

THE CARE AND SHARE

PROJECT DETAILS

The **Care and Share Team**, operating in a strategic and collaborative partnership with the **Year 10 students of Potter's Touch High School**, successfully executed a comprehensive community-driven project designed to support the **Victoria Orphanage in Bayelsa State**. This initiative was meticulously structured as a dual-impact program, intentionally combining the logistical provision of essential physical supplies with high-value social mentorship and emotional support. The mission focused on addressing the immediate, critical physical needs of the children through the targeted donation of high-priority items, including nutritional staples like **garri and potatoes, Rice** etc. hygiene products such as **antiseptics, soap, detergent, and sanitary pads**, and other necessities like **mosquito nets and diapers**. Beyond this tangible support, the project was deeply rooted in social advocacy, aiming to promote robust anti-bullying awareness, foster emotional intelligence, and empower the orphans to envision themselves as future community role models. During the immersive visit, the team engaged directly with the orphanage's founder, **Mrs. Victoria**, gaining a profound understanding of the facility's history. A centerpiece of the mission was the delivery of an inspiring and interactive presentation titled **"ANTI-BULLING AWARENESS,"** which equipped the children with practical tools to stand tall against bullying and begin building a foundation of unshakable self-confidence. Furthermore, the project served as a transformative educational milestone for the Year 10 students, providing them with a significant practical opportunity to exercise advanced social responsibility and collaborative leadership in a real-world context.



LEARNING AND CHALLENGES



The project provided an intensive learning environment that exposed students to complex social realities, offering them first-hand insight into the systemic challenges of homelessness and hunger through the touching life stories of children who once roamed the streets. Through the delivery of educational sensitization sessions, both the visiting students and the orphanage residents developed a shared language for conflict resolution, learning how to proactively identify, prevent, and respond to bullying behavior. Additionally, the team sharpened their skills in resource management, learning the vital importance of identifying "high-priority" daily necessities to ensure that every naira raised provided the most significant possible improvement to the children's quality of life. Despite these successes, the initiative navigated considerable challenges, most notably the discovery of "hidden needs" during the on-site assessment. The team observed that many children lacked basic academic requirements, such as proper school uniforms and consistent tuition fees, highlighting a substantial gap between the project's initial scope and the deeper, long-term financial requirements of the orphanage's internal school.

REFLECTIONS

The visit to Victoria Orphanage was far more than a charitable outing; it was a transformative experience that reshaped the Care and Share Team's perspective on community service. Reflecting on the interaction with **Mrs. Victoria**, the team realized that the project's most enduring impact lay not in the items donated, but in the human connection established. While the physical donations addressed urgent survival needs, the interactive workshops on empathy and inclusivity initiated the long-term process of building a sustainable culture of respect within the home. The students were moved by the observation that the children were not passive recipients of charity, but empowered, grateful individuals who actively participated by offering prayers and thanks, creating a powerful mutual exchange of dignity. This bridge between communities was further strengthened by **Mrs. Thomas**, who discussed leadership activities at **Potter's Touch High School**, effectively demonstrating to the orphans that their current circumstances do not define their future potential to lead and excel.

FUTURE SKILLS AND NEXT STEPS

Participating in this initiative has directly contributed to the development of sophisticated future skills among the students, particularly in the realm of **strategic philanthropy**. Moving forward, the students are prepared to graduate from simple donation drives to more complex fundraising strategies aimed at solving institutional barriers, such as securing long-term funding for school fees and uniform procurement. The experience of presenting "Care and Share has also refined their public speaking and mentorship capabilities, giving them the confidence to communicate sensitive social values to diverse and vulnerable audiences. Perhaps most importantly, the realization that the orphanage requires deeper support has already sparked the conceptualization of a follow-up project for the upcoming term. This teaches students the essential professional skill of iterative project planning—learning how to expand and adapt social initiatives based on direct, real-world feedback and observed community needs.



CONCLUSION AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

The Care and Share project has successfully laid a solid foundation for a meaningful, long-term partnership between **Potter's Touch High School** and **Victoria Orphanage**. This initiative serves as a powerful authentication to the fact that student leadership, when properly channeled, can become a significant force for community healing and social change. By integrating physical aid with specialized emotional and social education, the team provided the children with more than just a temporary meal; they provided a message of enduring hope and a practical framework for maintaining a bullying-free environment. As the team looks toward the next academic term, they do so with a renewed sense of purpose and a firm commitment to addressing the educational barriers identified during this visit, ensuring that the light of the "Care and share mission continues to grow.