

Ways To Help...

HEAL seeks contributions from people according to their own expertise, interests, available time, and financial status:



Nick with the children at the home school.

Volunteer

Visit us and gain experience in your field of study such as nursing, education, nutrition, counseling or other field relevant to our children's needs. Or, just come with a missionary spirit and serve as your heart moves you. Sign up for volunteer information on our website.

Donate

Help the orphans and widows of HEAL fulfill their dreams! Visit our website and make your tax-deductible donation with debit or credit card. Donate one time or monthly as a regular "HEAL helper".

Join our Effort!

Visit us at:

www.HEALnigeria.org

- Sign up for our newsletter
- Volunteer
- See our blog updates
- Donate

For questions, contact us at:

hello@healnigeria.org

312-952-4855



HOME TO ENHANCE AFRICAN LIFE

**Serving Him...
In the least of
His people...**

(Mt. 25:40)



HEAL Student Residents



HOME TO ENHANCE AFRICAN LIFE

HEAL Began with Servanthood...

Leo Okonkwo's ministry began in Nigeria in the 1990's, when he decided to address serious problems facing the poor and marginalized in his village. From digging wells to provide drinkable water, to rescuing orphaned children begging along the roadside, to advocating for oppressed widows, Leo became a servant to his countrymen.



Leo and Nick

In urgent need of support for his growing operation, Leo traveled to Chicago in the fall of 2013 and met with his old friend from seminary, Nick Costello. Leo's faith-driven, self-giving service to the oppressed in his homeland inspired Nick to get more involved.

Nick and Leo founded **Home To Enhance African Life (HEAL)** as a non-profit organization in support of orphans and widows in the rural villages of southern Nigeria.

How HEAL Serves...

HEAL provides for the spiritual, educational, material, and legal needs of the orphans and widows whom we serve.

Spiritual

The spiritual vision of HEAL is modeled after Jesus Christ, who emptied himself (Phil 2:5-7) of His Father's glory in order to walk alongside wounded humanity. Every day, the children pray in word and song, hear the Word of God, and experience the love of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Educational

With a post-graduate degree in Education from Imo State University in Nigeria, Leo provides a quality curriculum and teaching methodology for the children at the kindergarten, primary, and secondary school levels.

Material Help

Before entering HEAL, the children had little access to adequate food, clothing, and shelter. HEAL provides these life necessities and we will improve in this service as our support base grows.

Legal Aid

Widows often lose their rights and property due to the abusive practices of their deceased husbands' families. HEAL provides legal representation for these women who have no other recourse.



HEAL Projects...

The following projects are budgeted over a 5-year plan to make HEAL a first class institution for the care of the abandoned and marginalized:

Boys & Girls Villa

Our residents live in very tight quarters with over 10 children per room. A new residential facility will provide the HEAL children with living conditions more conducive to their development. Common areas in the Villa will include a refectory, gymnasium, and a chapel.

Agro-Based Emancipation School of Excellence (ABESE)



We will compliment book learning in the classroom with practical, agricultural skills training in growing crops, raising livestock, and bottling water. Surpluses of these commodities will be brought to market and generate income to subsidize the operations of HEAL.

Energy Upgrades

Electricity is currently supplied by a gas and battery powered generator. Because of the high recurring cost of diesel fuel, we must look into alternative sources of energy as well as more efficient systems.