Girls’ Power Initiative (GPI) Nigeria is a not-for-profit, non-governmental, youth development organization founded in 1993. The core programme for GPI is safe space educational session for adolescent sexuality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, leadership and other Gender sensitive life management skills for in and out of school adolescent girls of age 10 to 18 years. GPI is currently located in Edo, Cross River, Akwa Ibom and Delta States, as well as a Liaison office in Abuja.

GPI’s focus is to assist young girls to live healthy lives and achieve their full potentials by providing information and services to enable them overcome the risk of early sexual activities, gender discrimination, harmful traditional and contemporary social practices, adolescent/unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) including HIV/AIDS, unsafe abortion, sexual abuse and harassment as well as other forms of violence against girls and women and exploitation.

Our current programmes areas include Gender and Human rights, Adolescent sexuality, sexual and reproductive health and rights leadership and entrepreneurial skills development. GPI has won several awards based on her outstanding work in Nigeria such as “Excellence and Innovation in Sexuality Education” by the World Association for Sexual Health (WAS), award for “Most Creative and Innovative Institution on sexuality Education” by Mac Arthur Foundation, and lots more.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF GPI
GPI has recorded a number of landmark achievements including but not limited to the following:

- Contribution to the development and implementation of major national policies on adolescent and women.
- Successfully graduated over 50,000 adolescent girls from safe space education in the Niger-Delta geopolitical zone of Nigeria.
- Established a fully functional gender development institute since 2000.
- Collaborated with other organizations to advocate and facilitate the integration of Family Life and HIV/AIDS Education (FHLE) into school curriculum nationally and in operational States.
- Training of teachers for the implementation of the Sexuality Family Life and HIV/AIDS Education (SFLHE) in Cross River, Delta and Edo States.
- Development of health education series for young people.
- Yearly Skills training and empowerment for out of school young women, Outreach programmes, Social work and community intervention project, etc.

"Towards an empowered womanhood!"
Facilitation Skills Training.
A cross section of participants during training and group photograph after the training session.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR TEACHERS, PEER EDUCATORS AND FACILITATORS.

The training on Family Life and HIV/AIDS education was organized for 40 participants drawn from selected secondary school teachers, volunteers and NGO representative who would be facilitating adolescents SRHR sessions with beneficiaries in schools and safe space centres. The training was meant to increase implementation of FLHE in secondary schools and locations to reduce health challenges associated with adolescents and young people such as STIs/HIV/AIDS, teenage pregnancy, unsafe abortion, mental health among children and young people within the state as young people need to be healthy to accomplish their potentials in life.

The activity was for participants to build their capacities on sexual and reproductive health and rights in order to deliver safe space lessons in a non-judgmental way to improve the SRHR status of young people in Ikom and Akpabuyo LGAs.


ADVOCACY NETWORK TO END SEXUAL ABUSE IN CROSS RIVER STATE.

To continue in the strengthening of the fight against sexual abuse and other forms of violence against girls and women, Girls’ Power Initiative formed and advocacy Network; The Cross River State Network to Curb Sexual Abuse (NETCUSA) to address the incessant cases of sexual abuse and exploitation of girls, women, and young people in Cross River State. NETCUSA membership includes NGOs, Religious bodies, youth advocate groups, some relevant Government Ministries/Departments and Agencies (MDAS).

Click here to read more

Objectives of NETCUSA:
• To increase public awareness on issues of sexual abuse to enable action against such abuses.
• To reduce incidences of sexual abuse in the community/society.
• To support victims of sexual abuse to seek judicial justice.
• To strengthen local and state coordination on women’s human rights issues.

NETCUSA Seeks Justice for women and children who are victims of sexual abuses and other forms of Violence and this is done through:
• Counselling services for survivors to overcome the traumatic experience.
• Referrals (medical, alternative care, litigation, rehabilitation, skills acquisition, educational support).
• Reintegration of survivors with family members/caregivers.

Contact details for NETCUSA – +2348033578595

Network to Curb Sexual Abuse

Justice
For Her

NETCUSA
GPI SAFE SPACE LESSONS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS TRAINING.

GPI CALABAR SAFE SPACE WEEKLY SESSION.
The core programme of GPI is the safe space lessons aimed at empowering adolescent girls of ages 10-18 years with factual information on challenges of growing up, gender, life management skills, sexuality, sexual and reproductive health and rights. This is to build and strengthen their skills and knowledge and enable them set realistic goals as well as work towards achieving them.

Section of the girls during Sunday lessons

AKPABUYO SAFE SPACE CENTRE
GPI Calabar Centre extended her weekly safe space session to Akpabuyo L.G.A. in May 2018 for over 120 boys and girls between the ages of 10-19 years to increase access to information on adolescents SRHR, personal empowerment and leadership skills.

Akpabuyo Safe Space session.

ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS & MEDIA ACADEMY.
At GPI we believe that after empowering girls and young women with information, they also need skills to be economically empowered. GPI Entrepreneurial skills Unit (Fashion Design, Shoemaking, fish farming) and Media Academy (Computer Proficiency, Makeup artistry, Radio/TV presentation, Cinematography, Video Editing, Photography) offers training on for 6 months and 3 months internship.

Make-up training session in the Media Academy (Radio/TV presenting unit).

Shop setup equipment for some Fashion Designing beneficiaries after graduating.

Training on Migration and Trafficking held in GPI Conference Hall.

SKILLS TRAINING FOR CENTER GIRLS.
In March 2019, GPI Calabar center organized two days skills training for the center girls and the essence was to empower the girls with small business skills. The first day had 112 participants and 2nd day 153 participants. The girls in the detergent section learnt how to make Liquid soap, Toilet disinfectant, Shampoo and Hair cream, while the confectionaries learnt how to make Fish pie, Cake, Chin-chin, Puff-puff, Cookies.

The girls preparing ingredients for meat pie

FREE COUNSELLING SERVICES:
GPI provides free counselling service to the public on issue of Child Abuse, Trafficking, Sexual abuse, battering, etc. If you need counselling services or know anyone who needs this services, please visit the GPI Calabar office located at Anyamurua Estate, Atimbo Road, Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria. Or call Phone: +2348033578595

CAPACITY BUILDING ON MIGRATION AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.
The present rise on the issue of illegal migration and trafficking in persons in Nigeria, with young girls mostly from rural area as victims, has prompted the need for GPI Calabar to include Migration and trafficking to its safe space curriculum. To this effect, a training was organized for GPI Calabar center Programme Staff and Volunteers facilitating in the Safe Space to increase their knowledge.
PICTURE GALLERY

MEDIA ACADEMY GRADUATES
Group Picture of the Entrepreneurial Skills for batch 2018 empowered with skills on – Computer, TV and Radio Presenting, Cinematography, and Photography.

SKILLS GRADUATES
Group Picture of the Entrepreneurial Skills for batch 2018 empowered with skills on – Fish Farming, and either Fashion Design or Shoes making.

SKILLS UNIT
Young women from the skills unit producing footwear and bags during their practical session

WORLD NGO DAY CELEBRATION
The World NGO Day is an internationally day chosen to celebrate NGOs/CSOs for the humanitarian and development services they render to communities.
GPI Calabar Center joined the Cross River State Government to celebrate the 2019 World NGO day with the theme Collaborate, Commemorate and Collaborate. The aim of the activity is to appreciate the organizations and the people behind the NGOs/CSOs that have contributed to the development of Cross River State.
Community Service Awards were given to GPI Calabar center as an organisation, Prof. Bene Madunagu the co-founder of GPI, and Ndodeye Bassey-Obongha, Head of Programmes respectively.

ENGENDERING NIGERIAN ELECTIONS.
GPI has not relented in her efforts to foster a gender-balanced society through collaboration with various stakeholders to create awareness.
In February 2019, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in collaboration with Girls’ Power Initiative (GPI) Nigeria, organized a Town Hall Meeting with Women groups and gender focused CSOs for enhanced participation of Women in electoral process in Akwa Ibom State. The activity was to sensitize women on the need for effective participation in the 2019 general elections and beyond. Discussions centered around what political participation entails, the Legal frameworks supporting women’s participation, INEC gender policy, Challenges to women participation in election, Issues and Priorities for the 2019 general elections, etc.

LAFARGE HOST COMMUNITIES BENEFIT FROM BLOOM PLUS PROJECT.
The Better Life Options and Opportunities Model Plus (BLOOM+) is a non-formal education program effective for delivery of life-transformational skills and empowerment of young people. With support from Lazard Africa Plc; Mfamosing plant, GPI implemented the BLOOM plus project in 6 Lazard host communities namely; Mboobi, Mfamosing, Akwa Ikot Efangh, Abianti, Ekong-Anaku and Akansoko from September 2018. Activities carried out includes; Presentation of Project content to Lazard community relations committee (CRC) meeting, Community mobilization, Enrolment of beneficiaries, Selection of facilitators from benefiting communities, Training of selected facilitators on content of Choose A Future (CAF) curriculum, community dialogue with Parents, beneficiaries and community stakeholders, CAF lessons, Project Support Committee meetings and skills training on confectionary and cleaning agents).

GPI LIBRARY SERVICE: Our Library is open for public use at GPI office, Anyamurua Estate, Atimbo Road, Calabar from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. Mondays to Fridays.