



# SHE RISES

ADVANCING THE  
HEALTH, RIGHTS  
AND ECONOMIC  
EMPOWERMENT OF  
WOMEN AND GIRLS"

## ABOUT HACEY



*HACEY is a development organization focused on improving the health and productivity of under-served population in Africa.*

HACEY is a development organization focused on improving the health and productivity of under-served population in Africa. We work with communities, government institutions, private sector companies, civil society groups and the media to design and implement sustainable interventions aimed at creating lasting impact for our beneficiaries. At HACEY, we are committed to championing solutions and building partnerships from grassroots to highest policy level to play a pivotal role in achieving the Sustainable Developmental Goals. We have a mission to promote the health, empowerment, and rights of the women and girls in Nigeria.

Over the last 10 years, HACEY has worked with private sector organizations, government agencies, civil society organizations and diplomatic missions in Nigeria to mobilize resources and compe-

tencies in designing and implementing sustainable interventions reaching over 1 million Nigerians with the aim to create a healthy and productive society. HACEY has a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and is an accrediting organization to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Some of our partners include the United States Government in Nigeria, ACT Foundation, Australia Government in Nigeria, PATH, Empower, UK, and Stars Foundation, UK, and GBCHealth, New York.



# OUR APPROACH

At HACEY we adopt the ideation, human centre design and behaviour change communication model to utilise the following **iCARE** approach in all our interventions.



## Capacity Building

We work with the public, private and social sector organizations and professionals to strengthen health and community systems to ensure that our interventions are relevant and sustainable. Our approach is human-centered and utilizes the co-creation model that ensures that beneficiaries and implementer play key roles in the design, planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of our initiatives.



## Advocacy

HACEY advocates for increased investment and support to improve livelihood opportunities for vulnerable women and girls in under-served communities. We incorporate our experience and best practice to design and implement evidence-based policy advocacy. By working with organizations, community groups and coalitions we continuously engage policy/decision makers at local, national and international level pushing for increased participation of vulnerable groups.



## Research

Our programs are designed and implemented based on evidence from detailed analysis. We ensure that our efforts represent the needs of our beneficiaries. We also provide basic and applied research training and services for government and development organizations.



## Education

At HACEY we believe that learning is key to economic development. We focus on using information technology, audio-visuals, art and interactive modules and friendly curriculum to design and implement educative programs for beneficiaries across different sectors. From developing relevant health promotions materials on gender, maternal health and sexual reproductive health and rights to interactive curriculum on economic empowerment of women, our work concentrates on using the best means possible to deliver information and improve learning outcomes

# HACEY ON WOMEN AND GIRLS AT A GLANCE -



## THE JOURNEY SO FAR



### Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights

- Provided career counselling and sexual and reproductive health education to over 5,000 girls.
- Partnered with 273 facilities offering services such as counselling, family planning services for young people
- Reached out to policy makers in all south west states to revise policies affecting sexual reproductive health and rights services for young people
- Launched a Youth-Friendly Platform for helping Young People locate Youth-friendly SRH Services and Information
- Reached over 500,000 young women and girls with information on sexual reproductive health through social media.



### Sexual Violence

- Trained over 200 civil society organisations on how to provide support services for survivors.
- Reached over 500,000 Nigerians through social media, educating them people on how to respond to incidences of sexual violence
- Supported over 100 survivors of sexual violence by linking them to different support services.



### Maternal Health

- Over 50,000 birthing kits have been distributed to birth attendants and primary health centres across Nigeria.
- Over 1,500 health workers have been trained to adopt best practices in improving maternal health in Nigeria.
- Distributed over 75,000 long lasting insecticide treated nets to pregnant women and mothers of children under 5 in Nigeria.
- Reached over 300,000 women and children across Nigeria helping them prevent infections related to poor hygiene through our WASH programs.



### Education

- Provided career counselling to over 5,000 girls.
- Increased access to education for over 2000 girls.
- Trained over 300 young women in tertiary institutions on digital and life skills
- Mentored over 3,000 young girls in secondary school to pursue careers in STEM.
- Mentored women to develop 10 SDG-focused solutions



### Economic Em- powerment

- Empowered over 1000 women to become entrepreneurs through training and mentorship





## PROJECT AGBEBI INTEGRATED MATERNAL HEALTH PROGRAM



According to the United Nations Populations Fund, investing in midwives improves the quality of services for pregnant women, new mothers and new-borns. In sub-Saharan Africa, a woman has a 1-in-16 chance of dying during pregnancy or childbirth (UNFPA). This statistic stresses the importance of Birth Attendants and Midwives in Nigeria. Project Agbebi is a community health project aimed at reducing the incidence of pregnancy-related deaths and complications in Nigeria by

providing education and support for birth attendants and primary health centres through provision of safe birthing kits and developing effective referral systems between birth attendants and health service providers to reduce maternal and child mortality. The project was piloted in Ibafo, a local community located in Obafemi Owode local government area in Ogun state, South West Nigeria.

Key achievements of the project include:

Over

**50,000**

birthing kits have been distributed to birth attendants and primary health centres across Nigeria.

Over

**500**

We have partnered with Australia High Commission and private sector organisations to train over 500 health workers to adopt best practices in improving maternal health in Nigeria.

Over

**75,000**

We have facilitated the distribution of over 75,000 long lasting insecticide treated nets to pregnant women and mothers of children under 5 in Nigeria.

Over

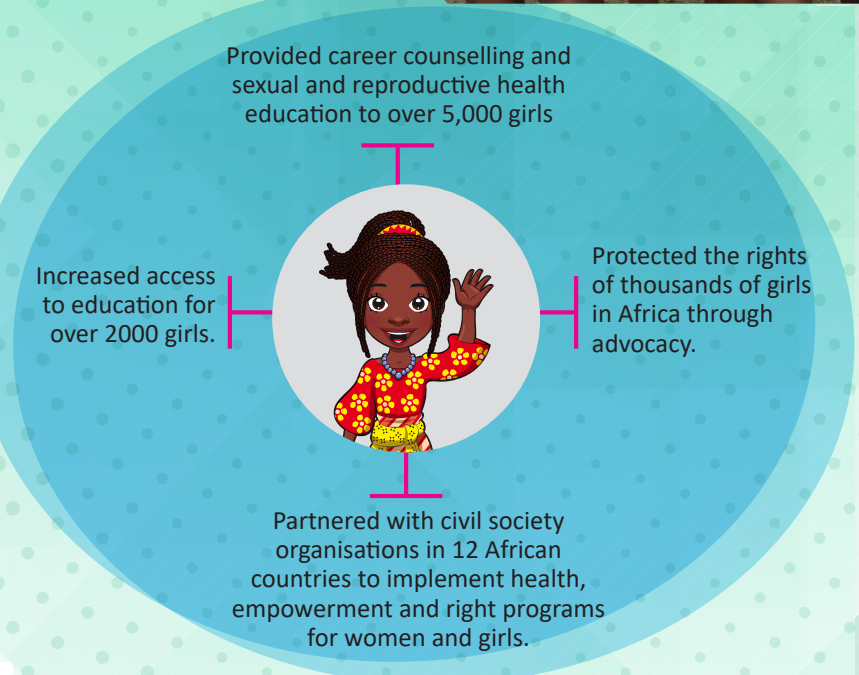
**300,000**

The integration of our water, sanitation and hygiene program into this project has helped us to directly reach over 300,000 women and children across Nigeria helping them prevent infections related to poor hygiene.

# HANDS UP FOR HER (HUFH) INITIATIVE



The Hands up for HER (HUFH) initiative is a development program with the mission to promote the Health, Empowerment, and Rights of the girl child in Africa. It focuses on calling attention to the unique challenges girls face growing up which hinder them from achieving their potential and rallying actions and commitments to changing this. It calls for the change in practices that encourage the victimization and discrimination of girls in our society. Our work aims at putting girl issues at the front of local and global development works by building the capacity of African girls and young women. HUFH's vision is to see a society where the African girl is able and allowed to lead a healthy and productive life, reaching her full potential. Key activities for this project include; Capacity building, Advocacy, Research, and Education and through these activities we have achieved the following;



## CODE4IMPACT (C4I)

Code4Impact (C4i) is a hands-on learning program building digital literacy skills, especially coding and analytical skills in young girls and young women. The C4i program aims to encourage, train and mentor young girls in secondary schools (aged 10-17) and young women in tertiary institutions (aged 18-25) to choose STEM careers. An important component of the C4i program is the C4i Training Program. The C4i training program organizes training camps in which participants develop community-impact solution addressing the global goals. Currently, the young women are trained along 4 technology tracks. These are: Web application development

- Mobile application development
- Microelectronics and
- Game development

Since inception, the C4i program has achieved the following

300



Trained over 300 young women in tertiary institutions on digital and life skills

3000



Mentored over 3,000 young girls in secondary school to pursue careers in STEM.

3000



Mentored young women to develop 10 SDG-focused solutions





# BACK ON TRACK PROGRAMME

As gender gap remains particularly wide in terms of access to health, education and employment in Nigeria, many girls continue to be trapped in the cycle of poverty therefore limiting their ability to live to their full potential. Every day, young girls drop out of school to work at home or get married, are abused and denied the right to basic support. Yet, research has shown

that when girls reach their full potential through improved status, better health care and education, it is the most effective development tool for society.

The purpose of our “Back on Track” Program is to give disadvantaged young girls a better chance to livelihood through skill acquisition and mentorship. This program, supported by the Stars Foundation under the ‘With and For Girls’ collective targets out-of-school young women and girls aged 16-29 who do not have the skills or knowledge required to earn a living. These young girls tend to embrace

risky behaviours as the only way of providing for themselves and most times end up engaging in street hawking, prostitution, illegal use of drug.

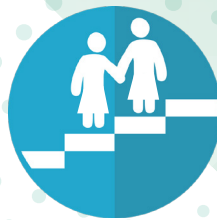
The initiative empowers beneficiaries by helping them learn vocational skills, assists and supports them in setting up businesses, as well as provide them with key information on sexual and reproductive health and rights so they can make a better life for themselves and increase the possibility of them getting back on track towards a productive life.



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



The Back on Track program has helped place more than 50 girls in vocational trainings



Over 200 girls have paired with mentors in different vocational fields



Over 100 girls have been economically empowered while most of them have gone back to school self-sponsored.



SALVUS (meaning ‘safe’) is a web-based platform developed by HACEY Health Initiative to facilitate safe and confidential reporting of sexual violence cases, with access to available comprehensive support services and relevant information with regards to sexual violence. SALVUS provides support for female survivors. It enables survivors of sexual violence report incidents and access help via web, SMS or phone call, and includes counsellors ready to support the survivor. The platform hosts a database of sexual violence support service providers that survivors can reach out to for the support they need. It also provides support for service providers and individuals who are interested in learning how to help or

support a survivor.

SALVUS is not just a platform that provides access to available sexual violence response services in Lagos, but also helps survivors make the choice they want without pressure. It is important that survivors get help within the first 72 hours after the incident to help prevent against negative health and psychological implications and preserve evidence for criminal investigation of the incident. Salvus provides contact to multiple Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Centres (SARCs) and toll-free emergency numbers run by both state and nongovernmental organizations in Lagos state.



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



Trained over 200 civil society organisations on how to provide support services for survivors.



Reached over 500,000 Nigerians through social media educating people on how to respond to incidences of sexual violence



Supported over 100 survivors of sexual violence by linking them to necessary support service providers.

# TOMBEY

Nigeria is the most populous country in sub-Saharan Africa. It also has a very young population. Most of the population is below the age of 25 years, with 22 percent of the country's population between the ages of 10-19 years. Data on sexual and reproductive health (SRH) outcomes in Nigeria highlights the importance of focusing on adolescents. At 576 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, Nigeria accounts for roughly 14 percent of the global burden of maternal mortality (DHS 2013/WHO 2014). Global evidence shows that young girls bear a higher burden of maternal mortality and morbidity. Data show that the average age at sexual debut is roughly 15 years of age among adolescent mothers in Nigeria (DHS 2003, 2008, 2013).

The TOMBEY project, sponsored by AmplifyChange, is a platform that aims to increase the awareness and agency of young people concerning their sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and facilitate increase in access to sexual and reproductive health resources and services. It provides detailed mapping and review of centres, providing information on the available SRH service centres and the services they provide.

Addressing access provides young people the opportunity to receive needed services from a skilled service provider so they can improve their health outcomes. Because access is not just limited to availability and adequacy of care and supplies needed to provide services, it is important we recognize and address issues of SRH service affordability and the acceptability and accessibility of these services.

Apart from TOMBEY being an intervention to increase young people's access to health services, it aims to improve young people's knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours through our interactive and easily accessible platform. To increase young people's use of services it is necessary to make facilities and services more accessible, acceptable and welcoming to young people, and work within the communities to generate support. This not only encourages them to develop positive behavioural change, but also addresses some of the challenges preventing them from using the available services.





# HACEY'S GIRL SPACE



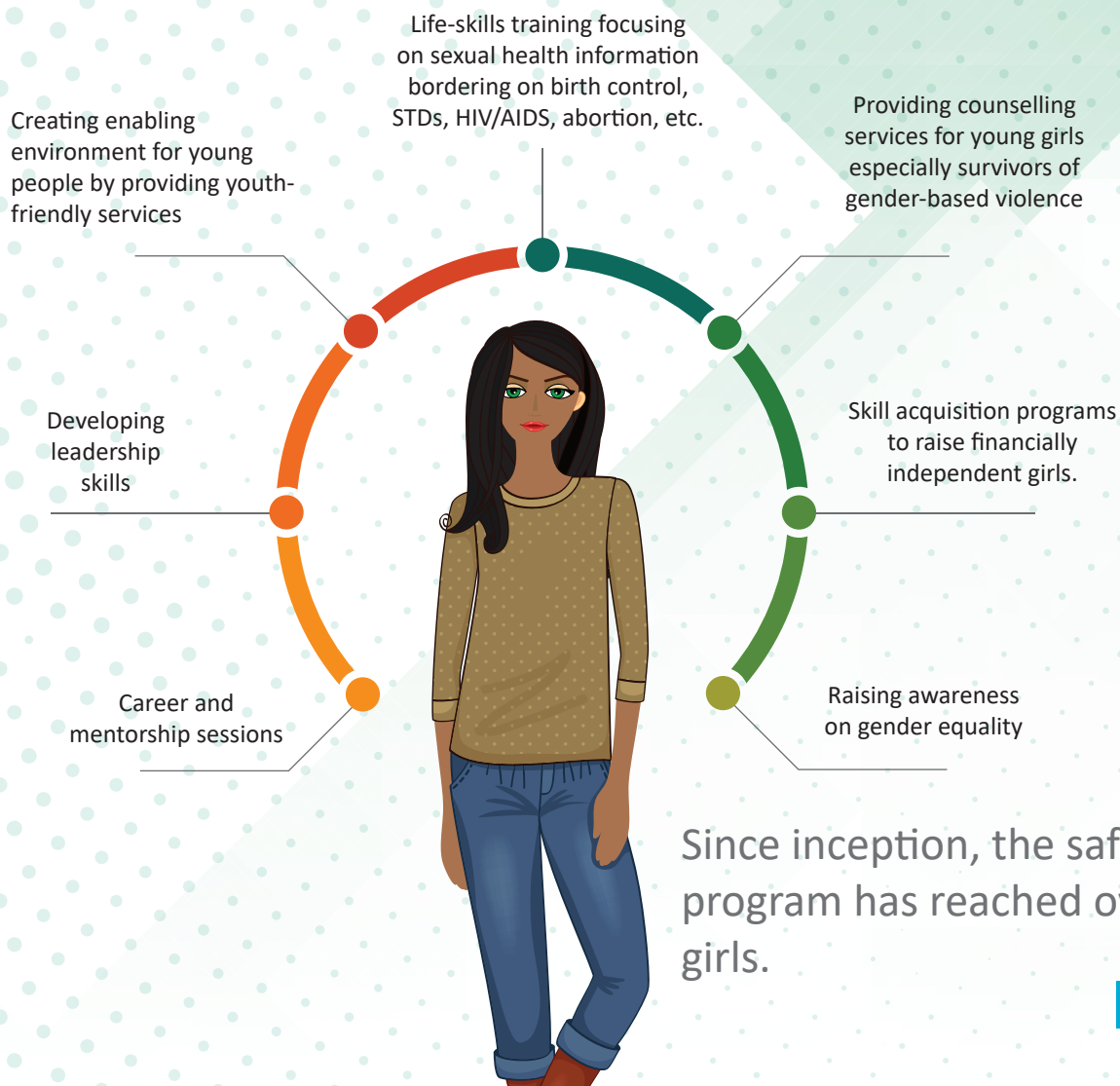
Adolescent girls have specific needs because it is the stage of life where they are associated with experimentation of risky and life-changing behaviours. It is quite clear that increasing access to quality healthcare services is not enough to improve health outcomes of young people. Sexual reproductive health and rights needs of young people especially girls are greatly affected by cultural, religious and economic factors. These factors make young girls vulnerable to SRH risks like unsafe sex, rape, unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortion etc. It is important to address these issues by engaging key influencers and advocates such as parents, community members, and policy makers. Young girls

can be made to recognize their rights by creating enabling environments.

Safe Spaces are one of the phenomenal ways we can create enabling environments for girls. HACEY's safe space for girls is a free atmosphere where different issues such as masturbation, abortion, rape, condom use, pleasure, abuse, sex before marriage and taboos are openly and sensitively addressed. Issues are addressed as positive and non-judgmental as possible. We do not only operate a physical safe space, we are also virtual. It is also an avenue for dissemination of sufficient information for adolescent girls and guidance on making informed decisions about SRH

issues. The idea of safe and supportive environments is very crucial for girls, given the burdens and limitations placed on them by parents and social institutions that intensify as they approach adulthood. Our programs are designed to equip girls with knowledge to develop themselves and become good leaders with impressive self-confidence.

The goal of the Safe Space Initiative is lead young girls to live healthy and productive lives. To achieve these, the objectives of the outreach include the following



Since inception, the safe space program has reached over 1329 girls.

# LIFE AND VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING



HACEY organizes capacity building for young girls in Nigeria that teaches life-building skills and empower young girls to further develop themselves to become socially responsible individuals. To give them better understanding of leadership, learning by action model and interactive activities are employed to teach the principles of teamwork and success. In schools, girls are also imparted with knowledge on how they can better cope with school work and making the right career choices. To help us achieve this, the book 'SMARTNESS', published by HACEY in 2010 was used to engage and educate the students. Using the acronym 'SMARTNESS', HACEY also empowers in-school and out-of-school girls in Nigeria to be social change agents and leaders in their communities. Till date, over 500 girls have been empowered across Nigeria.



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### 500+

In 2010, Project Elevate' was developed to empower women in northern Nigeria. The aim of the project was to empower women to become entrepreneurs, thus providing for themselves and their households. Since 2010, over 500 women in northern part of Nigeria have benefited from this project.



### 300

In 2012, HACEY, in partnership with a faith-based organization organized a leadership and entrepreneurship training program for 50 young people in Lagos state, Nigeria. The training program developed the leadership capabilities of young people who participated in the program and empowered them with adequate knowledge to prepare and develop their business ideas. The program followed up with the participants supporting them to initiate social projects in their communities. since them 300 young people from 4 states in Nigeria have benefited from this training.







## TEAM AND EXPERTISE

Our team at HACEY consist of 3 senior management staff, 2 program executives and 10 program officers who are all full time staff who work every day to design, implement, monitor, evaluate, report our interventions. This team is made up of professional with skills in project management, health promotion, research, implementation, knowledge management, advocacy, communications and media. They have received training at the University of Leeds in UK, John Hopkins University, US, University of Sussex, UK, University of Surrey, UK, Centre for Sustainability Excellence in Chicago and through USAID and MSH funded training programs. Also, our staff have had the opportunity to visit and learn about maternal health and gender programs in Africa, Europe, North America, Asia and Australia.

Also, we have a verified pool of 127 field investigators and 174 field officers that help us conduct surveys, focus group

discussions, mapping and implement programs at the community and grassroots level across the 6 geo-political zones in Nigeria. Our field investigators and officers have received training on key element of our work which includes research, community engagement/mobilisation and key health issues such as WASH program implementation. They are not permanent staff therefore the need for extra verification process before engagement, we have since engaged them on our projects since our inception in October 2007.

The impact of our programs for women and girls helped us to win the With and for Girls award in United Kingdom and the Queen Elizabeth II award for excellence in development work presented by the queen at the Buckingham palace.

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