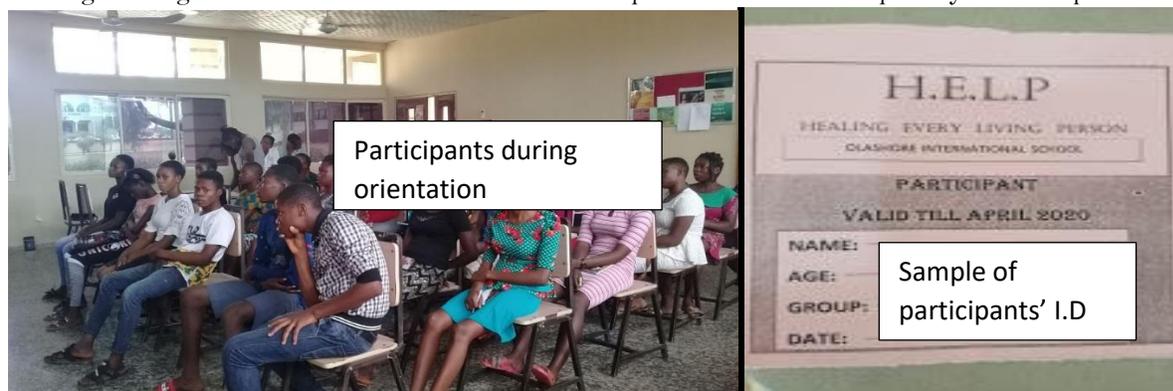


Project Title: Healing Every Living Person [H.E.L.P]

Healing Every Living Person (H.E.L.P) commenced on the 29th of February 2020 and ended on the 28th of March 2020 with four Skill Acquisition Training in; Catering and Baking, Hair Barber, Bead Making and Entrepreneurship. Fliers and posters were designed and funds for printing and buying of materials for trainings were raised by the team leaders. Awareness was carried out by the students and staffs in the committee in Oriade local government area of Osun State Nigeria comprising of four major towns: Iloko, Ijebu-Jesa, Iwaraja and Ijeda for the benefit of the citizens who are the intended beneficiaries of the training initiative. A Hundred and twenty-eight (128) people signed up for the program. Sixty participants were selected randomly to participate in the training. Messages were sent to those not selected with a promise to make them priority for subsequent initiatives.



The training which was led by staff volunteers in our school from whom we had solicited support. It spanned over four weeks, on Saturdays from 9am-2pm although some classes extended beyond the specified time due to the volume of work they needed to accomplish, participants were sent home with assignments they spent their week executing while still consulting with their facilitators. At the end of four weeks all the candidates already had enough knowledge on the skill they had learnt. Continuous assessments was carried out throughout the learning period in order to ascertain they could successfully transfer the knowledge gained to profitable use. On average each participant had direct training contact of 20hours.

The major objective of the help initiative is to tackle poverty through skill acquisition. This is our way of lending support to the SDG goals 1 and 8. It is our desire to see members of our school's host community have 'decent work and economic growth' [SDG Goal 8] and 'no poverty' [SDG goal 1].

Each class focus was to deliver a curriculum where after the allotted period of time for the skill acquisition, beneficiaries will be able to earn a living from what they had done. Every participant first had a lesson in entrepreneurship before they moved on to their desired group.

In catering and Baking, they all had opportunity to learn how to use basic catering facilities like cake mixer, a scale, measuring cup, grinder etc. while also learning to bake cake, make pastry, stick meat and many more.

Entrepreneurship had enough theoretical aspect of business to learn they all learnt how to take stock, buy and sell product that will easily bring in profit, how to relate with customers and people around, how to competes with other competitors and how to maximize profit. At the last week they all learnt how to produce pomade in large quantity which came out really good.



One of our hair barbing class

One of our catering practical class

Bead making class was one of the most interesting and time consuming class. They all learnt how to use raw beads to make beautiful pieces like flower vase, jug, foot mat, key holder, purse, chain, earring and neck pieces etc. Before the end of the program one of the participant made a purse with the acronym H.E.L.P on it was a eureka moment for us all! At the end of the program we were assured all participant could easily use bead making to earn some income for themselves. Another beautiful moment was the numerous phone calls and visits our teacher coordinator had to receive from so many others who wanted to be part of the training. It tells we still have work to do and it's a great pointer to the need to continue.

Barbing section was also great, they learnt a lot on hygiene and good delivery as a good hair stylist, they were expected to be able to keep their equipment and environment clean. Apart from learning to cut good styles they also leant how to sterilize towel, clippers, blades etc. they also leant to be very accommodating and respectful especially in relating with customers. Before the end of the program all the participant had good hair cut courtesy one another so also did some staffs in our school.

The H.E.L.P initiative has broadened our horizon the impact our little can have on the larger community. We learnt team work and we so many who were not part of our team come along to lend support. Everyone wanted to be part of the story. It was so satisfying to see that we were on to something good, something worth emulating. We all gained from the skill training as well.

The grand finale and presentation of gifts to the winners could not hold because of The Covid 19 Pandemic. We have postponed it to when we have some 'normal' restored. The grant of £500 received from Future Foundation and the Queens Commonwealth Trust we have saved up with our school accounts department to be used for procuring the starter kits for winner in each skill training group to be presented at the grand finale.

So far a total of two hundred and sixty seven thousand naira [about £550] was expended on the training materials used for by the 60 participants in the course of the 4week training.

One major undoing of our team is that majority of the pictures taken was with a particular camera which we later discovered to have a corrupt memory card. This is a great lesson to us to duplicate of our work on subsequent projects.