



RoSF

NEWSLETTER
7TH EDITION 2018

FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

Folorunso Alakija (Mrs)

On behalf of the Chairman and Board of Trustees of the Rose of Sharon Foundation, I give all thanks to God who has been enabling us to provide succor to our widows and orphans over the years. During the second half of 2018, lots of exciting events took place and we are pleased to share the report with you.

RoSF 10th Anniversary Celebration

Rose of Sharon celebrated its 10th Anniversary of "reaching out and touching" the lives of one of the most vulnerable groups in the world; widows and orphans. Different activities were lined up to celebrate a decade of wiping tears away from the eyes of our beneficiaries. It began with a courtesy visit to the Grand Matron of the Foundation, followed by print and electronic medias, a charity walk with a grand finale reception hosted on 23rd June, the International Widows Day.

Courtesy Visit to the Grand Matron of the Foundation

As part of the activities to mark our 10th year anniversary, the Board of Trustees led by the Founder, Mrs Folorunso Alakija, paid a courtesy visit to the Grand Matron of the Foundation in the person of the First Lady of Lagos State, Her Excellency, Mrs Bolanle Ambode on the 23rd May 2018. The visit was to intimate her of the activities lined up for the 10th anniversary celebration. She warmly welcomed the team and pledged her support for the programs lined up for the anniversary celebration.

Media Outreach

In order to raise awareness of the general public on the plight of widows and orphans in our community as well as publicise activities lined up for the 10th Anniversary of the Foundation, Members of the Board of Trustees carried out media outreaches to some newspaper houses, TV and Radio stations. We thank all the media houses for partnering with us in carrying our message to our communities.

Charity Walk

We embarked on a Charity Walk on 16th of June 2018 tagged "Hope in the Midst of Despair". The essence of the walk was to take a step against the discrimination of widows and engender support from the public against the inhumane practices unleashed on widows and orphans in our communities. We had over 600 widows, their children and orphans in attendance. We appreciate all those that supported us to ensure the walk was a huge success.

10th Anniversary Grand Finale and The International Widow's Day 2018

The International Widow's Day program and the grand finale of the Foundation's 10th anniversary celebration was held on Saturday, 23rd June 2018. It commenced with a medical outreach where participants underwent cancer counselling and screening, eye screening and donation of eye glasses. They also had clinical checks carried out on them to determine their

health status and free drugs were given to those that needed them. We say a big thank you to all partners and friends of RoSF who sponsored all the drugs and eye glasses given during the medical outreach.

The afternoon session had Mr. Shadrack Madlion, MD of Safari 54 Ltd as its Guest Speaker. He enlightened the guests on the abundant opportunities which abound in the Agricultural sector and he encouraged the widows to take advantage of these prospects especially in the areas of export of produce.

The First Lady of Lagos State and Grand Matron of the Foundation, Her Excellency, Mrs. Bolanle Ambode graced the occasion. In her remark, she encouraged the widows to aim at being self-reliant as "self-help is the best help". She informed the audience that "when a widow earns regular income from the skill they have acquired, they will be able to depend more on themselves and less on the occasional generosity and kindness of others". She congratulated the Foundation for "a decade of service to humanity and sacrifice for the improvement of society".

The occasion was also used to recognise and appreciate individuals and organisations that have partnered with the Foundation over the past ten years.

Youth Empowerment Program 2018

The third edition of our annual Youth Empowerment Program tagged "Bridging the knowledge Gap" held on 24th November 2018 at The Yaba College of Technology with 282 participants in attendance. YEP is the Foundation's career development and capacity building programme for graduates and undergraduates, job seekers, working class and self-employed youths of Rose of Sharon Foundation. It is tailor-made to address specific career needs of the participants. The aim is to equip them with knowledge and life changing skills they need for self-reliance to support their families and become a useful part of the society. Pictures of the program are included in this newsletter.

We appreciate all the individuals and organisations who partnered with us and contributed to the success of this year's programs. We are indeed truly grateful for their continual support. May God bless them and their organisations abundantly.

We thank all our friends in the media for their continuous support through the reporting and publicising of all our programs.

Once again, on behalf of the Chairman, the Board of Trustees and our administrative staff, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and more Prosperous 2019.

May God bless you all!

FA

Founder

The Rose of Sharon



reach out and touch...

COURTESY VISIT TO RoSF MATRON

The Founder and Members of the Board of Trustees of RoSF paid a courtesy visit to the Matron of RoSF, HER Mrs Bolanle Ambode to share with her series of activities lined up for the Foundation's 10th year celebration. The Matron who not only welcomed the Founder and her team, but equally pledged her support to ensure that RoSF has a worthy 10th year celebration of touching many lives.



Presentation of gift by the foundation to the Grand Matron Her Excellency Mrs. Bolanle Ambode



Cross section of Grand Matron, Founder, Board of trustee's & Staff of RoSF

RosF 10TH ANNIVERSARY CHARITY WALK

RosF first ever Charity Walk tagged “Hope in the midst of Despair”

As part of the activities to mark the 10th year Anniversary of the Rose of Sharon Foundation and the celebration of the International Widow's Day, 2018, RosF took a step to stop discrimination against widows. The event which took place on 10th June had over 600 widows and widow's children in attendance.

While we appreciate the efforts of the government and other stakeholders in passing into law the 'Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) bill, we insist that the law must take it full effect and be implemented.



RosF charity walk



RosF charity walk



RosF charity walk



CHARITY WALK CONTINUES...



RoSF charity walk



RoSF charity walk



RoSF charity walk



RoSF charity walk



RoSF charity walk



RoSF charity walk



RoSF charity walk

RoSF 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

■ Empowerment of 100 widows and orphans

As part of the activities to commemorate RoSF's 10th year anniversary and the International Widow's Day on 23rd June 2018, 100 new widows and 8 orphans were added to the RoSF beneficiaries. Below are some of the beneficiaries as they collected their empowerment letters.



Presentation of empowerment letters to new widows by Mrs. Naza Alakija & Mrs. Tope Olusola

RoSF 10TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUES...

■ Performance by RoSF Widows and Youths

Widows, their children and orphans expressed their joy in dancing, singing as they testified to being 'reached and touched' by RoSF over the past 10 years.



Widows performing at RoSF 10th anniversary



Widow's child Donald Ekuku performing at RoSF 10th anniversary



Widows performing at RoSF 10th anniversary



Widow's children performing at RoSF 10th anniversary



Widows performing at RoSF 10th anniversary



Widow's children performing at RoSF 10th anniversary

RoSF 10TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUES...

■ Free Medical Treatments and Distribution of Eye glasses

Each time RoSF has an occasion of bringing our beneficiaries together, we always use the opportunity to care for their health through the services of our healthcare partners. During the celebration, RoSF invited the Medical Mass Mission team to conduct free cancer and eyes screening as well as the distribution of eye glasses to our widows and orphans.

Emzor Pharmaceuticals Company also conducted medical checks and dispensed drugs to our beneficiaries free of charge.



Widows receiving free cancer test



Widows receiving free eye test



RoSF 10TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUES...



Mrs. Alakija & Dr. Abia



RoSF trustees, Mrs. Alakija & Dr. Abia



Widows receiving free eye test



Mrs. Alakija inspecting the health facilities



Widows receiving free eye test



Mobile Cancer Screening Unit

RoSF 10TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUES...

■ Partners Recognition and Awards

RoSF used the opportunity of celebrating her 10th year of amazing humanitarian intervention in the lives of widows and orphans to recognise and award her ardent partners whose contributions are invaluable to the huge success recorded so far.



Mrs. Alakija presenting award to RoSF Grand Matron, Her Excellency, Mrs. Bolanle Ambode



The Founder presenting award to Empretec



The Grand Matron presenting award to RoSF Partner



The Founder presenting award to ACCL



Mrs. Naza Alakija presenting award to FIDA



Mrs. Alakija, Her Excellency Bolanle Ambode & FIDA representatives

RoSF 10TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUES...

■ Presentation of Empowerment Work Tools (Pasta Making Machine)

The Founder of RoSF, Mrs Folorunso Alakija, who always seeks different ways to upgrade the widows' living standard, empowered 95 widows with pasta making machine to help them expand their sources of living. The beneficiaries also underwent training to enable them use the machine effectively.



Widows received empowerment work tools (Pasta Making Machine)



The Rose of Sharon Foundation Youth Empowerment Programme (YEP)

...A window of opportunity with Mrs Folorunso Alakija

YEP is the Foundation's career development and capacity building programme for youths associated with the Rose of Sharon Foundation. YEP's core objective is to motivate and empower young adults to rise above the obvious socio-economic limitations to building and excelling in their desired field and careers of interest.

At the Rose of Sharon Foundation, we firmly believe in the human capacity potential of the Youth and are poised to assist them harness their untapped gifting, skills and talent.

Following the deep desire of the Founder to see youths succeed YEP has been expanded in this Year's edition to include youths from all across the country. The second edition of the YEP for 2018 held on 24th November at the Yaba College of Technology with the theme "Young Entrepreneurs of the 21st Century: Bridging the Knowledge Gap".

The event addressed important areas such as: leveraging technology for global competitiveness, Agriculture/Farming Industry, Finance Management Skills, Entertainment & Fashion Industry and Online Digital Marketing

Mrs Folorunso Alakija hosted other speakers, in the persons of Mrs Chioma Chukwuka Apkotha, Mr Conrad Adigwe, Mr Akinwunmi Oni, Amb. Utchay Odims, Mr Jude Oputa and Alhaji Yusuf Balliamin Moore to explore these areas. There were 282 participants in attendance.



Speakers at the RoSF YEP 2018



Mrs. Folorunso Alakija the founder, addressing the participants.



Cross section of the participants

FOUNDER'S WIDOWS AND ORPHANS ANNUAL VISITS

The Founder of the Rose of Sharon Foundation, Mrs Folorunso Alakija, goes beyond making resources and funding available to cater for the needs of widows and orphans of RoSF, she also pays personal home visits to widows and orphans every year to see to their welfare. This is an example of a real woman with a heart of gold.



Mrs. Aremu's family with RoSF founder



Mrs. Adewusi with RoSF founder



Mrs. Uluba's family with RoSF founder



Mrs. Olugbodi's family with RoSF founder

RoSF EXPANSION DRIVE... A MISSION WITHOUT BORDERS...

The RoSF is poised to expand her operations to the rest of the country. An additional 250 widows and 150 orphans will be empowered from the 5 geopolitical zones by the end of December 2018. This has necessitated the recruitment of volunteer state and zonal coordinators who will be responsible for each state and zone to achieve the expansion plan.

The volunteers were commissioned to carry out this assignment and ensure that each state benefits from the good work God is using Mrs Folorunso Alakija, the Founder of RoSF, to wipe away tears from the eyes of widows and orphans in Nigeria. By the end of this exercise in December 2018, RoSF would have successfully empowered 1,000 widows and 250 orphans nationwide.

These pictures show the activities of the RoSF Volunteers in the communities where we they are currently working to enroll widows and orphans.

Some of these locations are tagged 'hard to reach areas' but RoSF's mission to widows and orphans is 'a journey without borders'. RoSF is 'Reaching Out and Touching those in need'



Kukar Gadu Community in Fika LGA, Yobe State with Mr. Inuwa RoSF State Rep.



Esirebom Community in Cross River State



Agbaja Community in Ehime Mbano LGA, Imo State.



Yamultu-Deba Community in Taraba State

RoSF EXPANSION DRIVE... A MISSION WITHOUT BORDERS...



Ungwan Rimi Community in Chikun LGA, Kaduna State with Mr. Laya RoSF State Rep.



Agbani Community in Nkanu LGA, Enugu State



Kukar Gadu Community in Fika LGA, Yobe State with Mr. Inuwa RoSF State Rep.



Agbani Community in Nkanu LGA, Enugu State



Gaadi Ishuawa Community in Makurdi, Benue State



Gaadi Ishuawa Community in Makurdi, Benue State



Ndiebor, Egbuagu Community in Ebonyi State

RoSF EXPANSION DRIVE... A MISSION WITHOUT BORDERS...



Gama Community in Nassarawa LGA, Kano State



Wazziri B Community in Sokoto north
with Miss Halima RoSF State Rep



Tudun Wada, Samaru Community in Zamfara State
with Mr. Yusuf Mukhtar RoSF State Rep.



Batagarawa Community in Katsina State
with Mr. Ochenu RoSF State Rep.



Batagarawa Community in Katsina State
with Mr. Ochenu RoSF State Rep.



Angwan Kofare Community in Yola North Adamawa



Igbogene Community in Bayelsa State
with Mr. Japhet RoSF State Rep.



Agbani Community in Nkano LGA, Enugu State
with Mr. Onyedika RoSF State Rep.



Gesse Community in Birnin Kebbi State
with Mr. Ajomale RoSF State Rep.

Meet *Our Partners*



reach out and touch...



Publications by
Folorunso Alakija (Mrs.)

Flower Nurtures
Your business is
Your life in 1998.

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