

About CIDJAP

The Catholic Institute for Development Justice and peace (CIDJAP) is a social organ of the Catholic Church, committed to the implementation of Catholic social teaching. It was founded in 1986 by Professor Monsignor Obiora ike, who is still the institute's director. CIDJAP implements its vision of empowerment, development and combating injustice through a vast range of activities and programme. CIDJAP's work includes: prison and human rights work, primary and secondary health care, housing, community development, micro-credit schemes and many other activities targeted at those living in poverty in Nigeria. The sponsorship programme was one of the first projects started and it has been an extremely successful part of CIDJAP's work.

About Nigeria

Nigeria is located in West Africa on the Atlantic coast. It is the most populous country in Africa, with a population approaching 140 million. There are three major religious groups in Nigeria, Christianity, Islam and traditional religious. The majority of Muslims reside in the North of Nigeria and the south is predominantly Christian. Nigeria has oil and other natural resources but many Nigerians see nothing of this wealth and live in poverty.

Nigeria returned to democracy in 1999 and recently achieved a peaceful change of leadership in 2007. The endurance of Nigeria's democracy and its abundant resources provide good reasons to hope and have faith that Nigeria is moving forward. For now however there are many families and especially children who need support and sponsorship to ensure that they gain a good education and become productive citizens



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CIDJAP

If you want peace
work for Justice



Could you sponsor a Nigerian Child through their schooling?



Education gives opportunities and hope

The Sponsorship Programme

CIDJAP began its childrens Sponsorship programme in 1987. Many bright children in Nigeria drop out of school due to their family's inability to pay their school fees. They, therefore, have no opportunity to develop their abilities and are denied the access to opportunities that education provides, thus their bright futures are not realized.

The Sponsorship programme was started to try and support some of these children through their education. Many students have already benefited from this programme and completed their secondary school education. Some have managed to progress to University or Colleges of education and others are now working. There are many more promising children who could benefit from this scheme and CIDJAP's Sponsorship Desk always has a long waiting list.

Who is sponsored?

The children sponsored are frequently from poor rural families or orphans. Many rural families are simply too poor to afford the cost of school fees. Children in need of sponsorship are usually directed to the CIDJAP desk through their local parish priest.

Before sponsoring a child CIDJAP considers the level of need as well as the educational promise of the child. Many children may have attended primary school intermittently or have been in education before losing their father or being orphaned. So the sponsorship desk discusses the child's educational attainment with their school teachers and looks at their results.

One Child On The Programme

Ogochukwu Nwankwo is 8 years old. She has been part of the children sponsorship programme for 2 years. She is an extremely bright student whose favourite subjects are English, Igbo and Social Studies. She says she wants to be a doctor.



Ogochukwu's family is very poor. Her father is a gateman whose salary is irregular. She has three siblings an elder sister and two younger brothers, parents and children all live in one room with a bathroom shared with other families in the block. The sponsorship programme is enabling Ogochukwu to get a good education despite her parent's poverty

One Adult Who Benefitted From The Programme

Janet Nkemdirim Ogbozor is now 29. Following the death of her father she was sponsored by the programme through primary school, secondary school and through her two year computer training course. Since completing her training Janet has worked as a computer secretary first in a barrister's office and then for a doctor. She is now a computer clerk at Bufo investment Company.



Janet still supports her younger sister who has just completed secondary school and takes care of her mother, paying for her medical and other necessities. Sponsoring Janet has enabled her to support not just herself but also her family.

How Can You Sponsor A Child

What does it cost?

The sponsorship pays for the children and young people's school or college fees. The annual cost of sponsorship therefore depend on the level at which they are studying. The Table below gives a guide to the yearly cost of sponsorship

	Naira	Euro	Dollar	Sterling
Primary	10,000.00	55	90	45
Secondary	16,500.00	90	140	70
Tertiary	26,000.00	140	225	115

Normally CIDJAP asks sponsors to pay their sponsorship annually. It is however possible to pay the fees on a termly basis and if you would prefer to donate on tri-yearly basis this also can be arranged through contacting the children's Sponsorship Coordinator.

How Much Is Spent On Administration

We try to keep administration costs to a minimum and usually these do not exceed 10% of the money sponsors donate.

What feed back will you get?

We know that sponsors like to know how the students they are assisting develop. You will receive letters from the students, school reports and other feedback at least three times a year

How to Become a Sponsor

To become a sponsor all you need to do is e-mail us or apply through our website. We will then send you information about the children in need of sponsorship so that you can select who to support. Many church groups also sponsor a number of children and we are very interested in setting up further links with church groups.