

"Giving Hope, Restoring Hope to Widows and Orphans"



**23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2015**

**International Widows Day**

**@**

**National Centre for Women Development Central Area District Garki Abuja**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Rock of Ages Empowerment Foundation was founded in 2007 and registered as a corporate body on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2009 under the Companies and Allied Matter Act, (Part 'C') 1990 of the federal Republic of Nigeria. We carry out free medical treatment; free education support programs, youth and widows empowerment.

The Rock of Ages Empowerment Foundation believes in restoring hope, giving hope to the widows and orphans and in so doing, the foundation uses her yearly international widow's day celebration to empower widows who were trained on different skills and also provide scholarship to the orphans.

The foundation carries out research, training, outreaches and public educational campaigns about the needs for widow's empowerment, orphans and other vulnerable groups in the society. It is committed to its mission of transforming the lives of the underprivileged individuals through quality education, good medical treatments, and financial support, regardless of age, gender, race, religion or financial status.

During the 2015 Widows Day Celebration Rock of Ages Empowerment Foundation, over 16 million naira was spent to empower widows in various service delivery areas, 2000 widows were empowered with food item -rice, *95 widows were empowered with ovum, 240 widows received cash as start up grants, 5 widows were given grinding machines, and 300 previously trained on liquid soap making were also empowered on that day. However, 170 orphans received money for their school fees.*

The medical component of the event of the 2014 International widows day celebration started with a health talk on various topics e.g hand wash, ebola control, HIV prevention messages by a trained nurse, involved the check of blood pressure, Clients were tested for malaria parasite, typhoid fever, arthritis, blood glucose, skin condition, worm cases. There was free consultation and free drugs. There were free eye check, reading glasses were given to various people with eye defect, other health indicators were diagnosed and treated. Referrals were made to appropriate health facility if any. Out of 1500 widows that participated in the free medical diagnosis and treatment, it is revealed that 49% widows were treated for malaria, 5% were treated for hypertension, and arthritis respectively, 2% were treated for diabetes mellitus, and skin condition respectively, 7% were treated for eye defect cases and were give reading glasses, 8% were treated for worm, whereas 9% were treated for dental cases. More so, 4% were treated for urinary tract infection, and 10% were treated for typhoid fever.

## **2.0 WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE FOUNDER/CEO RAEF**

The welcome address was given by the Founder/CEO RAEF Evangelist IG who welcomed all present at the occasion, and he briefly summarized what the foundation stands for, its mission and vision, the impact so far, achievements and of course the success stories. In his address, He stated that RAEF was founded in 2007 and registered as a Corporate body on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2009 under the Companies and Allied Matter Act, (Part 'C') 1990 of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. We believes in restoring hope, giving hope to the widows and orphans and in so doing, the foundation uses her yearly international widow's day celebration to empower widows who were trained on different business areas.

The foundation carries out research, training, outreaches and public educational campaigns about the needs for widow's empowerment, orphans and other vulnerable groups in the society. It is committed to its mission of transforming the lives of the underprivileged individuals through quality education, good medical treatments, and financial support, regardless of age, gender, race, religion and status. In delivering our mandate, the foundation focuses in the following program areas; Empowerment, Education, Agriculture and Career Counseling.

In the area of achievement, RAEF has singly handed transformed the lives of over 5000 widows and their children, through skill acquisition training, financial empowerment, monthly medical checkup and payment of school fees for children without any external sources of income. We are being moved by the plight of the vulnerable and are committed to pulling resources together towards giving a helping hand. Our activities are growing everyday as we continuously identify areas of need in the society. We call on men and women of goodwill, Nigerians/Nigerians in Diaspora, International Partners to join us in challenging the ugly trend of poverty, diseases, marginalization, domestic abuses, illiteracy and neglect and give succor to the less privileged with grants and other financial assistance.

In conclusion, He thanked attendees who were witnesses to this historic event. However, his special thanks goes to the distinguished chairperson, the Hon. Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development and other Civil Society Organizations presents. RAEF appreciate the partnership and do sincerely hope that we will all be moved to respond in our different capacities to make our society a better place to live for widows and vulnerable populations that live around us.

**EMPOWERMENT; Showing widows carting away with cheques and other items**





*Table 1; Empowerment*

| <b>Beneficiaries</b> | <b>Empowerment</b>   | <b>Impact/Remark</b>  |
|----------------------|--|---|
| 2000 widows          | 10kg bag of rice each @ N3.5million                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ to fight against hunger</li> <li>✓ improve family livelihood</li> </ul>              |
| 240 widows           | Cash disbursed @ N2,160,000                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ to fight against hunger</li> <li>✓ improve family livelihood</li> </ul>              |
| 300 widows           | Cash and training for liquid soap making @ N6million       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ business start up grant</li> <li>✓ improve standard of living</li> </ul>             |
| 95 widows            | Ovum @ N2.4million   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ business start up grant</li> <li>✓ improve standard of living</li> </ul>             |
| 5 widows             | Grinding machines @N175,000                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ business start up</li> <li>improve standard of living</li> </ul>                     |
| 170 orphans          | School fees for both secondary & primary school @ N454,000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ education support</li> <li>✓ self discovery</li> <li>✓ maximize potential</li> </ul> |

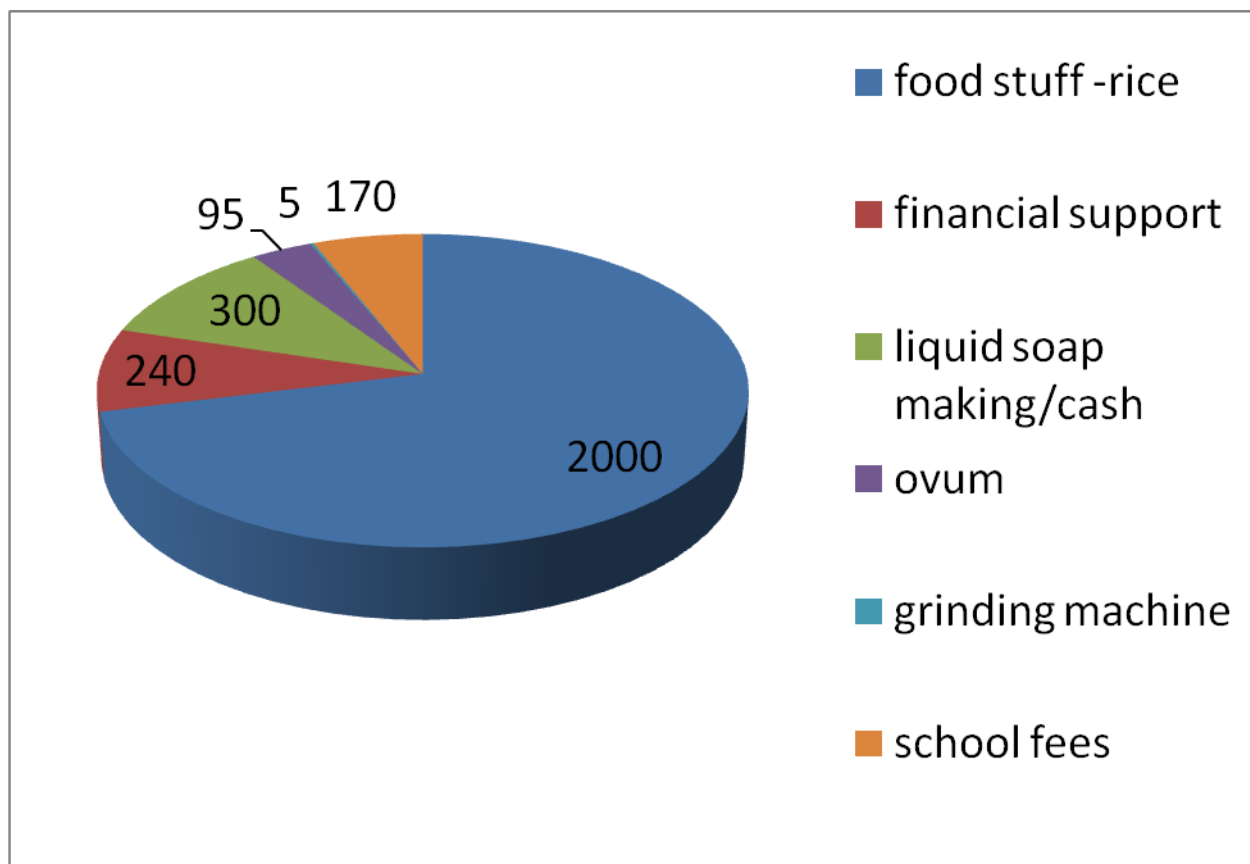


Figure 1, 2015 International Widows Day

From the figure above, 2000 widows were empowered with food item - rice, 95 widows were empowered with ovum, 240 widows received cash as start up grants, 5 widows were given grinding machines, and 300 previously trained on liquid soap making were also empowered on that day. However, 170 orphans received money for their school fees. The impact is shown in the table.

Table 2; Multi diseases Medical care and treatment

| S/N | Indicators              | Diagnosis   | Treated     | % treated  |
|-----|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1   | Malaria cases           | 735         | 735         | 49%        |
| 2   | Hypertension cases      | 79          | 79          | 5%         |
| 3   | Diabetes Mellitus cases | 23          | 23          | 2%         |
| 4   | Arthritis symptom cases | 78          | 78          | 5%         |
| 5   | Eye problem cases       | 100         | 100         | 7%         |
| 6   | Skin condition cases    | 24          | 24          | 2%         |
| 7   | Worm cases              | 120         | 120         | 8%         |
| 8   | Dental cases            | 130         | 130         | 9%         |
| 9   | Urinary tract infection | 56          | 56          | 4%         |
| 10  | Typhoid fever           | 155         | 155         | 10%        |
| 11  | <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>1500</b> | <b>1500</b> | <b>100</b> |

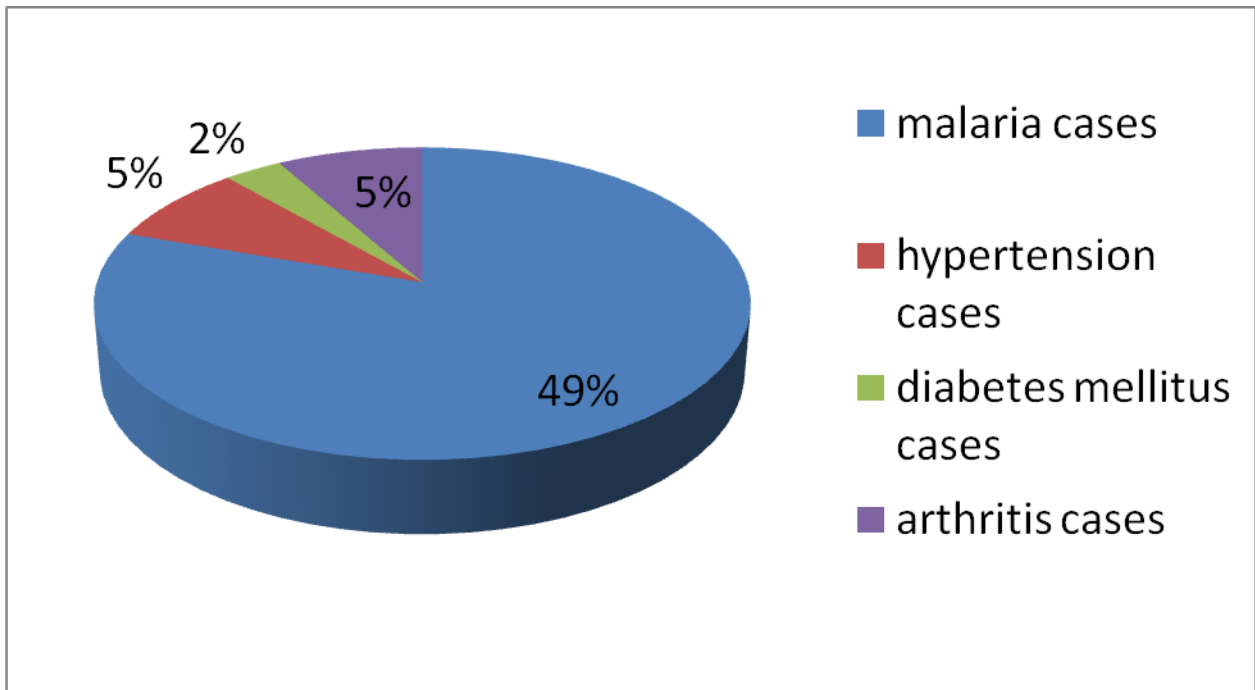


Figure 2; 2015 International Widows Day Free Medical diagnosis and treatment

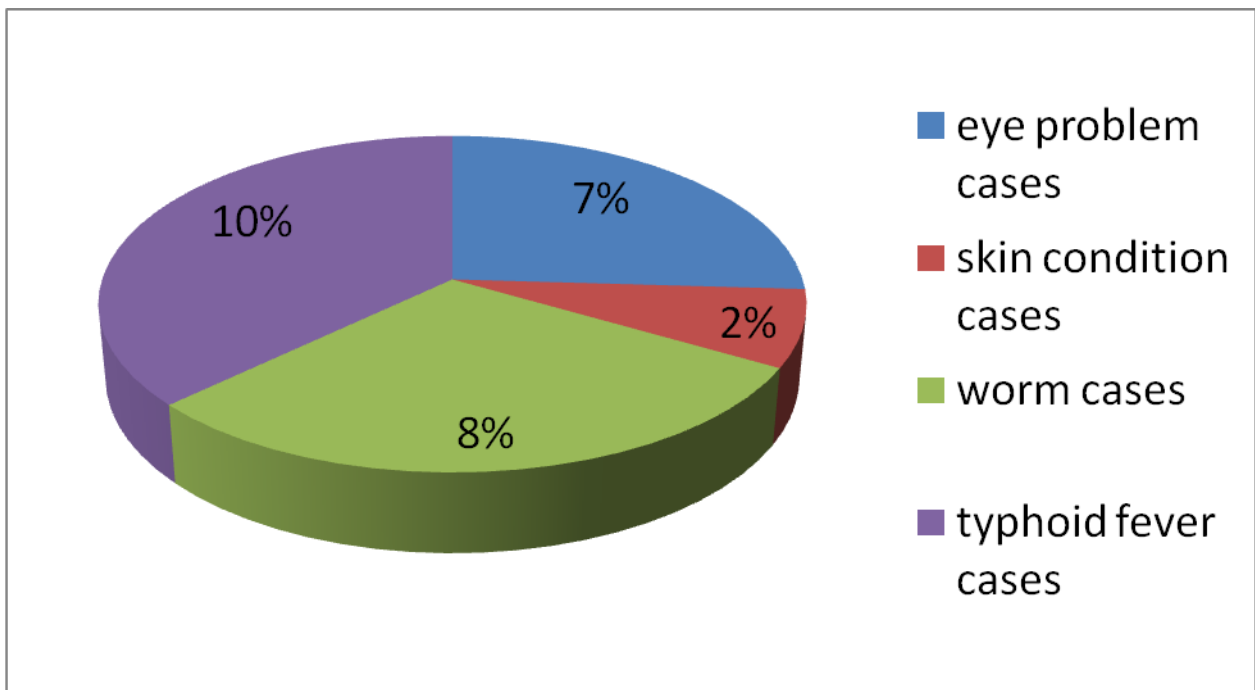
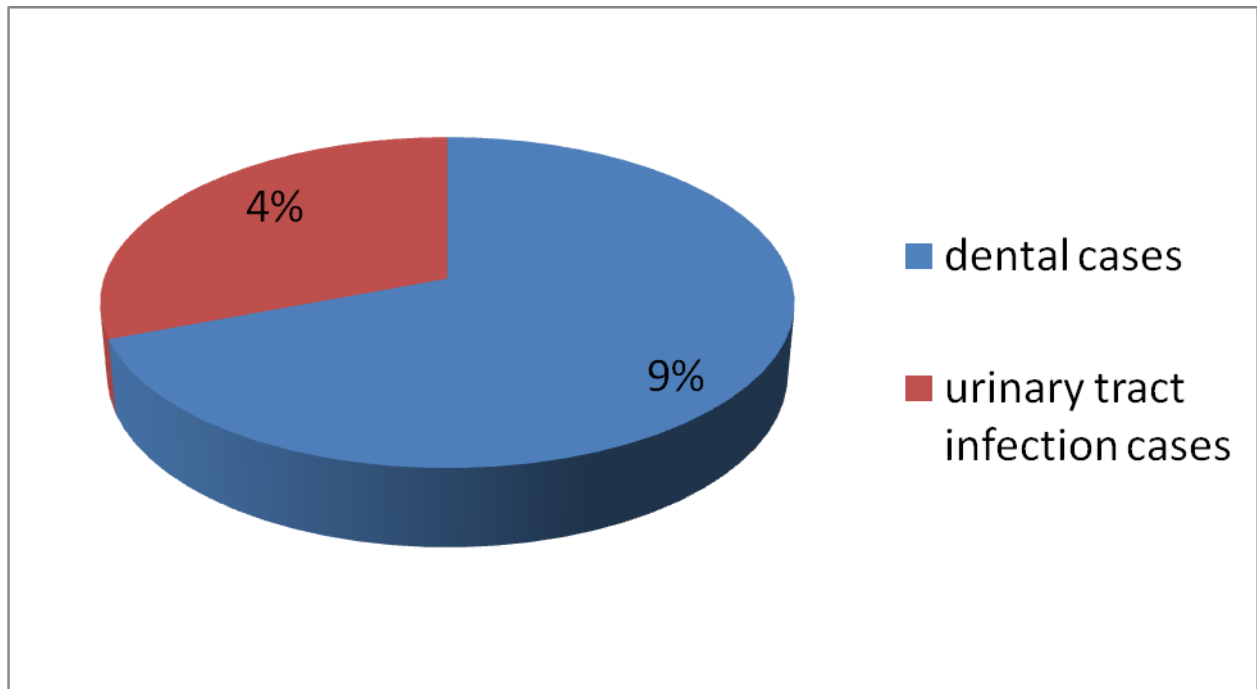


Figure 3; 2015 International Widows Day Free Medical diagnosis and treatment



*Figure 4: 2015 International Widows Day Free Medical diagnosis and treatment*

From figure 2,3 and 4 above, out of 1500 widows that participated in the free medical diagnosis and treatment, it is revealed that 49% widows were treated for malaria, 5% were treated for hypertension, and arthritis respectively, 2% were treated for diabetes mellitus, and skin condition respectively, 7% were treated for eye defect cases and were give reading glasses, 8% were treated for worm, whereas 9% were treated for dental cases. More so, 4% were treated for urinary tract infection, and 10% were treated for typhoid fever.

## **5.0 ACHIEVEMENTS**

RAEF has singlehandedly transformed the lives of over 7000 widows and their children, through skill acquisition trainings, financial empowerment, free monthly medical check-up and payment of school fees for their children without any external sources of income. We are moved by passion, and plight of these vulnerable groups and we are committed to pulling resources together towards giving a helping hand.