreme ideologies and sentiments that leads to violence and sectarian conflicts and work collaboratively to build common ground that would advance peace in a complex religious



*“With the knowledge gained from the Fellowship Program, I have been able to negotiate peace between warring communities in my state.”*  
 Rev. Dathan Misal Musa,  
 COFP Fellow, Gombe State

## Farmer-Herder Peace Talk in Plateau State

The North Central State of Plateau has had its share of crises even until recent. The breakdown of relations has led to suspicion, fear, distrust and deaths in the community. The year 2017 & 2018 recorded more tensions and communal clashes between Fulani herders and local farmers which led to huge loss of lives and properties in the area. The COFP in April 18th – 20th 2018 succeeded in bringing together Dong, Irigwe and Fulani communities in Bassa Local Government Area of Plateau state for a town hall meeting. The meeting which lasted for two days brought together over 500 community members and Bassa Local Government Chairman for peace talk.

After much heated debate and argument among the warring communities, both parties agreed to resolve their conflicts by holding more regular intra and inter-tribal and community meetings. The leaders of both groups believe that holding constant peace meeting will give them the opportunity to understand the real issue in order to find ways of resolving them peacefully. Key leaders from the above named communities (2 herders and 2 farmers) are presently undergoing the COFP Fellowship Program on interreligious dialogue and mediation. Together, these leaders have been able to execute peacebuilding activities which aimed at bridging community relations in their locality.



“Transforming violent extremism is impossible without building community resilience,”  
COFP Foundation

Photo: Cross section of participants during farmer – herder peace talks in April 2018 in Plateau State/ Augustine Nnakwe-COFP

## 2018/19 COFP Fellowship Program

In July 2018, the Foundation launched one of the first of its kind in Nigeria: the COFP Fellowship Program on Interreligious Dialogue, Mediation, and Conflict Transformation. With the increasing level of insurgency and violent extremism in Nigeria, the need to build interfaith platform for community resilience becomes a priority. The COFP Fellowship Program emphasizes on dialogue and other non-coercive means of tackling violent extremism.

The Fellowship Program is a one-year certificate course designed to build the capacities of religious and community leaders including women and youth as actors in social cohesion, integration and peacebuilding. Through the support from the GHR Foundation, the COFP brings together annually, 35 religious leaders selected across the country's 6 geo-political zones through a competitive process for a one-year training on Interreligious Dialogue, Mediation, and Conflict Transformation. The goal of this

Photo: Ambassadors, Diplomats & Cardinal Onaiyekan during the COFP Fellowship Program Welcome/Opening Dinner/ Jude Lawson-COFP



“I must confess I have learnt a great deal from the Fellowship program, I have been able to foster a relationship between Christians and Muslims in my institution and hope to go back better equipped as a conflict mediator”  
Dr. Saheed O. Timehin  
COFP Fellow, Lagos State

Fellowship Program is to build passion for peace and nonviolence by building the capacities of faith leaders in conflict prevention and transformation. The COFP Fellowship Program which spans over 3 years (2018-2021) comprises of three Modules in each Fellowship Year and is presently in its 3rd Module of the first year. The week long modules one and two of the Fellowship Program was held in July and November 2018 at Ajuji Greenwich Hotel and Galaxy Hotels Utako Abuja respectively.



*“I was challenged by this Fellowship Program, so I wrote a book titled ' Our diversity is our strength' and would have a radio talk titled 'Woman the Peace Maker', with the COFP fellowship, zenith is my goal”*  
**Joy Leka Diamond, COFP Fellow; Bornu State**

## Soccer for Peace

Sports activities are healthy and pleasurable in their own way. They can also serve as valuable tool in bridging cultural, religious and racial divides. For COFP, sports is not just a game but an important avenue for promoting peace. It is in view of the above that the Foundation initiated series of sports competitions for young people at different levels in 2018.



Photo: Soccer for Peace Final Match at the National Stadium Abuja/ Jude Lawson-COFP

At the primary school level, the Foundation brought together 40 pupils from ten schools in the FCT, Abuja for interaction and competition in various games on February 21st, 2018. Also, youths from different football clubs in the FCT were engaged in a football tournament



### Soccer for Peace

tagged “Soccer for Peace”. The Soccer for Peace lasted for 5 weeks (March – April 2018) with 9 teams in contention. The winners of the competition went home with certificates, trophies and scholarship/monetary awards from the Foundation.



Photo: Soccer for Peace Final Match at the National Stadium Abuja/ Jude Lawson-COFP

## INTEGRATING SOCIAL CHANGE THROUGH ETHICAL LEADERSHIP

The duty of every responsible government is service and this is what ethical leadership is all about. Moral and innovative leadership fostered through ethical governance is essential in advancing societal goals for sustainable peace and economic development. COFP provides forums that address concerns and build consensus for community based response to conflict.

Through this forum, the civil society are able to explore new opportunities for collaboration and advance citizen to citizen exchange that promote goodwill, build trust and ensure their voices are heard. The COFP believes that Good governance is centred on accountability, fairness, openness, engagement and inclusion which guarantees secure and stable peaceful environment.



*“Good governance, peace & development are complementary; each flows from the other and strengthens the other”*  
COFP Foundation

## Youth Living Above Drug Addiction (YOLDA)

It is estimated that over 500,000 bottles of codeine is consumed by young and old in Nigerian. Other deadly substances like tramadol, rephnol, cocaine, diazapane, indian hemp, exol, cough and cold syrup, solution for patching tyre among other hard drugs/substance are also consumed at an alarming rate by Nigerians on daily basis. Concerned about the high rate of abuse and addiction of drugs and substances by youths in the country, particularly, the deadly effects and consequences of such drugs/substances, the COFP Foundation introduced Youth Living Above Drug Abuse/Addiction (YOLDA) in June 2018.

This Project which aimed at tackling the menace of drug and substance addiction is a one-year pilot project with three phases of intervention namely: counselling, medical and empowerment phases. Thirty youths from Abuja suburb towns Nyanya and Mararaba are currently benefiting from the program. The Foundation have the intention of extending this initiative beyond 2019 if funds are available.



*“I wasn't comfortable in the beginning with the program, but now I feel like I have found a new home here with the COFP team that has helped to restore my sanity from drug addiction.”*  
 Long live COFP Foundation  
**Mary Abutu, YOLDA Beneficiary**

Photo: Cross-section of participants during YOLDA medical & counselling sessions/ Jude Lawson-COFP



*“Cobbling has opened my eyes to entrepreneurship, I see so many opportunities in what I am doing at the moment that I don't have urge for drugs again, I am indeed grateful to COFP for this opportunity”*  
**Maple Philip, YOLDA Beneficiary**

*“I never knew my status until now, I never knew how much harm I have been doing to myself with this addiction, I hope to spread the word of caution to all my friends and family. Thanks to COFP Foundation for coming to my rescue, now I know my status, I can live well without drugs and am doing just fine with the treatment”*  
**Promise Ossai, YOLDA Beneficiary**

## Ending Violence Against Children (EVAC)

Violence against children is on the increase in Nigeria and it is gaining momentum daily. The perpetrators are regrettably those who ordinarily should protect the interest of the child including parents, guardians, teachers, friends, pastors, imams and priests. EVAC is a program initiated by the Foundation for training teachers, parents and caregivers on the need to end violence and abuse against children. This initiative is in response to the high level of child abuse and violence in our society.

The Foundation therefore, believe that the parents, teachers and caregivers have a pivotal role in stopping violence and abuses that children suffers in the hands of those who supposed to protect them from such evils. The Foundation in collaboration with Arigatou International trained teachers and caregivers on handling cases of child abuse and violence in their communities at Galaxy Hotels Utako Abuja. Participants numbering thirty (30) were selected from different schools in Abuja for a one-day training workshop on EVAC in October 2018.



Photo: Participants at EVAC training workshop, Oct. 2018/Didel Casmir-COFP

## Promoting Free & Fair Elections Without Bitterness

Through the support of the Australian Aid, we organized a 2-Day National Workshop on the Role of Religious Leaders in Promoting Credible and Violence-Free Elections in 2019. Eighty-two (82) interfaith leaders (men, women & youth) selected from Christian & Muslim religious organizations from the six geopolitical zones in the country participated actively in this workshop which started from 3rd – 6th December, 2018 at Ajuji Greenwich Hotel Abuja Nigeria.



The purpose of the workshop was to highlight the important role that religious leaders can play in influencing peaceful, free, fair and credible elections which is essential for ensuring good governance and democracy.

The workshop therefore provided the forum with different election stakeholders like the INEC, Nigerian Police and the National Orientation Agents, among others, the opportunity to address Nigerians on their readiness and commitment in delivering credible and violence-free elections come 2019. Before the end of the Two day national workshop, participants came up with a communique which served as the official statement and working document of the event. Participants were urged to make maximum use of the document which is now a working tool for their advocacy in their various communities.

Photo: Two Day National Workshop on #ElectionsWithoutBitterness, Dec 2018/Jude Lawson COFP



# SUSTAINING PEACE FOR DEVELOPMENT

There is no doubt that peace is the gateway to a successful and prosperous future. Sustainable peace ensures not only development but inclusive and harmonious society. The COFP Foundation has advanced a range of initiatives that significantly aimed at sustaining national peace and development.

**“At COFP, our programs are designed to move people & communities from exclusion and competition to inclusion & collaboration”**



Photo: Scholarship award program to 45 indigent pupils & Students in 2018/Emeka Akubuike-COFP

## Empowering Displaced Women & Girls in IDP Camps



The rise in displacement and consistent migration of IDPs, continues to pose both security and economic challenges in the country, hence the need for Government and Non-Governmental interventions. Unfortunately, during crises of this nature, women and children suffer more and this calls for urgent attention.

Thus, in response to the above needs which is in line with the Sustainable Development Goals on No hunger, Zero poverty and Gender equality, the COFP in March, September & October 2018 empowered over 150 IDP women in Amper-Pakshin, Plateau state, Jimeta, Adamawa state and Area 1, Abuja camps with vocational skills acquisition training on bakery/pastries, jewellery/beadmaking and industrial production. The empowerment training was organized to enable these women fend for themselves as well as become self-reliant economically. Each of the beneficiaries were given starter packs after a week-long training to enable them set up their own business without hitches.

Photo: IDP women empowerment program in Yola, Pakshin & Abuja in 2018/Rex-Cyprian Aniah-COFP



## Scholarship for Indigent Children & School

Education they say is power but most importantly, it is the right of every child. This is why the Foundation has consistently awarded scholarships to over 90 indigent school children living in various IDP camps and in other poor communities in the FCT over the past two years. The scholarship program is meant to support the tuition and other school fees of the beneficiaries so that they will be able to access quality basic education. The most recent scholarship was awarded in October 2018 to 45 pupils & students for a period of one year, that is, First term, Second term and Third term of the 2018/2019 academic session.

Furthermore, the Foundation has in the past two years persistently provided learning material and financial support for the education of over hundred internally displaced children in Yimitu IDP school, Abuja. Work done so far include renovation of the dilapidated school structure.

The Foundation has also taken the responsibility of paying five teachers from the above named learning centre as well as providing teaching aids to the school since November 2017.



Photo: Scholarship award program to 45 indigent pupils & Students in 2018/Emeka Akubuike-COFP





## Free Medical Outreach in Camp

In view of the poor health situation in various IDPs in the country particularly, the poor hygiene and nutrition of children who need all the support they can get in the camp, the Foundation in commemoration of the annual UN Day on the Rights of the Child, collaborated with the Global Network of Religions for Children GNRC to provide free medical services for children in Area 1 and Yimitu IDP camps from November 20 – 23rd, 2018. The Foundation came with ten Doctors and Nurses to carryout medical observations, screening/tests and also, dispense drugs.

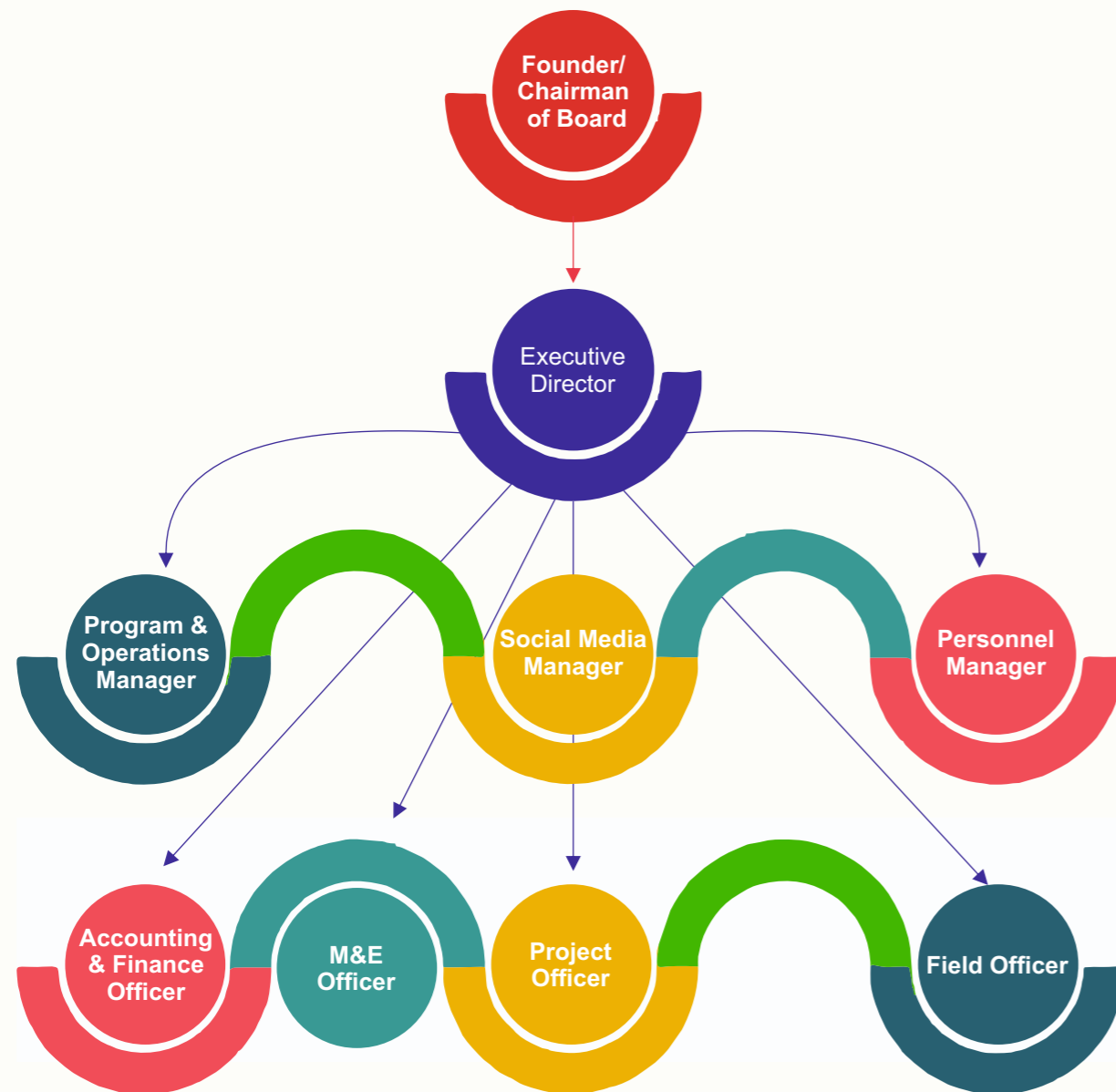
The essence of this activity was to enable poor families access medical health care for their children in the camp. Over 400 children were treated of different ailments such as malaria, typhoid, infection, de-worming, cough and cold. Children, enjoyed themselves after the medical treatment with food provided and through the funcity and balloon castles made available for their fun.



Photo: Free medical outreach for displaced children in Yimitu Camp in 2018/ Didel Casmir-COFP



## COFP Functional MAP

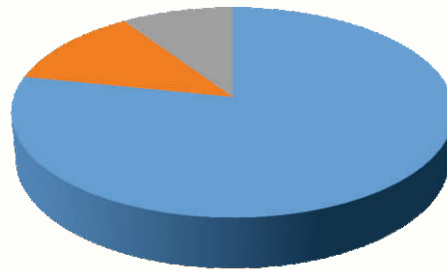


## Statement of Financial Position As At 31st December 2018

ASSETS:	Notes	2018	2017	2018	2017
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		N	N	\$	\$
Property Plant and Equipment	2	13,627,600	10,492,500	37,854	29,146
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Inventories	3	780,000	450,000	2,167	1,250
Receivables	4	1,025,780	7,367	2,849	20
Cash and cash equivalent	5	22,156,133	20,988,000	61,545	58,300
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		23,961,913	21,445,367	66,561	59,570
		-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>37,589,513</b>	<b>31,937,867</b>	<b>104,415</b>	<b>88,716</b>
		=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Payables	6	1,955,396	55,087	5,432	153
Restricted Funds	7	10,553,280	10,553,280	29,315	29,315
Accumulated funds	8	25,080,837	21,329,500	69,669	59,249
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		35,634,117	31,882,780	98,984	88,563
		-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total Liabilities and Funds</b>		<b>37,589,513</b>	<b>31,937,867</b>	<b>104,415</b>	<b>88,716</b>

### SOURCES OF FUNDS

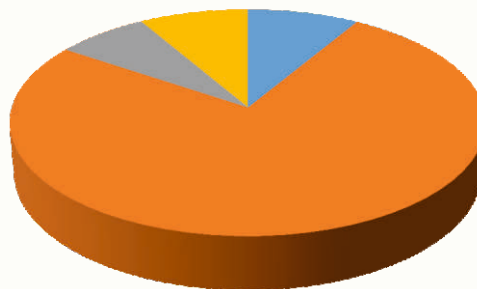
**Total: N105,930,573**



- Partners/Non-Governmental Organisations
- Donations/Contributions
- Founder

### USES OF FUNDS

**TOTAL: N94,696,568**



- Empowerment and Development Projects
- Peacebuilding Projects
- Capacity Building Projects
- Administration