

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021

#ChooseToChallenge



DONATE

£45 Feeds 3 families

£10 Supports Community Savings Groups



OPPORTUNITIES TO FULFIL POTENTIAL

Girls' education strengthens economies and reduces inequality. It contributes to more stable, resilient societies that give all individuals – including boys and men – the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

- UNICEF



GET GIRLS IN SCHOOL!

Former Finance Minister of Nigeria & Director-General of the World Trade Organization, Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, has prioritised the education and health of children and speaks up for girls and women saying, "Getting girls into school is really a big win to unlock big change."

CECILY'S FUND INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021

A thought from Hope Mayunda, Project Officer (CHEP/CF) and Cecily's Fund Alumnus.

A 'CECILY'S FUND' WOMAN ALWAYS CHOOSES JOY

"Cecily's Fund has been the foundation that made the assertive, confident and happy woman that I am today. It taught me values that enabled me to make informed decisions for the present and the future. I learnt that my health is my responsibility and that a healthy life is a happy one. Taking part in peer education after my secondary school was the best platform to allow me to take care of myself and share the love with others as their role model. Working with CF moulded me into an inspiration, to others I'm a sister, a fellow peer and to others, I'm a mother that gives them hope and the courage to keep pushing for great things and not to complain because life itself is a JOY."

WHAT ARE YOU CHOOSING TO CHALLENGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY? HOW IS CECILY'S FUND HELPING YOU ACHIEVE THIS?

"I'm choosing to challenge the mindset of young people and adolescent girls and boys. I want them to first believe in themselves, have self-love and know that they are special. These steps are important because once one believe in him/ herself, no one and nothing can hinder them from pursuing their goals. I want the young people to believe that it doesn't matter where you are coming from, or how rough your past has been, what matters is where you are



going and what you're doing about it. A positive mindset does wonders and brings about change. CF has been a great support in grooming young people in and out of school, it has brought programmes that are a full package in helping young people get sustained. Peer education to teach in HIV prevention, life skills and assertiveness, entrepreneurship programmes, small grants to start-up businesses. All these programmes have the best interest of that struggling child, and not only a child but the entire family's burden is lessened. Social businesses for the parents is another reason to be thankful for, because the parents and guardians to the supported children, young boys and girls will have some form of empowerment to sustain their families.

As we celebrate women's day, I challenge every woman to step up and make the right decisions for the betterment of the communities and the Nation at large."