

"Giving Hope, Restoring Hope to Widows and Orphans"



2018

Youth Entrepreneurship Program

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Leature Theatre Hall 1 of the University of Abuja Gwagwalada Campus

Theme: "Creating Safe Spaces for Nigerian Youths through Entrepreneurial Development"

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Rock of Ages Empowerment Foundation organized 2018 International Youth Day on the 24th of August 2018. The event which was tagged 'Creating Safe Spaces for Nigerian Youths through Entrepreneurial Development' was in conformity with the United Nations International Youth Day theme for the year 2018 which was "Safe Spaces for Youths". The event was the first of its kind to be organized by the foundation. It took place at the Lecture Theatre Hall 1 of the University of Abuja Gwagwalada Campus. The event witnessed a huge turnout of students from the institution and other neighboring institutions.

The event commenced at 10am following a welcome address led by RAEF Program Director Mrs Rita Ndubisi. One of the student's leaders Mr. Richardson Ojeka who anchored the program took everyone through the event of the day and encouraged the students to key into every activity and program outlined in marking the youth's day celebration. He further advised them to write their expectations and areas of interest in life and relate it to the theme of the day as the program advances.

During 2018 Youth entrepreneurship program, over 10 million naira was spent to train and empower youths in various skill geared towards self reliance, financial independence, and eradication of social vices among other things. 238 youths benefited from entrepreneurship empowerment program. The skill acquisition program covered the following areas such as bag making, perfume production, disinfectants, pomade, air fresheners, liquid soap making, pies and small chops like samosa, spring – roll, cocktails, different types of fruit juice, and photography. The impact of the skill acquisition cannot be over emphasized, and include, self reliance, self discovery, financial independence, reduction in the unemployment indices, as well as reduction in the social vices among the youths.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE DAY

A lot of activities took place on the slated day which includes;

Lecture and creating awareness on YOUTHS AND ENTREPRENUERSHIP

Mr. Odedela Tosin, a trainer, public speaker, entrepreneurship and leadership expert, an author and business development consultant delivered a lecture titled "Youth and Entrepreneurship". He engaged the students on the need for them to empower themselves with different skills and training that will benefit them even while they are in school. He emphasized the importance of engaging in their residual source of income especially as it relates to their immediate environment. He cited the total dependence of students on the government as one major cause of joblessness in the society, low level of creativity among youths even in the school. He encouraged the students to take advantage of every opportunity they get while school to make them productive and impactful to the country and the world at large.

Lecture on "Safe Space for Youths Using Entrepreneurship Development"

This was delivered by Mr Maurice Chima, an ICT Expert, entrepreneurship, and an official of the Rock of Ages Empowerment Foundation. In his address to the students made emphasis on the concept of the theme of the year, Safe Spaces for Youths. He stated the need for students to appreciate the privilege they have as students and how important it is for them to take advantage of the privileges it provides them through education which is their primary reason for being in school such as networking, formal and informal training.

He enumerated some benefits the school provides as a safe space to students and also complimented the first speaker on the importance and value of skills acquisition as alternate sources of income with specific

emphasis on proper and legitimate use to their advantages both academically and financially. On a final note, he encouraged the students to source for beneficial skills, products, platforms and information that will help them grow and also gave references where they could get some of the opportunities mentioned.

The Highlight of the Youth Day Event

The highlight of the youth day event was the entrepreneurship training. Training on different entrepreneurship skills like, making of liquid soaps, perfumes, toilet disinfectants (Dettol, IZAL), Vaesline, bags with local fabrics, pastries like small chops, pies, cocktails with low start-up capitals and advice (s) on target market for the students as well as training on photographing.

The trainings were grouped into the following;

BAG MAKING: The bag making category comprises about 45 students who indicated interest and were taught how to make bags with local fabrics (Ankara), the procedures were outlined for them from measurement, cutting, fitting to sewing and furnishing.

PERFUME, POMADE AND LIQUID SOAP MAKING: This category had about 76 students and they were taught how to make liquid soaps, pomade, air fresheners, disinfectants and perfumes. They were very happy as they expressed their feeling about the training and its degree of simplicity as made by the facilitator.

MAKING SMALL CHOPS.AND COCKTAILS: As expected, this category had more students in participation than others. About 92 students in all, were taught on how to make small chops like Samosa, Spring - roll, Pies, Cocktail and different types of fruit juice.

PHOTOGRAPHY: This category had about 25 students, the least amongst all, but had a procedure training measure wherein all participating students were fully engaged in the operation of the camera with practical test of the usage of the camera before the end of the program.

The students at the end of the training expressed their satisfactions and appreciated the management and staffs of Rock of Ages Empowerment Foundation for bringing such program to their school and requested that the next program coming up should be made to accommodate more students and provide more empowerment platforms and opportunities for them. Items produced as a result of the training were shared to the students.

2.0 MESSAGE TO THE STUDENTS BY PROGRAM DIRECTOR

The Program Director of Rock of Ages Empowerment Foundation on behalf of the founder welcomed the students for coming in their numbers for the programs. She expressed her joy on the active participation of the students in all the outlined activities. She also encouraged the students to believe in themselves notwithstanding the economic situation in the country at the moment, further bolstering the messages of the first two speakers and promising that the next international youths day program in the school will be better packaged to include other programs that will suit the students.



Picture Showing Program Director Giving Message to the Students



OTHER PICTURES OF THE PICTURE

Youths Entrepreneurship & Skill acquisition

<i>Beneficiaries</i>	<i>Empowerment</i>	<i>Impact/Remark</i>
238 youths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Skill acquisition in ✓ bag making ✓ Perfume ✓ Pomade ✓ Liquid soap ✓ Pies ✓ Small chops ✓ cocktail ✓ disinfectants ✓ air freshener ✓ photography ✓ fruit juice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Self reliance ✓ Financial independence ✓ social vices among youths nipped to the bud

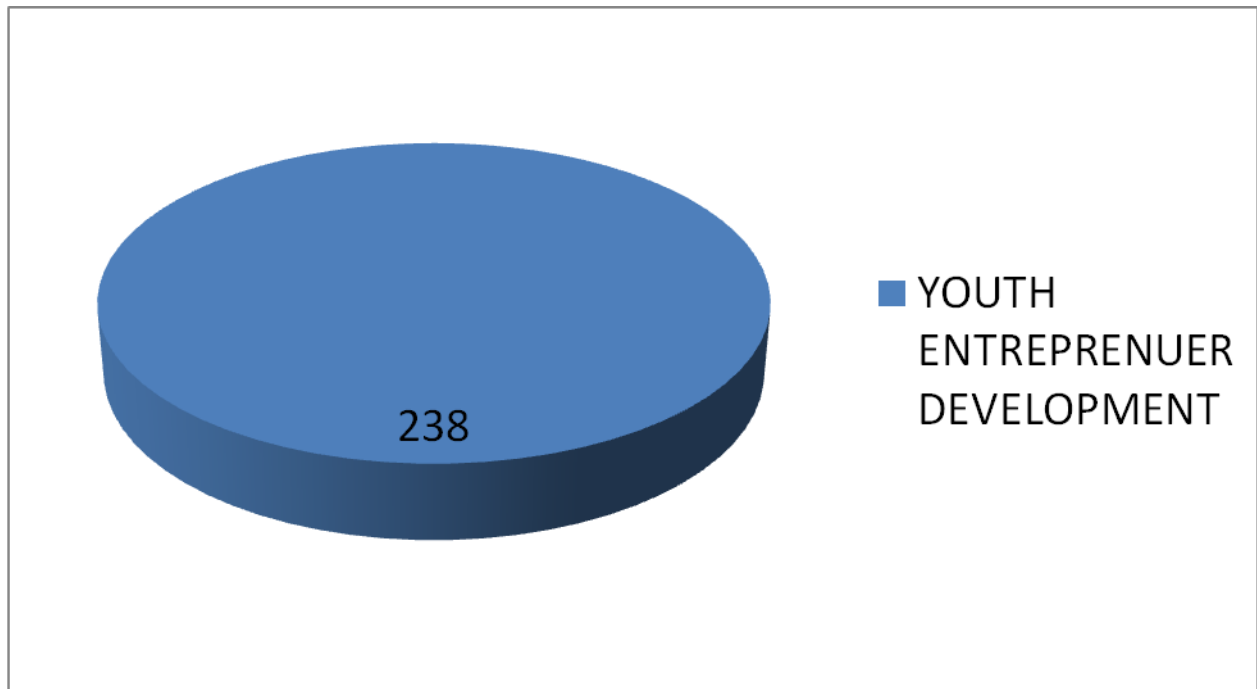


Figure 1; 2018 International Youth Day

238 youths benefited from entrepreneurship empowerment program sponsored by RAEF geared towards self reliance, financial independence, and reduction in social vices among youths. The skill acquisition program covered the following areas such as bag making, perfume production, liquid soap making, pies and small chops such as samosa, spring - roll, cocktails, fruit juice, Vaseline, photography, disinfectants, air freshener,

The impact of the skill acquisition cannot be over emphasized, and include, self reliance, self discovery, financial independence, reduction in the unemployment indices, as well as reduction in the social vices among the youths.