A wise man once said “Sometimes life is like a river; you cannot step into the same flowing water twice”.

In a second, a wave can bring about a different flow of water from what you once stepped in.

Same with life; In a split second a person’s life can switch from the usual, to a totally different way of life. The quality of an individual’s life can take an unexpected downturn or ascent based on what life throws at them.

In the year 2014, Aisha Abubakar a 14-year-old vibrant child was a victim of the insurgent attack in her village by the Boko Haram terrorist group. A resident of Gwoza LGA in Borno State North Eastern Nigeria, she amongst other community members were displaced for months and dwelling in refugee camps as shelter. As a promising and growing child, her family migrated across states till they found settlement in the Internally Displaced Person’s (IDP) camp located in the Federal Capital Territory.

The Young Shapers Team encountered Aisha during our monthly visit to the IDP camp; which was geared towards creating a community via engagement. The impact of instability cost her parents their primary source of income and ability to generate one in other to further her education and meet their present needs. Regardless of the irony of her situation, Aisha chose to be one of the beneficiaries for the Young Shapers first ever Education Project which enrolled 16 children into the primary school sector in the year 2017.
Our goal?

*Is to deliver quality education to children with no hope of getting one.*

Taking up the responsibility to visit children in creeks, slums and refugee camps and enrolling them in a formal educational system.

Aisha amongst other has made us proud as a team. She has excelled academically with records proving that a second chance is all you need to take a shot at life again.

Statistics has shown that people who takes a break from school find it hard getting up to speed. Aisha on the other hand, excelled above her peers. In the words of her teachers “it was scary to teach them from the scratch, but at the end of the day, the YSC kids came top in class above their peers”.

Aisha was among the beneficiaries of the Smart Kids Summer Camp Coding classes held in July 2018 by YSC in partnership with the Smart Kids Zone. This program exposed her to Basic Coding Steps, Animations, Virtual Reality Gaming and Artificial Intelligence. She was receptive and her acumen increased tremendously across board.

In 2018, we sort the help of the public to donate towards our goal of enrolling 100 children into primary school, which was a huge success. We successfully enrolled **100 kids** into the Primary school system **AND** an additional **4 kids** into Secondary, of which Aisha secured a scholarship through the organization and was enrolled into Junior Secondary School 1 (JSS1).

Aisha wants to be a Nurse in the future and has shown positive attitude towards education by constantly putting in the work regardless of her habitual environment. She has given herself the push she needs to keep on going.
No defeat whatsoever...

Our children have dreams that beat the odds of their present situation. They have taken the lead wherever they find themselves; come what may. Though Aisha has been singled out today, we have about 130 beneficiaries who have participated and excelled among their peers via this program.

During that same year (2018), we introduced a Tech Program called Edutech after being recipients of 70 Android Tablets donated to the organization by the Israeli Embassy in Nigeria. We took the opportunity to introduce the kids to the technological world by conducting fully sponsored classes over time with qualified tech consultants.

Through a batching system, we have since trained over 300 children on how to use several mobile applications which help them solve basic educational problems such as Mathematical formulas and multiplication etc.

Through our rewards system, we have encouraged the kids who excelled and motivated the ones needing an extra push to aim higher and wider.

Our Vision?

To Train and Empower at least 5,000 children in the next 5 years.
Let’s Do More!
My friends mum always say, “we stand on the shoulders of those that came before us”. These kids stood on us and watched us help them grow. We are heading towards the goal and as a team, we are constantly striving to improve our approach. We believe that our previous record will never be the last of our story neither will it outlast our present process. Aisha and the others are headed towards their dream because of you and I. Regardless of the challenges we faced between the enrollment process or sustaining the kids in school, we made it work.

In 2020, we aim to empower **500 children** through Educational Enrollment and participation in the Edutech Program.

According to UNICEF’s Statistics on Education in Nigeria, **10.5 million children** are currently out of school with an education accessibility rate of **20.1%**. This is very low. Even though some primary education is free in certain part of the educational system, some of the children are not receiving education. One of the many tactics we had to implement during the academic term was a **touch base system**, where we follow up on our kids enrolled in various schools. We discovered 5 children dropped out due to relocation requirements for farming with family and resettlement in their previous community. We endeavored to communicate the need to reenrollment after settling.

The growth in Nigeria’s population has put pressure on the country’s resources and a parent’s ability to provide and sustain for their child through school. We, the Young Shapers Team have chosen a long term goal to take that burden off the parent and it will only take a village to make that happen.

People often forget that it doesn’t take a big donation to help someone, just a lot of little donations...Hannah Teter

**LET’S DO THIS TOGETHER!**

**From The Desk of:**
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Board of Trustee Young Shapers Club

End of the Year Newsletter

**Reference**