

**Giving the gift of hope
through education**

OUR IMPACT IN THE LAST TWO YEARS..

Highlights of our Impact

The last two years have been big strides for us! As a charity, we started from small and humble beginnings, and we saw such an inspiring surge of interest and support for our desperately needed work! As reported by UNESCO in 2022, more than 20 million children are not attending school in Nigeria alone. While our impact is merely a drop in the ocean compared to the immense scale of the challenge, we must continue our mission to reach more young lives!

Many of the children in Nigeria are now growing up in communities where poverty, violence and child exploitation are becoming normal. Without hope and education, they often fall prey to the influences of the wrong role models and may join gangs. That is why UCEP exists to provide additional mentoring and safeguarding to its children.!!



Our **UCEP** Children

In the last two years, we have continued to identify children from the poorest families in village communities. To ensure that these children are off the streets, we gave them Scholarships to keep them in school.



We then took further steps to provide the children and their parents with good character-building extracurricular mentoring, and safeguarding lessons. If children are educated, coached, and mentored in good practices from a young age, their exemplary behaviour as good citizens will positively influence their peers and their broader communities.



A tragedy struck in 2023...

In 2023 as the end-of-year festive season approached, we learnt of the untimely death of one of our UCEP children, Chibuike, at the tender age of 7 years, after a brief illness. His fellow UCEP children, with some of their parents, some village elders, and our field coordinators, met on the 20th of December to celebrate his life and pay a condolence visit to his mother and siblings

That sad episode was a brutal reminder of the unacceptable levels of infant mortality in poor communities and that UCEP's mission is a just undertaking.



The Generosity of Donors

None of the achievements of the past two years could have been possible without the generous support of our donors. Your monthly donations help us plan the number of children we will be able to help in the coming years.



Donors, our UCEP children join us in sending you our thanks and best wishes.

Our Amazing Volunteers

Between 2022 and now, we have we built a strong team of over 40 volunteers (we are all volunteers) who bring a wide range of expertise and experience to UCEP.



If we had the space, we would name and acknowledge the contributions of all volunteers here, but that would run into many pages. Many have shown outstanding leadership in the development of UCEP, while others have given up their time to help improve our systems and ensure transparency in all we do. Some have raised the badly needed funds for our children's scholarship programme. Here are a few fundraising examples:

"The Greatest Gift" - A song for UCEP

Lady Onyeka Onwenu, a Nigerian singer/songwriter, actress, and human rights activist, was so moved by UCEP's mission that, in addition to her ongoing financial donations on behalf of the D. K. Onwenu Foundation, she wrote and recorded the song 'The Greatest Gift' for UCEP.

Tragically, Lady Onyeka passed away recently, just after a stirring singing performance. Let her tell you, in her own words, why she embarked on these acts of generosity:



“In Nigeria today, if nothing is done, in just a few years, there may be more children out of school than in school. I decided to write a song to draw attention to this problem after listening to a young girl, Miss Chimamanda Azubuike, ask one of Nigeria's Presidential Candidates for the 2023 elections what he would do about the numerous children on our streets if he became President.”

May her gentle soul rest in peace, and her amazing legacy continue to live on...



Scaling Himalayan Peaks

Fundraising volunteer Loren was unbelievably inspiring!

He took on the bold challenge of conquering Ama Dablam, an infamous peak in Nepal that is known to be technically more challenging than Mount Everest! With an altitude of 6812m, he scaled heights typically reserved for airliners! It was a 4-week challenge that saw him spend a week hiking to basecamps, two weeks acclimatising and scaling the mountain, and one week climbing back down! Thank you for smashing your fundraising target. Another legend in our midst!



Barclays Bank Staff Walk and Cycling

The amazing staff of our local Barclays Bank were such great supporters in 2023! They embarked on a 10-mile sponsored hike from Bexhill to Eastbourne Pier!

Branch managers Tina and Becky went one step further by setting up an in-branch stationary bike challenge, which saw staff take turns pedalling their way over 40 miles to raise more funds for UCEP.

Thank you to all the staff at Eastbourne Barclays Bank!



Sussex Garden Charity Event

Christine, another strong supporter of UCEP, hosted two successful family-friendly events in August and September of same year, at Bates Green Garden, a stunning Sussex garden, to raise funds for UCEP.



Our sincere thanks go to Christine and Bates Green Gardens.

Dan's South Coast 100km Ultra Marathon Challenge



In September 2023, Dan, a passionate friend of UCEP, ran a gruelling 100km (62.5 miles) marathon race called the South Coast Ultra Challenge to raise funds for his adopted charity.

We were thrilled that Dan completed this tedious 100 km race in 18 hours of non-stop running to beat his fundraising target.

Volunteers, our UCEP children, join us in sending you our thanks and best wishes.

PREPARING FOR MORE IMPACT BEYOND 2024

If you'd like to volunteer to help UCEP in any way, please register in the 'Get Involved' section of our website or email info@ucepcommunity.org

If you wish to fundraise for UCEP, please email us at info@ucepcommunity.org

FUNDRAISING IDEAS



You could request your birthday gifts to be donated in cash to your favourite charity, 'UCEP'.

Invite family and friends to your home for a fundraising dinner for UCEP.



It is good you stay fit: run for a cause. Marathons and walks are excellent ways to fundraise for your charity, UCEP.

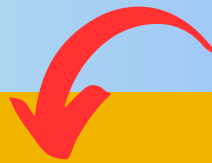
Help us put your talent on display through exhibitions or concerts and raise donations for UCEP.





We hope you will work with us to continue to change more little lives for the better in 2024 AND BEYOND.

If you would like to make a small or large donation, please do so at our website page here:



<https://ucepcommunity.org/donate/>



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Thank you!



Charles Uwaneme
FOUNDER/LEAD VOLUNTEER