



Let Girls Read, Run, Grow

# 2020 IMPACT REPORT

HELPING THE MOST VULNERABLE  
IN THE MIDST OF A PANDEMIC





# A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER

2020 was a disruptive year. COVID-19 permeated all facets of our lives and shook up what we once thought normal life looked like. Unfortunately, it claimed the lives of many loved ones, and shattered the livelihoods of others left behind. The pandemic put immense pressure on even the most prepared economies.

At the start of the pandemic, our hearts immediately thought of those most vulnerable, the children. Fielding calls from our partners in Nigeria, we learned that many of the children that attended our 2019 SPORT X STEM Camp were out of school indefinitely. Federally mandated lockdowns forced school closures in communities with inconsistent light and non-existent broadband connections. This caused the students in these communities to miss the final (3rd) term of the 2019-2020 academic year. When the 7-month lockdown was finally lifted in October 2020, parents could no longer afford their children's school fees after such a long period without income.

In order to help, we at LGRRG changed the way we gave in 2020. Instead of hosting two larger SPORT x STEAM camps, we got back to basics. To make sure the most vulnerable were well fed and able to continue learning.

**Helping children thrive is our calling. Seeing young girls soar is our passion.**



Through the generosity of our donors, we successfully sent nearly 60 students back to school for the full 2020-2021 academic school year.

I am eternally grateful for our donors and their continued partnership with LGRRG in this necessary work.

**IDARA OTU**

Founder & Board Chair



# WHO WE ARE

Let Girls Read, Run, Grow (LGRRG), is a non-profit organization working to support the development of African adolescent girls through education, athletics and entrepreneurship. Globally, girls face many challenges that can deter their access to adequate education and opportunities to grow beyond their circumstances. Due to forces beyond their control, many lack the support needed to thrive.

We know that educating girls transforms families, communities, and generations. When girls participate in athletics, they lead healthier lives both physically and mentally. Through entrepreneurship, girls gain the skills and knowledge to break the cycle of poverty and strengthen their communities.

LGRRG is employing a 3-pronged approach to enhance the experiences of girls at the individual, community, and institutional levels. By creating an enabling environment for education, developing self-esteem and discipline through athletics, teaching entrepreneurship and self-sustenance through STEAM projects, we teach girls to make important contributions to themselves and communities.



# THE EFFECT OF COVID-19

The closure of Nigerian schools amid the COVID-19 pandemic has led to more than **50 million children remaining at home**. This exacerbated previously existing inequalities, and children who were already most at risk of being excluded from a quality education have been most affected

Source: UNICEF

## Education Is Not Free

Many children received no education after schools closed across the continent in March 2020. **Parents are burdened by costs** associated with trying to continue educating their children during school closures

## Girls Are Disproportionately Negatively Affected

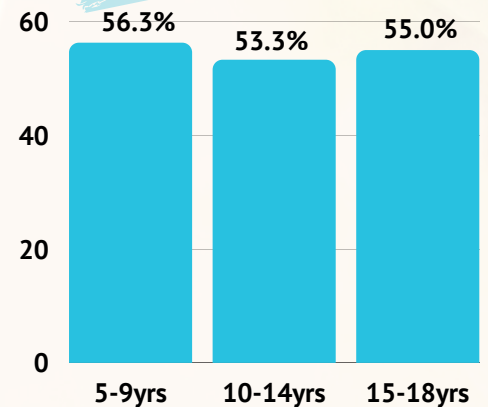
Girls are often **expected to take on childcare responsibilities** and household chores

## A Digital Divide: Limited Access to Technologies

The COVID-19 pandemic revolutionized digital and online education globally, but kids in underserved communities in Nigeria are being left behind as they are **not equipped with the necessary tools for distance learning**

Source: World Economic Forum

Engagement in education of learning activities arer school closure in Nigeria in 2020



COVID-19 lockdowns caused household incomes to fall by

# 25%

leading to a 9% rise in the poverty rate

Source: NIH



# OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

With a desire to make an impact but limited in ways to do it, we turned our focus to the communities that needed us the most - children

**57**

academic scholarships granted for the 2020-2021 academic year

**50+**

individuals fed across two orphanages in Nigeria for several months

**100lbs**

of educational materials & school supplies distributed to orphaned youth

**20**

athletic balls distributed to basketball and soccer sports teams

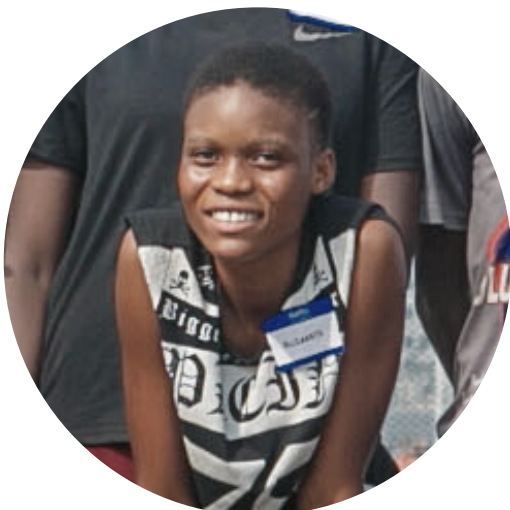
**40 pairs**

of athletic shoes distributed to 40 student-athletes; donated by professional athletes





# OUR IMPACT IN WORDS



Elizabeth Temituro  
10th Grade, Topfield  
Academy

I just want to say a big thank you to you. Thank you for sponsoring us (me and my teammates). I am and will be forever grateful. My life has been something that really breaks heart. I have always wanted to play basketball. I started taking interest in the game when i was in 1ss1. My school has a basketball court in which my seniors at that time play. I didnt get the chance to start early cause i didnt really get the motivation i needed. until when i was in 1ss3. I used to live at Iwaya, Yaba. But one day unilag and the government came and started demolishing houses. They came without notice and at that time we didnt really had much. My dad lost his job and my mom was the one feeding us with the little she earned. All efforts ~~for~~ my dad took to get a job all proved to be in vain. so when they came that day, everybody were crying cus we had nothing anymore. we dont stay in a place we rent or buy cus there is no money but we stay with my aunty. After that day we came to Ajegunle and that was when i decided that i will play basketball. My sary and my mom thinks it is meaningless <sup>cause</sup> whenever i go out all i bring back is medal and nothing more.

sometimes my dad threatens to stop me from playing cause he thinks if he doesnt benefit from it there is no use of it.

He doesnt even give me transport fare sometimes cause he doesnt really has much. He just started a driving business which he doesnt really benefit from.

What you did will be a big motivation for my dad <sup>cause</sup> now he will know it does something and i benefit from my basketball. My dream jobs are ~~being~~ a Dermatologist and a basketball player. I really love skin cares. I dont like seeing a wrong thing on my body. I would love to build an hospital cause i want to save lives. My hospital motto will be save lives first and my aim would be noone must die there. I want to play basketball cause i really love the sport and i believe it will be a great impact and a head start in me achieving my goals. You really motivated me and i promise you am <sup>going to</sup> ~~gonna~~ do more than what you did today. Once again thank you very much and we will be forever grateful. THANK YOU

Yours faith<sup>lly</sup>  
Temituro Elizabeth



# OUR IMPACT IN WORDS

I am very grateful to the "Let Girls Read, Run, Grow" for the help they are rendering with our school fees. This would go a very long way to relieve my dad with the stress of being a single-father and a widower. This would help me a lot because I actually stay with an aunt of mine <sup>because</sup> after my mom died, I had to go stay with my Grandfather at Ajegunle to ease my dad with the stress of taking care of four kids all by himself. Moving to Ajegunle and starting my secondary school at Topfield College started my journey of Basketball. I fell in love with the game and the game (I also fell in love with me (smiles)). My hard journey started when my grandfather had to retire from being a Senior Pastor at Christ Apostolic Church and I had to move. My grandfather couldn't sponsor my education and I couldn't move back to my dad side due to my love of Basketball. Ever since then, my dad had been weighed down with paying of my fees and I have been chased home from school several times due to being unable to pay my school fees. But with this help from "Let Girls Read, Run, Grow", I have assurance of not being chased from school throughout the next school session which I am very sure my dad would be very proud of.

I hope to become a WNBA player, and a high school Player in the nearest future. I would also love to be a Girls / Human Activist Lawyer.

Thanks a lot to LET GIRLS READ, RUN, GROW for being a part of my success story.

Yours Sincerely,  
Gbenade Damilola.



Damilola Gbenusola  
10th Grade, Topfield  
Academy



# CHRISTMAS AT THE ORPHANAGE

We spent Christmas 2020 at two orphanages, the [Motherless Babies Home - Onna LGA](#), and the [Spreading Love Mission Orphanage Home - Ukanafun LGA](#), in Nigeria. There we shared food supplies, school supplies, and, joy







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