THE 2023 ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR AWARDS

UNVEILING OF OUR TOP 3 NOMINEES

DECEMBER, 2023
1. Young Anti-corruption Stars (YACS)
   • Junior Young Anti-corruption Star Category
   • Senior Young Anti-corruption Star Category
   • Young Anti-corruption Star (OOS)
2. Teacher Anti-corruption Star Category
3. Parents Anti-corruption Star Category
4. First-Time Voter Anti-corruption Star
5. Community Integrity Champion Category
6. Special Dedication Award
7. Special Recognition Award
JUNIOR YOUNG ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY

Ekong Mary Joan
Ella Emeaghanara
Tabitha Iyami John
JUNIOR YOUNG ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY

Name: Ekong Mary Joan
Age: 9
Class: Pry. 4
Gender: Female
State: Nasarawa
School: Kingdom Heritage Nursery and Primary School
Just before the general election, Mary and her classmates had an interactive session with "Halima's Vote." This story had a profound impact on Mary. She realized that campaign promises on TV were much like the empty assurances from the Governor character in the story. This realization motivated her to take action. With determination and a clear message, she created a bold poster saying "STOP VOTE SELLING AND VOTE BUYING" to challenge these unethical practices in her community. Mary didn't stop at posters; she also upheld integrity in her school.
When she witnessed a classmate and a teacher involved in cheating during exams, she reported it to the school authorities, which resulted in the teacher's dismissal. Her school principal, teacher, and classmates confirmed this action.

EVIDENCE

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/10S7uD8tdjJfpZWkzOCTKVUj6y7kEOo33?usp=drive_link
Name: Ella Emeagharra
Age: 9
Class: Pry. 4
Gender: Female
State: FCT
School: Kingdom Heritage Academy
Ella, a 9-year-old primary 4 student at Kingdom Heritage Academy, embraced the important lessons from Halima's story about the dangers of vote-buying. Inspired to make a positive change, Ella took action. When a classmate falsely claimed a high score, Ella showed her commitment to honesty by checking the classmate's notes and telling the truth to the teacher. She also courageously confronted another classmate who was copying assignments, leading to a warning from the teacher about the importance of fair play. Ella's actions illuminated the path of integrity for her peers, showing that young voices can bring meaningful change through fairness and ethical behavior.
She aspired to be an anti-corruption advocate like Halima in the future, and her teacher commended her for consistently encouraging her classmates to speak up against wrongdoing, all with the goal of making Nigeria a better place. Ella's teacher confirmed her actions.

EVIDENCE

- [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vd9_Dn3GCGIqV7aOg_zedOvSdO4jjjlohTWyz49UL7k/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vd9_Dn3GCGIqV7aOg_zedOvSdO4jjjlohTWyz49UL7k/edit)
Name: Tabitha Iyami John
Age: 10
Class: Pry. 3
Gender: Female
State: Nasarawa
School: Kupa Foundation Academy
Tabitha, a student from Kupa Foundation Academy, engaged with the team through the thought-provoking narrative of "Emeka's Money." This encounter enabled her to grasp the concept of nepotism and fueled her determination to take a stand against it. A defining moment arose when Tabitha observed her friend engaging in exam misconduct. Drawing upon the lessons from the story, Tabitha chose a path divergent from the questionable behavior of the Governor's character.
Rather than keeping silent, she summoned the courage to report her friend's actions to a teacher. This act of integrity and responsibility resulted in the appropriate disciplinary measures being taken.

EVIDENCE

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SENIOR YOUNG ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY

Omano Esther  Prince Chinaza  Soja Blessing
Name: Esther Omano
Age: 14
Class: JS 3
Gender: Female
State: Lagos
School: Diamond Heroes School
Esther, a fourteen-year-old student from a slum school in Ajegunle had transformed into a symbol of integrity following Step Up Nigeria's teachings during an interactive session at her school. In a world tainted by corruption, Esther chose to not follow the bandwagon of not speaking up against corrupt behaviours. One day, while at her mother’s office, she saw a job applicant trying to bribe his way with the recruiters. Fueled by these lessons she learned, Esther courageously approached her mother, urging her to report to the authorities. She emphasised the importance of adhering to due process, and of considering all candidates on their merits alone.
Esther knew that, if not reported, the applicant would get the job ahead of others who may be more qualified. Esther reminded her mother of Step Up Nigeria's lessons, emphasizing the importance of fairness. Her words were not just talk; they were a moral force. Her mother, moved by her daughter's conviction, chose transparency and merit over bribery, and acted. Esther's story is a beacon of moral strength, showcasing how knowledge empowers us to make the right choices in a corrupt world.

EVIDENCE

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SENIOR YOUNG ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY

Name: Prince Chinaza
Age: 10
Class: JS 1
Gender: Male
State: FCT
School: His Excellency Intl. School
Prince Chinaza, a 10-year-old student in JS1 at His Excellency School, stands out as a creative and imaginative young mind. After our school engagement, he took it upon himself to convey anti-corruption messages through imaginative means. At a creative boot camp, Prince showcased his artistic talent by crafting a compelling poem that vividly depicted the impacts of corruption and why people should avoid it. He also created a mini comic book project after our initial interaction with his school. In our conversation, Prince shared his dream of becoming an anti-corruption ambassador. He strongly believes in the fight against corruption and emphasizes that children worldwide should be involved in addressing this issue.
When we met Prince during an endline exercise at his school, we asked about his ongoing efforts to combat corruption in his surroundings. He affirmed his commitment to the cause and mentioned initiating discussions with his parents about the importance of fighting corruption. Prince firmly believes that combating corruption is a collective effort, one that should engage individuals of all ages and backgrounds, especially children.

EVIDENCE

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Name: Blessing Soja
Age: 12
Class: JS 3
Gender: Female
State: Lagos
School: Diamond Heroes School
A remarkable story of unwavering integrity embodied by Blessing, a 12-year-old JSS3 student. Her dedication to ethical values was nurtured through Step Up Nigeria's anti-corruption lessons at her school. With these lessons, she had pledged to avoid corrupt behaviours and stand as a model of moral integrity. Then came a crucial moment on examination day. The school's strict rules to maintain academic integrity placed Blessing beside an older student from another class. The older student, perhaps succumbing to desperation, tried to persuade Blessing to swap seats, a dishonest scheme to engage in academic misconduct with another classmate. In return, he promised to assist Blessing with her exam.
Blessing faced a choice that defined her character. The temptation of an easy way out tugged at her, but her integrity remained steadfast. She didn't yield to temptation. Instead, she courageously took action. She reported the incident to the watchful invigilator. The consequences were just and punishment was delivered. Blessing's story showcases the enduring strength of character. Faced with temptation, she chose the path of integrity. Her resolute stand inspires her peers and reminds us that the choices we make, especially in education, shape not only our own futures but also the fabric of society.
YOUNG ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR (OOS) CATEGORY

Hautonbo Abidemi
Aminu Mahmud Imam
Martins Olamide
YOUNG ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR
- OOS CATEGORY

Name: Hautonbo Abidemi
Age: 13
Gender: Male
State: Lagos
Prior to Step Up Nigeria's intervention, Abidemi had a troubling habit of being dishonest when handling money. When entrusted with purchases, he would intentionally inflate prices, planning to keep the extra money for himself. These actions reflected dishonesty and corruption, posing a threat to society's integrity. However, Abidemi's life took a significant turn when he participated in a Step Up Nigeria-led program. The program opened his eyes to the destructive nature of his previous actions and how they contributed to corruption's harmful impact on society. The valuable lessons he learned inspired a profound personal commitment.
Determined to break free from his dishonest past, Abidemi made a solemn pledge to stop inflating prices and diverting money for personal gain. His newfound dedication to ethical behavior and transparency created positive ripples throughout his community. The impact of Abidemi's anti-corruption education extended beyond himself; it also filled his parents with immense pride. They witnessed their child's transformation from someone engaging in corrupt practices to a responsible, morally upright citizen dedicated to promoting a more honest and just society.
Name: Aminu Mahmud Imam
Age: 19
Gender: Male
State: Nasarawa

YOUNG ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR
- OOS CATEGORY
Aminu is a 19-year-old young man who hasn't had the opportunity to receive formal education. He attends an Al-majiri center where he receives Islamic education and resides with his teacher. His routine involves attending the center from Monday to Wednesday, while he spends Thursday and Friday on the streets, either begging for food or engaging in small jobs to sustain himself. The Step Up Nigeria team visited Aminu's Al-majiri center in November of the previous year. They took the initiative to educate him about the significance of not trading his vote and the importance of selecting the right candidate during elections. This information was imparted to empower Aminu and his peers to make informed and responsible choices in the democratic process.
When the 2023 general election arrived, an aspiring politician paid a visit to Aminu's center with a variety of gifts, including money and food supplies, as part of his campaign strategy. Despite the tempting offerings, Aminu took a principled stance. He not only refused the gifts but also inspired his fellow students to do the same. Instead of being swayed by material incentives, Aminu and his friends displayed a remarkable level of maturity by questioning the politician about his plans to address the challenges they faced.

EVIDENCE

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YOUNG ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR
- OOS CATEGORY

Name: Martins Olamide
Age: 13
Gender: Male
State: Lagos
In the heart of Makoko village, a remarkable 13-year-old named Martin became a shining example of how education and anti-corruption values can positively influence young minds. After participating in our program, Martin showed exceptional integrity in the following weeks.

In a significant incident, Martin's father gave him money to buy a much-needed school bag. He entrusted his mother with this task, but she used the money for something else and told Martin to lie to his father, saying he had lost the money. Martin had to make a tough choice: to deceive his father or uphold his integrity. Without hesitation, he chose the latter, refusing to engage in corrupt behavior by misusing the money intended for a specific purpose.
With strong determination, he informed his mother about the situation, emphasizing his commitment to anti-corruption values. Martin credited the Step Up Nigeria team for providing him with this essential knowledge that had a profound impact on his moral compass. His mother was deeply impressed by his principled stance and wisdom. Filled with pride, she and Martin's father decided to express their gratitude to the Step Up Nigeria team for their educational efforts.
TEACHER ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY

Njoku Ekene  
Lois Zandi  
Abinabo Gloria
TEACHER ANTI-CORRUPTION
STAR CATEGORY

Name: Njoku Ekene
School: Nicowa
Designation: Teacher
Gender: Male
State: FCT
Mr. Njoku Ekene, representing Nicowa (Nigerian Correctional Officers Wives Association), enthusiastically participated in our teacher's training program, eager to enhance his knowledge of teaching anti-corruption principles in his school. Following the program, he was inspired to establish an anti-corruption club within his school, collaborating with the ICPC, which officiated the club's inauguration. His dedicated work with the club earned him the position of the club's head, further igniting his passion to make a difference. Presently, the club is in the process of planning the production of anti-corruption stickers. These stickers will be distributed to parents, teachers, and students across the schools to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption.
This initiative aims to cultivate more anti-corruption advocates who will actively join the fight against corruption. As an educator, Mr. Ekene has also imparted anti-corruption knowledge by teaching club members anti-corruption songs, which they enthusiastically sing during school events. This serves as a continuous method for spreading awareness about the harms of corruption. Mr. Ekene firmly believes that involving children in the fight against corruption is essential because they represent the future, and it is crucial to instill in them the values of integrity and the importance of combating corruption from a young age.

**EVIDENCE**

TEACHER ANTI-CORRUPTION
STAR CATEGORY

Name: Lois Zandi
School: ECWA Goodness School
Designation: Teacher
Gender: Female
State: Nasarawa
Mrs. Lois is a dedicated teacher at ECWA Comprehensive College Lafia. She teaches civic education with a strong commitment to instilling ethical values and responsible citizenship in her students. Mrs. Lois took part in Step Up Nigeria's virtual teacher training program. Putting her knowledge into action, she initiated significant changes in her school. Inspired by her training, she created an anti-corruption club in the school, providing a platform for 35 students to engage with and understand anti-corruption values. She also seamlessly integrated anti-corruption education into the civic education curriculum, ensuring that the fight against corruption became a fundamental part of their education.
Mrs. Lois didn't stop at the school; she extended her efforts to her church's Sunday school classes where she has engaged over 67 kids and 34 girl brigaders where she serves as a regimental training officer. Recognizing the importance of moral and ethical values in all aspects of life, she introduced anti-corruption education there as well. Her holistic approach aimed to nurture responsible and principled individuals both in educational and religious settings where she seized the opportunity to address a collective audience of parents. With eloquence and passion, she expounded on the critical need for families to shun corruption and actively guide their children away from the pitfalls of examination malpractice at the just concluded PTA meeting in their school.
She has also engaged 20 parents individually using a one-on-one approach and also had the opportunity to address a gathering of over 70 teachers at the Ministry of Education's recent education sessions in Lafia, Nasarawa State. Thanks to Mrs. Lois's unwavering dedication, she positively influenced the lives of over 100 children. Through her teaching of anti-corruption values, she sought to shape the younger generation's mindset, encouraging them to make informed and ethical choices.

EVIDENCE

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Name: Abinabo Gloria
School: 
Designation: 
Gender: Female
State: Lagos

TEACHER ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY
Among her contemporaries in the education sector, Ms. Abinabo Gloria teaches anti-corruption education with passion and fervour. In September 2022, the Step Up Nigeria team enlightened her students on values that combat corruption. Inspired, Ms. Abinabo took the torch and guided her students in establishing an anti-corruption club within their school - the "Third Eye" club. At Third Eye, young minds gather weekly, fueled by a shared mission to champion good behaviour and integrity. Their discussions transcend the classroom and spill into their homes and communities, serving as beacons of positive influence. These aspiring change-makers are not content with passive rhetoric; they actively take measures to thwart negative behaviours.
May 2023 witnessed one of the crowning moments of their dedication - the Third Eye Club's Anti-Corruption Week. For that period, they acted drama’s that brought to life the battle against corruption; then delivered short public sensitisation campaigns to community members, community leaders and security operatives; and painted their school and community with awareness about the corrosive impacts of corruption and the need to uphold integrity. Ms. Abinabo Gloria's commitment did not end within the classroom or the confines of the schoolyard. She is a torchbearer, actively engaging in Step Up Nigeria's initiatives and, more importantly, sharing the wealth of knowledge and skills she's acquired with her community.
PARENTS ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY

Jennifer Joel Akwe
Omale Eneche
Akaayar Vitalis
Name: Mrs. Jennifer Joel Akwe
Gender: Female
State: Nasarawa
Mrs. Jennifer was inspired to take action against corruption after attending a briefing session organized by Step Up Nigeria in Lafia, Nigeria. The session was part of the Parent's Anti-Corruption Champion Initiative (PACCI), which aims to empower parents to teach their children about the importance of honesty, integrity, and accountability. Mrs. Jennifer was particularly impressed by the session's focus on engaging children in anti-corruption activities. She felt that this was an important way to start building a culture of integrity from a young age. A week after the session, Mrs. Jennifer established an anti-corruption club for children in her community. The club met once a week to discuss topics such as the definition of corruption, the different forms of corruption, and the importance of speaking out against corruption.
The club was a success, and Mrs. Jennifer was proud of the children's enthusiasm and participation. She was also surprised to see how much the children had learned about anti-corruption. At one of the club's sessions, the children were able to identify and define anti-corruption values such as integrity, transparency, and accountability. Mrs. Jennifer was confident that the children in her club would grow up to be honest and ethical adults who would help to fight corruption in Nigeria. She was grateful for the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of these children and to contribute to the fight against corruption in her country.
Mrs. Jennifer's efforts transcend the theoretical realm of anticorruption advocacy and she understands that the fight against corruption requires a multi-generational commitment, and she has been empowering her colleagues to involve their children, she is sowing the seeds of change for a more principled and responsible future.

EVIDENCE

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- https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-Xbz3dpUDTPFMV_g4UbaZzdNwtt8Cm5Z?usp=drive_link
PARENT ANTI-CORRUPTION
STAR CATEGORY

Name: Omale Eneche Innocent
Gender: Male
State: Nasarawa
The team met Mr. Omale during the Parent's Anti-Corruption Champion Initiative (PACCI) briefing session in Lafia, Nigeria. Mr. Omale was very enthusiastic about the fight against corruption and was the first participant to pick up the pledge and action plan sheet. He gave a detailed plan of actions he intended to take to promote anti-corruption values. Mr. Omale started by having a post-dinner talk on anti-corruption with his children. He then extended the education to the children of his neighbors. He also facilitated a meeting between the PACCI team and the principal of his children's school.
This will provide an opportunity for the team to educate more parents on the importance of teaching and imbibing anti-corruption education in their children. Mr. Omale's enthusiasm and commitment to the fight against corruption is inspiring. He is a valuable asset to the PACCI initiative and his work is making a real difference in his community.
Name: Akaayar Vitalis
Gender: Male
State: Nasarawa
Mr. Akaayar Vitalis, a teacher and parent at National High School in Lafia, Nigeria, was inspired to take action after attending a briefing session on the importance of upholding integrity. He immediately began implementing his action plan to sensitize both parents and children about the issue. He started his movement by going door-to-door in his neighbourhood, talking to adults and children about the importance of integrity. He explained what integrity means and why it is important, and he shared stories about people who had made choices based on integrity. Mr. Akaayar's work has been met with great enthusiasm. He has received positive feedback from parents, children, and community leaders.
He is confident that his work is making a difference in the lives of young people and helping to create a more just and ethical society. His actions could be seen as a model for other parents and community members who are interested in promoting integrity.
FIRST-TIME VOTER ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY

Gabriel Gawon

Ruth Jonathan

Onyebuchi Akushie
FIRST-TIME VOTER ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY

Name: Gabriel Gawon
Community: Akeleku Sidi
State: Nasarawa
Gender: Male
Gabriel is a 20-year-old first-time voter residing in Akeleku Sidi in Nasarawa State. During a sensitization session in Gabriel's community, the team noticed him due to his active participation and insightful comments. Throughout the various community engagement sessions, Gabriel actively contributed to discussions, sharing his insights and experiences while also asking thoughtful questions. He displayed an eagerness to learn more about how he could combat corruption. Gabriel was one of the first-time voters who took the lead in the dialogue with the incumbent House of Assembly member who was offering empty promises and gifts, as he had done in the past. However, the first-time voters were determined to demand better services rather than accepting his gifts or money.
When he failed to provide satisfactory answers to their requests, they expressed their dissatisfaction by booing him out. He also spearheaded the hustling session with political aspirants vying for a seat in the State House of Assembly. In addition, he has led several advocacy meetings with the elders of his community, including the community head. Gabriel also made significant contributions to the team's podcast sessions and was one of the lead actors in his group during the storytelling boot camp session. Due to Gabriel's effort, more elders and young people in his community understood the negative impact of voteselling and were able to vote with integrity in the last election. He also mobilized first-time voters in his community to serve as a watchdog during the election to stand against any election malpractice.
All these accomplishments earned him a spot in the fellowship scheme where he displayed leadership qualities. Immediately after his fellowship, Gabriel was the first among all others to organize a town hall meeting with the Local Government chairman representing his community where he engaged constructively in discussing service delivery challenges faced in his community. Gabriel has taken a proactive approach to addressing the root of societal change by focusing on the education of young children in his community, a tireless advocate for integrity and moral values.
Leveraging the Step Up Nigeria swift cards, he has engaged with numerous children, imparting essential lessons in a manner that is both accessible and impactful to students in their community Primary School.

**EVIDENCE**

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Name: Ruth Jonathan
Community: Akeleku Sidi
State: Nasarawa
Gender: Female

FIRST-TIME VOTER ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY
Ruth, a dynamic and determined young woman residing in Akeleku Sidi, stands as a beacon of commitment to empowering women within her community to break free from the grip of vote-selling. During the transformative virtual reality session, she bravely shared her own experiences during previous elections, shedding light on the unfair practice where women were unjustly prevented from voting by the men in their community. This discrimination was based on the premise that women lacked education and, consequently, the knowledge to make informed electoral choices. Ruth's personal experience served as a rallying cry, inspiring her to channel her passion into educating and mobilizing women to stand against such electoral malpractice.
Ruth passionately spoke about the detrimental impact of corruption on women, especially in terms of their access to fundamental services such as healthcare, education, and justice... She took it upon herself to spread awareness among fellow women in her community, enlightening them about the importance of voting for candidates of integrity and ensuring electoral fairness. Her efforts bore fruit during the subsequent elections, where, for the first time, women in her community were able to independently cast their votes without any external influence. This achievement marked a significant step forward, underscoring the empowering nature of information and collective action.

EVIDENCE

- https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vTnqBHIUlukVUeysyo_IAB6mpfyol5mp/view?usp=share_link
FIRST-TIME VOTER ANTI-CORRUPTION STAR CATEGORY

Name: Onyebuchi Akushie
Community: Mawere
State: Lagos
Gender: Male
Onyebuchi Akushie is the youth leader in his community. He has been fully involved in the activities of the FTVII project in Mawere right from the project inception meeting. He was instrumental in mobilising his community leaders and youth for the FTVII activities in his community. During the sensitization session in Mawere, Onyebuchi who is Igbo by descent, volunteered and translated key points of the session from English to Hausa for the Hausa-only speaking participants. In his action plan, after watching Abike's Story in VR, he outlined how he will work with other FTVs in his community to promote integrity during elections. He followed that up by mobilising FTVs in Mawere for a 2-hour door-to-door voter education and awareness campaign.
Onyebuchi has shown commitment and leadership in ensuring that FTVs and other members of his community join the CDA meetings to contribute to its development. Leveraging on the knowledge and experience gained from the Storytelling Bootcamp, Onyebuchi is working with other FTVs so they can come up with a drama on the cost of corruption that will be performed in his community. He was one of the 6 fellows from Lagos State for the 2023 Step Up Nigeria Fellowship Scheme.

EVIDENCE

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  YnPrSqHzS6Cy/view?usp=sharing
COMMUNITY INTEGRITY CHAMPION CATEGORY

Ajibola Akanbi
Clement Moses
Comrade Dauda Aliyu
Name: Ajibola Akanbi Nurudeen
Community: Mawere Community, Ikorodu
State: Lagos
Designation: Community facilitator
Gender: Male
In the remote community of Mawere, Ajibola Akanbi stands as the embodiment of community empowerment and visionary leadership. His journey commenced as the Community Facilitator for Mawere, during the inaugural phase of the First-Time Voters Integrity Initiative (FTVII), and from the outset, he became its strongest advocate. When the Step Up Nigeria team introduced Ajibola to the project's vision and objectives, he didn't only embrace it; he passionately championed its cause. He rallied the executive members of the Mawere Community Development Association and key stakeholders behind this transformative initiative. He also facilitated a 2 day Advocacy walk in his community educating them against vote-selling ahead of the 2023 General Elections.
Ajibola's commitment did not stop at persuasion; he assumed a pivotal role in the meticulous planning and seamless execution of the project within his community. As the secretary to the community development association (CDA) he ensured that there was a youth representative on the cda and that young people were allowed to speak during meetings. What sets Ajibola apart is not just his dedication but his commitment to inclusivity. He tirelessly fostered the participation of first-time voters (FTVs), particularly young women, from his community in all its activities.
Ajibola's dedication to the growth and progress of Mawere serves as an inspiration, a testament to the power of passionate individuals who become catalysts for change.

EVIDENCE

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- https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/114ErrcccbHAKEvFqpg9gC4qpuaw-HFKxV
COMMUNITY INTEGRITY CHAMPION

Name: Clement Moses
Community: Agunjji Community
State: Nasarawa
Designation: Community facilitator
Gender: Male
Clement Moses, a dedicated member of the Agunji community, took part in Step Up Nigeria's virtual reality session, despite not being a first-time voter. His active participation in the session sparked a positive chain of events that significantly impacted on his community. Inspired by the knowledge and insights gained from the session, Clement led a door-to-door campaign in bridging the gap between the community and their elected representatives through town hall meetings in his community which led to the restoration of electricity and clean water in his community. Furthermore, Clement's enthusiasm led him to take on the role of an educator, reaching out to various groups within his community. He started by educating children in primary schools, enlightening them about the importance of integrity and the significance of voting with honesty and responsibility.
In addition to the children, Clement extended his educational efforts to the women's group in his community, as well as the parents who have commended his efforts in shaping the lives of the younger generation in his community. The women group in Agunji community now use songs inspired by Clement’s actions to remind themselves to act against corruption in their society. Using the skills acquired during the storytelling bootcamp, Clement led other first time voters in his community to educate other close by communities on the negative impact of voteselling and the importance of participating in the electoral process with integrity using drama and arts. Through engaging discussions and informative sessions, Clement has ensured that his community and neighbouring communities understood the significance of making informed choices during elections and the role they play in advancing the common good.
By empowering his community members and other communities with knowledge and awareness, Clement played a pivotal role in fostering a culture of integrity, civic responsibility and contributed to shaping a future generation of conscientious and responsible citizens. Clement's actions demonstrated the power of individual engagement and highlighted how even a single person's commitment to positive change can create a ripple effect that transforms an entire community.

EVIDENCE

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COMMUNITY INTEGRITY CHAMPION CATEGORY

Name: Comrade Dauda Aliyu
Community: Ugbowankwo
State: Lagos
Designation: Community facilitator
Gender: Male
Comrade Dauda Aliyu, a youth leader from Ajeromi-Ifelodun LGA of Lagos, served as the Community Facilitator for Ugbowankwo community during the first phase of the First-Time Voters Integrity Initiative. After being invited to one of our sensitization sessions by a friend, Dauda met with the team and asked that we have a sensitization session in community too. He worked actively to bring the youth of his community together for the session. Comrade Dauda led first-time voters to successfully re-established a youth forum where political aspirants, office incumbents, local chiefs, and CDA chairpersons could actively collaborated with the youths.
They held their first session on the 20th of May, 2023, marking a significant shift in civic participation after a prolonged period of inaction and disbandment of the forum for over 20 years. The forum's revival heralded the bridging of the gap between the youth and their leaders, paving the way for meaningful dialogue.
SPECIAL DEDICATION AWARD CATEGORY

Mrs Adenike Abiola Orisaniran
Mr. Ibrahim Mustapha
Mr. Oladele Samuel Omoniyi
SPECIAL DEDICATION AWARD

Name: Mrs Adenike Abiola Orisaniran
School: Baptist Nursery and Primary School, Garki, Abuja.
Designation: Assistant Head Teacher
Gender: Female
State: FCT
Mrs Adenike Abiola is the Assistant Head Teacher of Baptist Nursery and Primary School, Garki, Abuja. She went through the capacity development training for teachers in 2020. Afterwards, the school institutionalised the teaching of anti-corruption education into civic studies and security studies in her school. She ensured that her school went through the voluntary integrity certification program and became one of the first schools in FCT to be integrity certified. Mrs. Adenike invited Step Up Nigeria to the school's end of the year party to give a short talk to parents on the need to act with integrity and also connected the team to the chairman of the Parent, Teachers Association (PTA) to secure a date and time to sensitise the parents of the pupils on how to become a parent anti-corruption champion.
Mrs Adenike recently launched an anti-corruption club in the school which is compulsory for all pupils in primary 3 - 5. Currently, Mrs. Adenike is working with the school to recommend Step Up Nigeria anti-corruption story books as literature texts to be recommended for pupils in the 2023/2024 session.

EVIDENCE

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SPECIAL DEDICATION AWARD

Name: Mr Ibrahim Mustapha.
Designation: Teacher
Gender: Male
State: Nasarawa
Mr Mustapha has been an active supporter of the Step Up Nigeria Team in Lafia. He has assisted the school in starting up an anti-corruption assembly in the school where the teachers speak to the students every week about anti-corruption and how to live with integrity. His school is the second school to have completed the SICP validation exercise and has been very receptive to our message. Following our engagement with the school, Mr. Ibrahim has mentioned that some students have begun acting with integrity by questioning their parents who were engaging in any corrupt practices.
SPECIAL DEDICATION AWARD

Name: Mr Oladele Samuel Omoniyi
School: Leading Lamps School
Designation: Proprietor
Gender: Male
State: Lagos
Mr Oladele, the visionary proprietor of Leading Lamps School, participated in our transformative anti-corruption training program designed for teachers rallying fellow educators from Leading Lamps School to join him in the training. Through their collective commitment, the seeds of anti-corruption awareness were sown within the school's walls. Leveraging the power of civic education, he integrated anti-corruption principles into the curriculum. The school's library now boasts a collection of anti-corruption storybooks that serve as a moral compass for impressionable young minds. In May 2023, the Step Up Nigeria team was at Mr Oladele's school to monitor his teaching of anti-corruption education, using "Halima's Vote." The result of his teaching was nothing short of astounding.
An analysis of evaluation sheets from the session revealed a remarkable 67% increase in the number of pupils who exhibited a strong understanding of corruption. Also, he wholeheartedly engaged in the school integrity certification program to foster an integrity-centred culture within Leading Lamps School. Mr. Oladele has also reached out to other schools, inviting them to integrity certify their school, with the hope that they too will join the movement for a corruption-free future. In Mr. Oladele, we witness a true champion of anti-corruption education, who tirelessly strives to nurture a generation that will lead with integrity.
SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD CATEGORY

Professor Adam Adebayo

Jibrilu Sarkin

Mrs Oluchi Uzodinma
Name: Professor Adam Adebayo Sirajudeen
Organization: Federal University, Lafia
Gender: Male

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD
Professor Adam plays a pivotal role as the head of the Anti-corruption Committee at the prestigious Federal University, Lafia. His active participation in the virtual reality session, where he also served as a panel discussant, showcased his deep commitment to combating corruption. Prof. Adam demonstrated his dedication by wholeheartedly filling out both the anti-corruption pledge and a comprehensive action plan, outlining his intentions for meaningful change. Two months following the enlightening session, Prof. Adam translated his promises into concrete actions. He collaborated closely with the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC) to officially inaugurate the commission's presence within the university.
Recognising the importance of education and awareness, Prof. Adam orchestrated an orientation program dedicated to anti-corruption for both students and staff to instill a culture of integrity within the university community. To bolster his efforts, Prof. Adam forged a strategic partnership with Servicom, a government agency focused on improving service delivery, and the Student Affairs body. This collaboration aimed to establish a streamlined mechanism for tracking and addressing any reports related to corrupt practices. Such a coordinated approach demonstrated his commitment to accountability and transparency. Furthermore, Prof. Adam initiated a comprehensive survey on the student-lecturer relationship within the institution, with the aim of combating any instances of sexual extortion or harassment.
This indicated his dedication to fostering a safe and ethical environment for all members of the university.
SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Name: Jibrilu Sarkin
Gender: Male
State: Nasarawa
Mr. Jibrilu participated actively in the virtual reality session hosted in Lafia, Nasarawa State. The session left a profound impact on him, particularly after immersing himself in the narrative of "Sherifat's School," which illuminated the far-reaching consequences of bribery and corruption within society. This experience compelled Mr. Jibrilu to make a resolute commitment to consistently uphold ethical principles and champion integrity in his actions. Upon returning to his office, Mr. Jibrilu swiftly translated his newfound determination into tangible action. Recognizing the significance of fostering a culture of transparency and accountability within his organization, he called for a meeting with his team's sectional heads and directors, and laid out a clear directive that marked a significant departure from the status quo.
He proposed a meticulous process for project approval that mandated a written proposal. Furthermore, the proposal was to be acknowledged with signatures from key stakeholders, including the Executive Secretary (ES), the proposer, and management. This stringent requirement ensured that the project received the necessary approvals before being executed. Mr. Jibrilu's directive was underpinned by the principles of transparency and accountability, aimed at deterring any potential corrupt practices. By enforcing a rigorous project approval process, he sought to prevent any possibility of under-the-table dealings or unethical shortcuts. This approach also reinforced the importance of due diligence and meticulous evaluation in decision-making.
SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Name: Mrs Oluchi Uzodimma  
Designation: Parent  
Gender: Female  
State: FCT
Mrs. Oluchi's unwavering dedication to conducting regular anti-corruption sessions for the children in her community is both steadfast and admirable. Her commitment to this cause remains unwavering. In recent times, she has introduced one of our interactive tools, namely Ansa's Speech storybook, to actively engage the young participants during these sessions. Mrs. Oluchi diligently continues to spearhead this weekly initiative, extending her outreach not only to local children but also to welcoming her neighbour's children into the fold. What fuels Mrs. Oluchi's tireless efforts is her firm belief in the potential to eradicate corruption in Nigeria. She sees it as her personal mission to instil this belief in the hearts and minds of the next generation.
Following our last conversation, she proactively joined a new committee, where she has begun conducting sessions with students using one of our anti-corruption storybooks, Ansa's Speech. Her passion and dedication shine through in a video she shared, where she fervently spoke to the children about Ansa's bravery. She encouraged them to emulate Ansa's courage by speaking up whenever they witnessed unethical behaviour. Mrs. Oluchi's impact extends beyond the classroom; these children have taken her lessons to heart and engaged their siblings and even their parents in discussions about corruption and its harmful consequences for the country. Her unwavering commitment to educating children about corruption is driven by a profound belief that these efforts will yield positive results.
As a nominee for the Parent Anti-Corruption Champion from the previous year, she is inspired to broaden her influence by engaging with other parents. Her mission is to ensure that their children, too, acquire the essential anti-corruption values necessary to become exemplary members of society. Mrs. Oluchi's passion and dedication serve as a shining example of how individuals can make a lasting impact on the fight against corruption. Mrs. Oluchi has engaged with more than 50 students in the Gofe community, 100 children in the Goroji community, 200 children in the Saji community of the Kuje Area Council. Additionally, she delivered a speech at a conference organized by the Gofa club, which focused on the theme "Wisdom for Good Parenting and Family Building."
During this event, she addressed parents, emphasizing the importance of guiding their children to emulate anti-corruption principles within their families. Simultaneously, she also addressed over 343 children at the events and encouraged them to uphold integrity in their individual lives. She has engaged at least 1000 students.

EVIDENCE
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THANK YOU