

"Giving Hope, Restoring Hope to Widows and Orphans"



23rd June, 2013

International Widows Day

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**Echichi Garden Opposite Best Western Plus Ayuji Hotel, Behind NNPC Filing Station
Gudu Apo District**

Theme; Widows Weep Not

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rock of Ages Empowerment Foundation was founded in 2007 and registered as a corporate body on the 23rd June, 2009 under the Companies and Allied Matter Act, (Part 'C') 1990 of the federal Republic of Nigeria. We carry out free medical treatment; free education support programs, youth and widows empowerment.

The Rock of Ages Empowerment Foundation believes in restoring hope, giving hope to the widows and orphans and in so doing, the foundation uses her yearly international widow's day celebration to empower widows who were trained on different skills and also provide scholarship to the orphans.

The foundation carries out research, training, outreaches and public educational campaigns about the needs for widow's empowerment, orphans and other vulnerable groups in the society. It is committed to its mission of transforming the lives of the underprivileged individuals through quality education, good medical treatments, and financial support, regardless of age, gender, race, religion or financial status.

During the 2013 International Widows Day Celebration Rock of Ages Empowerment Foundation, over 16 million naira was spent to empower widows in various service delivery areas, *1500 widows received one bag of 10kg rice each, 800 widows were also given one bag of 10kg semovita each. 300 widows were trained on how to make liquid soap and empowered with cash to start up the business, whereas another 300 widows were also empowered with cash as start up grant for small scale business.*

The medical component of the event of the 2013 International widows day celebration started with a health talk on various topics e.g hand wash, ebola control, HIV prevention messages by a trained nurse, involved the check of blood pressure, Clients were tested for malaria parasite, typhoid fever, arthritis, blood glucose, skin condition, worm cases. There was free consultation and free drugs. There were free eye checks, reading glasses were given to various people with eye defect. Referrals were made to appropriate health facility if any.

Out of 700 widows that participated in the medical diagnosis and treatment, 57% widows were diagnosed with malaria and were treated adequately, 7% widows were treated for hypertension, 6% were treated for diabetes mellitus, while 8% widows were treated for arthritis. More so, 9% widows were checked for eye problem and were treated with eye drops and reading glasses. 1% have skin condition cases, 8% worm cases, whereas, 5% widows that showed signs and symptoms of typhoid fever were treated.

2.0 WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE FOUNDER/CEO RAEF

The welcome address was given by the Founder/CEO RAEF Evangelist IG who welcomed all present at the occasion, and he briefly summarized what the foundation stands for, its mission and vision, the impact so far, achievements and of course the success stories. In his address, He stated that RAEF was founded in 2007 and registered as a Corporate body on the 23rd June, 2009 under the Companies and Allied Matter Act, (Part 'C') 1990 of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. We believes in restoring hope, giving hope to the widows and orphans and in so doing, the foundation uses her yearly international widow's day celebration to empower widows who were trained on different business areas.

The foundation carries out research, training, outreaches and public educational campaigns about the needs for widow's empowerment, orphans and other vulnerable groups in the society. It is committed to its mission of transforming the lives of the underprivileged individuals through quality education, good medical treatments, and financial support, regardless of age, gender, race, religion and status. In delivering our mandate, the foundation focuses in the following program areas; Empowerment, Education, Agriculture and Career Counseling.

In the area of achievement, RAEF has singly handed transformed the lives of over 5000 widows and their children, through skill acquisition training, financial empowerment, monthly medical checkup and payment of school fees for children without any external sources of income. We are being moved by the plight of the vulnerable and are committed to pulling resources together towards giving a helping hand.

Our activities are growing everyday as we continuously identify areas of need in the society. We call on men and women of goodwill, Nigerians/Nigerians in Diaspora, International Partners to join us in challenging the ugly trend of poverty, diseases, marginalization, domestic abuses, illiteracy and neglect and give succor to the less privileged with grants and other financial assistance.

In conclusion, He thanked attendees who were witnesses to this historic event. However, his special thanks goes to the distinguished chairperson, the Hon. Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development and other Civil Society Organizations presents.

EMPOWERMENT INDICATORS

Table 1; Empowerment

Beneficiaries	Empowerment	Impact/Remark
1500 widows	10kg bag of rice each @ N2,625,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ to fight against hunger ✓ improve family livelihood
800 widows	10kg bag food item -Semovita each @ N1,440,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ to fight against hunger ✓ improve family livelihood
300 widows	Cash for liquid soap making @ N6million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ business start up grant ✓ improve standard of living
300 widows	Cash for small scale business @ N6million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ business start up grant ✓ improve standard of living

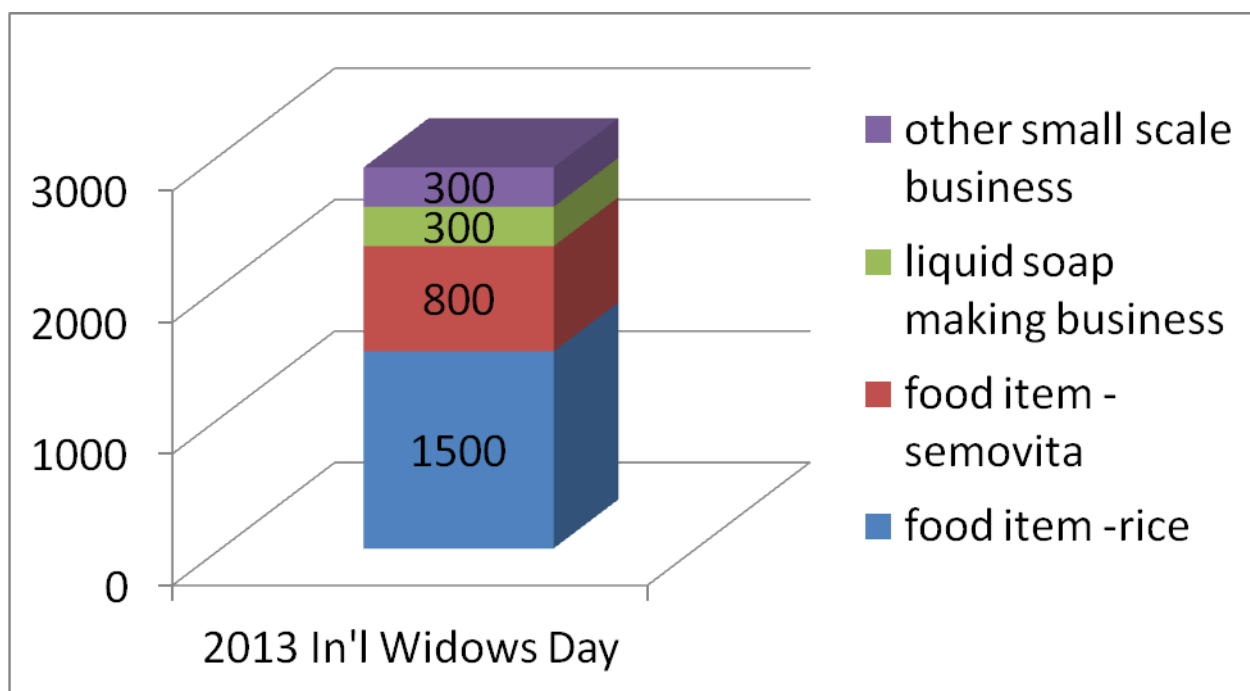


Figure 1: Widows and orphans empowerment program

From the figure above, 1500 widows received one bag of 10kg rice each, 800 widows were also given one bag of 10kg semovita each. 300 widows received were trained on how to make liquid soap and they also empowered with cash to start up the business, whereas another 300 widows were also empowered with cash as start up grant for small scale business. The impact of each empowerment is stated in the table above.

Table 2; Multi diseases data

S/N	Indicators	Diagnosis	Treated	% treated
1	Malaria cases	400	400	57%
2	Hypertension cases	47	47	7%
3	Diabetes Mellitus cases	40	40	6%
4	Arthritis symptom cases	56	56	8%
5	Eye problem cases	60	60	9%
6	Skin condition cases	7	7	1%
7	Worm cases	56	56	8%
8	Typhoid fever	34	34	5%
9	TOTAL	700	700	100

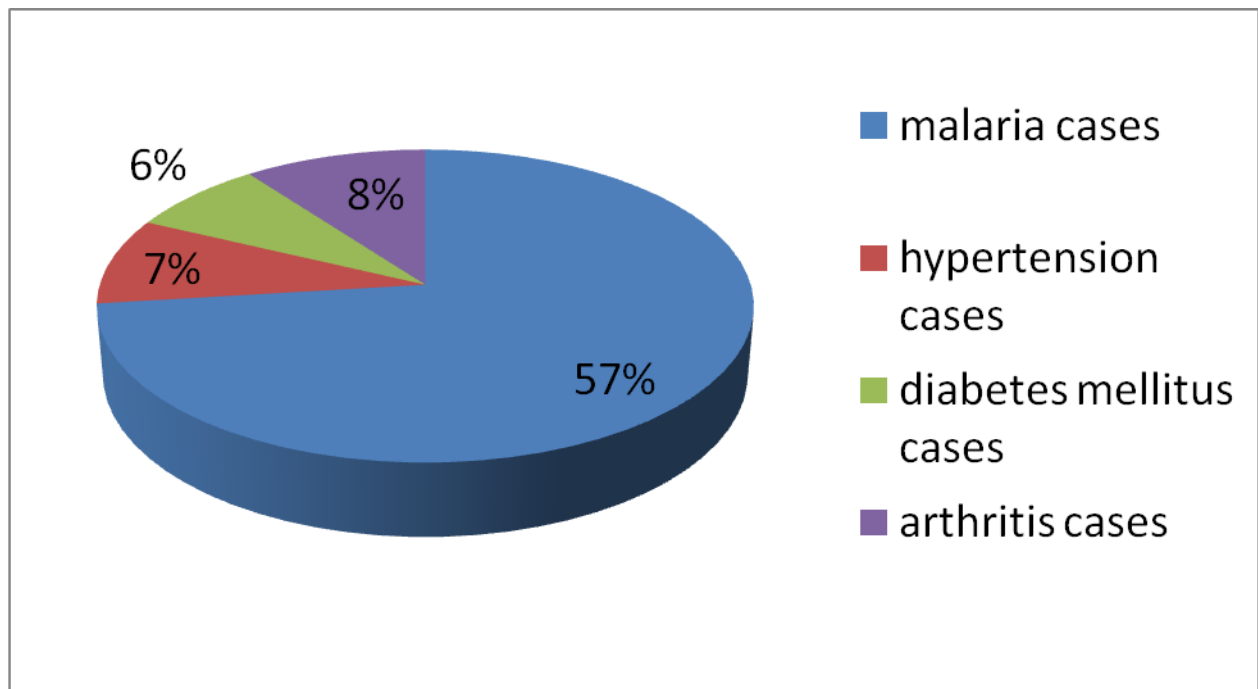


Figure 2: 2013 International Widows Day Free Medical diagnosis and treatment

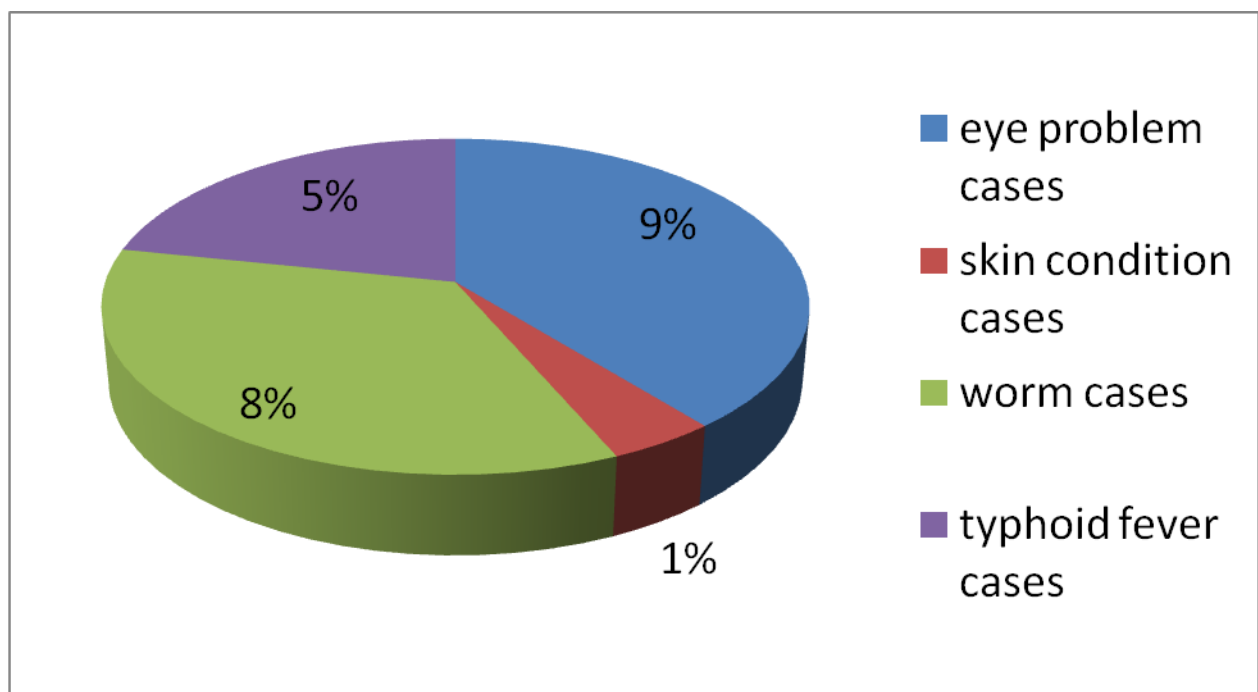


Figure 3: 2013 International Widows Day Free Medical diagnosis and treatment

From the figure 2 and 3 above, out of 700 widows that participated in the medical diagnosis and treatment, 57% widows were diagnosed with malaria and were treated adequately, 7% widows were treated for hypertension, 6% were treated for diabetes mellitus, while 8% widows were treated for arthritis. More so, 9% widows were checked for eye defect and were treated with reading glasses. 1%

have skin condition cases, 8% worm cases, whereas, 5% widows showed signs and symptoms of typhoid fever, they were treated.

3.0 ACHIEVEMENTS

RAEF has singlehandedly transformed the lives of over 7000 widows and their children, through skill acquisition trainings, financial empowerment, free monthly medical check-up and payment of school fees for their children without any external sources of income. We are moved by passion, and plight of these vulnerable groups and we are committed to pulling resources together towards giving a helping hand.