

# Zoe's Flower Foundation empowers rural communities in FCT

A Non-Governmental organization under the aegis of Zoe's Flower Foundation has reached out to the indigent in Durumi 2, a rural community, located in the Federal Capital Territory, FCT, in Nigeria. As part of its activities to celebrate the New Year, the foundation distributed clothes, money and carried out empowerment programme for vulnerable women and children. The NGO also donated food items, including rice, spaghetti, noodles, tomato paste, and different kinds of seasonings, among others, to the members of the community.

Founder of The Foundation, Mrs. Uchenna Duru-Nwaotule disclosed that vulnerable women and children had benefited from the foundation since its inception over ten years ago. Mrs. Duru-Nwaotule also stated that besides the reach out programme, the foundation had redesigned its programmes to focus more on skills acquisition training and empowerment. She said: "We aim to aid the vulnerable girl child and women to achieve their full potential, live productive lives, and make an impact in the world. We aspire to eliminate the injustice of poverty and give the vulnerable a chance at living. "We are here this New Year day to do our usual annual reach out programme for the vulnerable, especially for women and the girl child, in the FCT. "It has been our tradition to seize every opportunity and occasion to put smiles on the faces of the less privileged, especially women". She also explained that the foundation's major focus is training women and girls in different skills and to share gifts of food and clothes in view of the season to give them a sense of belonging and to celebrate the New Year with joy. "We at Zoe's Flower The Foundation have decided to focus more on skills acquisition programmes and empowerment of the vulnerable. "It is a foundation set up over ten years ago, it was occasioned by bad experiences I had with a care giver that I entrusted my daughter with and who almost killed her, so that gave me the idea, to set up something, a platform that will help particularly baby girls, and our focus is on the girl child, but we have expanded our focus since then to include issues that concern women, so we work to empower women especially rural women. "We are trying to empower



beneficiaries, economically, educationally, and vocationally so they can be who God has ordained them to be", she added.

Duru-Nwaotule stated that the foundation also empowers youths, both male and female, with programmes designed to attend to their specific needs for empowerment "Worried by the



increasing rate of poverty in the country, Zoe's Flower The Foundation (ZFTF) has also embarked on a monthly skills acquisition programme to empower over 1 million Nigerians nationwide. "We focus on anything educational, we have project known as the adopt a school initiative, we work with

a few public schools in the FCT and in my hometown in Imo state, South East Nigeria, but we are largely focused in the FCT, since I reside here. Mrs. Duru-Nwaotule further revealed that the foundation has decided that "every 1st January of every year we do thanksgiving, we thank God for what He has used us to do in the past year; we use the opportunity to thank God and celebrate with rural communities". The Head of Durumi 2 Community, Chief Danjuma Tanko Anyidadubo, commended the foundation for their support to the community. He acknowledged the immense contribution of the foundation to the development of the girl child, and other citizens in his community, and the foundation's support to other neighbouring communities. One of the beneficiaries, Dorathy, with so much excitement, said Zoe Flower The Foundation's support on the on the first day of the year 2024 is more than she had hoped for. Another beneficiary, Victory Timothy, said this is the first time in her entire life of receiving such gifts on the first day of a new year. For Angela Sunday, what she got from the foundation is the best New Year gift she has ever gotten. There was a lot to eat and drink as well as fun activities which witnessed the



participation of both young and old of both genders. There were different prizes for winners and runners up of the various competitions. As part of its humanitarian gesture, the foundation also visited some hospitals in the Federal Capital Territory and various patients were giving cash gifts for feeding and upkeep.