



‘Owning my Space’ Leadership & Life skills programme for NYSC (graduates)

January 24, 25, 26, 2024

#MalesMatterToo

boys to MEN Foundation was established in November 2017 by Mrs. Ifeoma I. Idigbe to provide a support structure for men, and address the challenges males face in a changing society, toxic masculinity, and to try to reverse, through these initiatives, the negative societal expectations of young men. Our primary focus is to promote mindset and attitude changes in them which will hopefully result in behavioral change.

‘Owning My Space’ Leadership and Life Skills programme for male graduates seeks to ensure the development of Nigerian males beyond mere academics, to prepare them to live positive lives, and influence society in a progressive, socially conscious way. Our key objective is to use life skills and leadership education and training to recalibrate participants’ value systems for the betterment of their lives and society. We use a number of leadership and life skills training modules, real life experiences, as well as a video of male monologues that speak to some of these challenges. The sessions are interactive and used for group mentoring.

The Foundation ran three ‘Owning My Space’ programmes over three days, with 3 different sets of male corporers from the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), Victoria Island LGA office. A total of 149 male corporers attended over the 3 days. We also received a visit from the Local Government Inspector (Victoria Island) as well as the Zonal Inspector. They were very pleased, commended the Foundation for the initiative and enquired if we would run a similar programme for female corporers. The Foundation is only focused on males.



NYSZ Zonal and Local Government Inspectors with 2nd cohort on(25th January,2024

Our Vision: to shape and produce a new generation of ethical, well-behaved men; capable of providing strong, impartial leadership, constantly striving to become their best selves, and possessing the confidence to accept that others may wish to do the same.

Our Mission: To inspire, nurture and develop males to become confident leaders in society.

Motto: Integrity, leadership and equity

Slogan: #MalesMatterToo

Modules covered for each session:

1. The Real World and Gender: A Paradigm Shift
2. Leadership: Emotional Intelligence, Defining Success as a Leader, Leadership & Accountability and Time Management
3. The Corporate Life/An Entrepreneur's Story
4. Managing Your Finances
5. Personal Branding
6. The Rudiments of Public Speaking

Facilitators:

Ayodeji Bankole Olusina, a C suite executive who has worked in banking and insurance, and is currently engaged in various entrepreneurial activities.

Chiemezie Ilozulike, an accountant and serial entrepreneur who operates across industries.

Mrs. Ifeoma I. Idigbe, a business/financial analyst, who also teaches Critical Thinking and Public Speaking to graduate scholars at the Nigerian University of Technology and Management (NUTM), and is the Founder and Executive Vice Chairman of boys to MEN Foundation.

Christopher Aneni a project manager, business operations strategist and management consultant.



Feedback was collated from participants. Testimonials received include

“Loaded with a lot to help young boys [be] better men” – David Obijiaku

“I went there simply because it’s the first program tailored specifically for boys but I was impacted. Mostly during the finance lesson. It’ll help me manage my finances and savings going further.” – Ugwunna Gerald Izuchukwu

“It exceeded my expectations. Although I was expecting something larger, at the end I appreciated the fact that it was small and intimate as it was. The sessions were really good, wholistic and practical.” – Mofiyinfoluwa Aladesuyi

“The program was absolutely fantastic, and I was truly captivated by the beautifully crafted monologues written by Ifeoma Idigbe (she is a great writer). Mr. Christopher’s patience was admirable, and I must commend Mrs. April, for how well mannered she was in bringing corporers from the local government office to the foundation; she was truly wonderful” – Adetomiwa Ogunsola Daniel

“I really enjoyed the sessions especially Corporate Lifestyle and Managing your Finances, it was very practical.” – Israel Shodiya

“I found it to be a safe space for young men to express themselves and find solace from the challenges we face. It was also stimulating to connect with people like myself going through similar things. It was very comforting to be reminded that no matter what I am going through, I am not alone.” – Samuel Oyegun

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