

# HOUSE OF HILKIAH FOUNDATION

Building a sustainable community.....

## Report

**Project Title:** 2019 World Inter-Faith Harmony Week

**Date:** 7th February, 2019

**Venue:** Mbawa Community IDP Camp, Daudu Guma L.G.A Benue state, Nigeria.

**Theme:** ‘Sustainable Development through Interfaith Harmony’

**Goal:** Harmonizing the world through a Helping Hand.

### Partners:

Cheerful Hands Initiative, Sughun Beauty Studio, World Inter-Faith Harmony Week, United Religious Initiative (URI)

House of Hilkiyah Foundation left Makurdi with friends from the Christian & Muslim community at exactly 10:24am to Mbawa Community IDP camp in Daudu, Guma LGA Benue state, Nigeria to celebrate the World Interfaith Harmony Day with the IDPs and arrived at about 10:50am. We got the statistics of the camp from the Secretary in charge of the camp with a total population of 3,015: Women-1820(Widows-137, Girls-83) Men-465, Children-730.

The woman leader showed us around narrating their ordeals in the camp ranging from lack of food, water and how they have been neglected by the Government. We interviewed some of the women who lost their husbands and children due to the crisis of the herdsman. They told us they were all farmers and farming were their source of livelihood. The invaders displaced them to no shelter, burning their crops and leaving them homeless and nothing to eat.



We now proceeded to the school with writing materials and biscuits under a very big tree where the receive classes. Total number of 730 children out of school, classes divided into three with approximately 200 in a class under the tree and they sit on the floor, they were so excited to see and interact with us. We shared the writing materials for them and asked them for a pictorial image of anything they can draw. We were amazed to see many of them drawing huts, cutlasses, chairs, girl, cups and lots more.





We also share Biscuits to the students to encourage them to participate in the classes



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The women leader at the camp also expressed bitterly about their sleeping arrangements, the tent they sleep in is small, they sleep on the mat and when it rains they can't go out to find food to eat and sometime when food is not supplied at the camp the women usually mobilize themselves to nearby market where they are selling food items like rice, millet and maize they pack from the ones on the ground they sieve, separate it from sand, mix and ground then share among themselves in the camp, they can cook for themselves and their children to eat which is usually unsatisfying.



Ms Dorothy Akende, The Executive Director of House of Hilkliah Foundation spoke to the women leader, secretary of the camp and assure them we will look for support, partnership and collaboration from other organizations to assist in organizing empowerment program for the women in the camp that way they are able to make a living that can sustain them and their family ,also have access to basic needs like food, cloths, sleeping arrangement for them and their family, also get books and sitting arrangement for the children.

She also told them just because it's the world interfaith Harmony week doesn't mean the organization won't return to render the help needed at the camp and also it should serve a time of reflection and be thankful and not continue to be sad because of their present situation, things can be better when we all join hands to support each other.





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### **WORLD INTER-FAITH HARMONY WEEK 2020**

The World Interfaith Harmony Week is based on UNGA Resolution A/65/PV.34 for a worldwide week of interfaith harmony. The World Interfaith Harmony Week will fall on the first week of February of every year and aims to promote harmony between all people regardless of their faith.

We need your support and donations to reach out to more displaced persons in Nigeria

# WORLD INTERFAITH



# HARMONY WEEK

Submitted by:

Dorothy Akende  
Executive Director