



# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

-  [AYGF Abuja](#)
-  [AYGFOFFICIAL](#)
-  [Aygf\\_](#)
-  [Aygf\\_](#)
-  [AYGF](#)



# NOVEMBER 2023





### INTRODUCTION

We are delighted to bring you the latest edition of our newsletter, packed with updates, stories, and opportunities that embody the spirit of our shared mission.

This newsletter serves as a window into the tireless efforts and remarkable achievements of our dedicated team, volunteers, and supporters, who are making a positive impact on the lives of those in need.

We encourage you to immerse yourselves in the stories we share, to reflect on the impact we have collectively made, and to find inspiration to keep driving positive change.

Together, we have the ability to shape a brighter tomorrow. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey.

Stay connected, stay engaged, and let us continue making impacts together.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

**02** AYGF COMMEMORATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD 2023

**03** AYGF COMMEMORATES GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY 2023 WITH U-SAVE

**04** AYGF AT THE WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2023 CONVERSATION CONFERENCE 2.0

**05** KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF OCTOBER 2023 AT AYGF (PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS)

**06** KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF OCTOBER 2023 AT AYGF (PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS) PT. 2

**07** ABOUT AYGF (THE ORGANIZATION PROFILE)



On Saturday, the 21st of October 2023 at Government Girls' Secondary School Dutse, Abuja, AYGF Commemorated the International Day of the Girl Child by providing a career talk called the Find Your Future (FYF) career talk.

On December 19, 2011, the United Nations General Assembly declared October 11 as the International Day of the Girl, to recognize girls' rights and the unique challenges girls face around the world. The International Day of the Girl focuses attention on the need to address the challenges girls face and to promote girls' empowerment and the fulfillment of their human rights.

This year's theme "Invest in Girls' Rights: Our Leadership, Our Well-being" is crucial at a time such as this, when we are seeing a range of movements and actions to curtail girls' and women's rights and roll back progress on gender equality. From maternal health care and parenting support for adolescent mothers, to digital and life skills training; from comprehensive sexuality education to survivor support services and violence prevention programmes; there is an urgent need for increased attention and resourcing for the key areas that enable girls to realize their rights and achieve their full potential.

As a non-governmental organization with 20 years of experience in developmental interventions across Africa, We have a mandate to build an equitable society where the voices of the youth, vulnerable, minorities, and communities are heard and their interests and welfare are prioritized. This event was organized by AYGF to challenge girls to take their place on the global stage and also reaffirm their commitments to invest boldly in the actions needed to ensure a more equitable future for girls.

The event featured a career talk, breakout sessions, presentations and provisions of materials that would be useful to the students present to aid them beyond the conversation.

AYGF was also duly represented prior to the commemoration at other activities of the International Day of the Girl Child including the National Girls' Interactive Session with Policy and Decision Makers to mark The International Day of the Girl Child, hosted by The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and the event held by the Federal Ministry of Education, in collaboration with Adolescent Girls' Initiative for Learning and Empowerment (AGILE) Project.



AYGF Programs Officers: Mr. Nelson Egbunu, Ms. Ifeoluwa Prince, Mrs. Joan Anosike, Mr. Clement Enenmoh, Ms. Dorcas Falodun and Mrs. Rosemary Ojochogwu; with Staff and Students of Government Girls' Secondary School, Dutse. Photos: @AYGF 2023/ Jeremiah Ifeanyichukwu, AYGF Communications Officer



L-R: Ms. Dorcas Falodun and Mr. Nelson Egbunu, AYGF Programs Assistant and Head of Programs respectively at the event for IDGC 2023 organized by Adolescent Girls' Initiative for Learning and Empowerment (AGILE). Photos: @AYGF 2023/Jeremiah Ifeanyichukwu, AYGF Communications Officer



Ms. Dorcas Falodun, AYGF Programs Assistant, presenting IEC materials to students from GGSS, Dutse. Photos: @AYGF 2023/Jeremiah Ifeanyichukwu, AYGF Communications Officer





## AYGF COMMEMORATES GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY 2023 WITH U-SAVE FOUNDATION

In commemoration of the Global Handwashing Day 2023 with the theme “Clean Hands Are Within Reach.” AYGF in collaboration USAVE Foundation celebrated the day at the Government Day Secondary School, Bwari.

Since October 15 2008, the Global Handwashing Partnership has been commemorating the Global Handwashing Day in over 70 countries reaching over 120 million children around the world. The UN Water ensures that Global Handwashing Partnership, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organization (WHO) respond to water-related challenges and also promote good hygiene practices. The Global Handwashing Day was founded by the Global Handwashing Partnership and the UN Water, and is an opportunity to design, test, and replicate creative ways to encourage people to wash their hands with soap at critical times. It is a global advocacy day dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of handwashing with soap as an effective and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives.

Nigeria is a country with a population estimated at over 218 million people (UN,2022). The data which also provides evidence for advocacy, showed that access to basic water supply services is 67% of which 13% are safely managed; access to basic sanitation services is 46% of which 18% are safely managed and 23% practice open defecation, while access to basic hygiene services is still very low at 17% (WASHNORM, 2021). AYGF emphasizes the importance of sanitation and hygiene in tackling issues around dysentery, diarrhea, and deworming. In line with this, We partnered with USAVE Foundation to commemorate the 2023, Global Handwashing Day in Bwari Local Government, Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

The main objectives of the event was to promote and encourage good hand hygiene practices within the school and Bwari Local Government Area, FCT. AYGF and the USAVE Foundation provided Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials that were curated and designed to educate the students on the essence of hygiene, handwashing and how to properly wash hands. We collectively donated 10 (50 litres) tap-buckets; 20 hand washing liquid and 50 hand towels to the Government Day Secondary School, Bwari, FCT. We were able to connect with over 500 students and staff who sincerely appreciated the gifts that were provided.



L-R: Mrs. Rosemary Ojochogwu, AYGF Programs Officer addressing students and staff. Photo: @AYGF 2023/Jeremiah Ifeanyi-chukwu, AYGF Communications Officer.



Female student demonstrating proper handwashing techniques to fellow students. Photo: @AYGF 2023/Jeremiah Ifeanyi-chukwu, AYGF Communications Officer.



Group Photo with AYGF Programs and Communications Officers; U-Save Officers and Volunteers and student and staff of GDSS, Bwari, FCT. Photo: @AYGF 2023/Jeremiah Ifeanyi-chukwu, AYGF Communications Officer.





## AYGF AT THE WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2023 CONVERSATION CONFERENCE 2.0

AYGF was duly represented at The Conversation Conference 2.0 organized by Intersect Consortium to commemorate World Mental Health Day 2023, with the Theme **MENTAL HEALTH , My Responsibility, Your Responsibility.**

According to WHO, World Mental Health Day 2023, which is celebrated on October 10th, is an opportunity for people and communities to unite behind the theme ‘Mental health is a universal human right’ to improve knowledge, raise awareness and drive actions that promote and protect everyone’s mental health as a universal human right.

Mental health is a basic human right for all people. Everyone, whoever and wherever they are, has a right to the highest attainable standard of mental health. This includes the right to be protected from mental health risks, the right to available, accessible, acceptable, and good quality care, and the right to liberty, independence and inclusion in the community.

Good mental health is vital to our overall health and well-being. Yet one in eight people globally are living with mental health conditions, which can impact their physical health, their well-being, how they connect with others, and their livelihoods. Mental health conditions are also affecting an increasing number of adolescents and young people.

For 13 years, the Intersect Consortium existed as a major voice in the mental health sector. The consortium is comprised of 9 organizations that respond to the various aspects of mental health, they include Synapse Services, The Oleaster, Olive Prime, Primly Services, Reconnect-HDI, Primly Premium Solutions, Qactrep, Maple Arts, Psych Pharmaceuticals, and Laboratory. The Conversation Conference (TCC) 1.0, started in 2022, with the theme, “Make mental health a global priority for all” as mental health is a global phenomenon. TCC 2.0 with the theme, “Mental Health: Your responsibility, Our responsibility.”

As a non-governmental organization with 20 years of experience in developmental interventions across Africa, We have a mandate to build an equitable society where the voices of the youth, vulnerable, minorities, and communities are heard and their interests and welfare are prioritized. It was an amazing opportunity for our organization to network with other organizations in the Mental Health sector and to enable us to lend her voice in the review of Mental Health policies and its implementation processes.



Pictures of the Conversation Conference 2.0. Photo: @AYGF 2023/Jeremiah Ifeanyichukwu, AYGF Communications Officer.



L-R: AYGF Programs Officer, Mrs. Imaga Oji and Head of Programs, Mr. Nelson Egbunu at the conference. Photo: @AYGF 2023/Jeremiah Ifeanyichukwu, AYGF Communications Officer.



L-R: AYGF Programs Officer, Mrs. Imaga Oji and Head of Programs, Mr. Nelson Egbunu at the conference. Photo: @AYGF 2023/Jeremiah Ifeanyichukwu, AYGF Communications Officer.



05

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF OCTOBER 2023 AT AYGF (PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS)



The Country Representative of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Mr. Akimbo Kikonda, along side the Chief of Party of the Malaria Global Fund Dr. Sonachi Ezeiru hosted the team from AYGF on a courtesy call. The country representative lauded the achievements of AYGF and the remarkable impact recorded. The discussion centered on exploring collaboration and partnership opportunities between the two organizations.



The AYGF Team paid a Courtesy Visit to the Chairman of the Nigerians In Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM). We were received by Dr. Sule Yakubu Bassi, the Permanent Secretary on behalf of the chairman. Dr Sule also acknowledged AYGF as a key Stakeholder in the Development and Review of the National Diaspora Policy that was adopted in April 2021 and discussions for possible future partnerships were discussed.



AYGF warmly received Representatives of the Embassy of Switzerland to Nigeria, Mr Christian Bigger, and Ms. Ojoma Ali on a Courtesy Visit for Partnership Strengthening yesterday at the AYGF Headquarters. The visit consisted of a robust conversation around AYGF's Thematic Priorities, past and current projects especially in the area of Migration with discussions on possible partnerships between our organizations.



AYGF conducted a formal courtesy visit to His Excellency Ronaldo Lima, the Deputy Head of Mission, at the Brazilian Embassy in Abuja, with the aim of fostering partnership and strengthening both organizations. AYGF was also duly represented at the Debate on "Is Democracy Important for Africa?" organized by the embassy of the Czech Republic in conjunction with YAGA Africa and the Embassy of Brazil in Abuja.



AYGF was duly represented at A 5-day Training and Awareness workshop for Recruiters and Private Employment Agencies (PEAs) organized by the Fairway Project Nigeria in support of enhancing fair Recruitment in Nigeria on a Human Rights-Based Approach to Migration. The outcome of the training again reemphasized the need to build the capacity of NGOs working on migrant rights promotion and protection, with a specific focus on migrant workers.



AYGF participated in a A two day conference hosted by Climate Change as a Security Threat - Food Security in Nigeria: Addressing a Multidimensional Security Threat conference organised by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung(FES) Nigeria office with different stakeholders from different fields. Chiamaka Ezeani, AYGF Programs Officer in charge of Climate Change, discussed the importance of "Climate Policy Integration – integrating food security considerations."



06

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF OCTOBER 2023 AT AYGF (PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS) PT.2



Dr. Arome Salifu, Executive Director of AYGF, represented by the acting Head of Programs, Mr. Nelson Egbunu, received an award of merit from The Exposure Newspaper as an icon of Humanitarian and Community Building. This award recognizes the Executive Director's contribution to youth development and growth.



AYGF was represented at the Day 1 of a 2-Day Special Innovators Programmes and Awards by AYGF Programs Officers; Caroline Godwin and Clement Enemoh. This was the 10th Anniversary Edition held at Abuja Continental Hotel with the theme Maximizing Africa's Potential through Disruptive Leadership And Innovation.



AYGF was duly represented at the ANRIN peer learning collaborative, with the theme "Reaching Underserved Population, Navigating Insecurity, Diligence, and socio-Cultural Barriers". This is set to accelerate effort to achieve nutrition goals and sustain the gains of the ANRIN project.



Dr. Arome Salifu, Executive Director of the AYGF and Mr. Nelson Egbunu, Head of Programs, represented the organization in a 2-day National Stability Dialogue organized by International Alert, OSPRE and other partnering organizations. The discussions were centered around setting priorities for peace, security and stability.



AYGF duly represented at a 2-Day Multi-Stakeholders' Dialogue on Regular Migration in the ECOWAS Region, Africa and to Germany held at Abuja Continental Hotel. AYGF Programs Officer, Caroline Godwin, represented the organization and participated in discussions surrounding the ZME Project, the implementation of the National Policy on Labor Migration 2020 and the Operational Framework for Migrants Resource Centers (MRCs).



AYGF along side state PIU and NSA of the ANRIN Project, paid a visit to the National Polio Emergency Operation Center in Abuja to share strategic information on polio eradication and immunization as well as learn strategies that can be beneficial to nutrition and the ANRIN project.





**AYGF is a regional non-governmental Organisation established in April, 2003 and registered in July, 2006 with the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja, Nigeria, with over 17 years of developmental projects implemented with the European Union (EU), International Organisation Migration (IOM), Johnson & Johnson, Dimagi, ECOWAS through the, Spanish Government, German Government, World Bank, Vitamin Angels, amongst**

**AGYF has operational base in British Columbia Canada, and Nigeria (Kogi, Niger, Abeokuta, Katsina, and FCT). The organisation's purpose is to strive for positive change in the economic and social status of Africans, the poor, the vulnerable and minorities, by implementing effective programs that deliver sustainable outcomes.**

**Address: No. 4 Ouagadougou Street, Wuse Zone 2, Abuja, Nigeria**

**Follow us @AYGF on Youtube, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn & Instagram**

**Website: [www.aygf.ng](http://www.aygf.ng)**

**Copyright©2023 AYGF**