WE THANK OUR PARTNERS!
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MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR

Dear Esteemed Reader,

I am honored to present to you the 2022 Annual Report of Intersex Nigeria, reflecting our progress, achievements, and challenges throughout the year. As the Board Chair, I am immensely proud of the dedication and resilience demonstrated by our team, community, and partners in advancing the rights and well-being of intersex individuals across Nigeria.

Over the past year, Intersex Nigeria has remained committed to our mission of advocating for the rights, visibility, and inclusion of intersex people in all aspects of society. Despite the numerous obstacles faced, we have made significant strides in creating awareness, fostering understanding, and working towards protection and inclusive policy for intersex people.

Advocacy and Awareness:
Our organization has been actively engaged in advocacy efforts at local, national, and international levels. We have continued to raise awareness about intersex, debunking myths and misconceptions, and challenging the stigma and discrimination faced by intersex individuals. Through public engagements, workshops, and media campaigns, we have reached thousands of people, creating a more inclusive and accepting environment for intersex individuals.

Collaboration and Partnerships:
Intersex Nigeria has forged strategic alliances with like-minded organizations, governmental bodies, and human rights institutions to amplify our impact. Our partnerships have allowed us to advocate for legal reforms, influence policy discussions, and address the unique challenges faced by intersex individuals in healthcare, education, employment, and social settings. Together, we are building a stronger network of support and resources for intersex individuals and their families.

Capacity Building and Support:
In recognition of the need for comprehensive support systems, Intersex Nigeria has focused on capacity building initiatives. We have conducted training programs for our community, state and non-state actors, healthcare professionals, and social workers, equipping them with the knowledge and sensitivity required to address the specific needs of intersex individuals. Additionally, we have expanded our support services, providing counseling, guidance, and referral mechanisms to intersex individuals seeking assistance.

Challenges:
While we celebrate our achievements, we acknowledge the challenges that lie ahead. Stigma, discrimination, and lack of understanding persist within society, creating barriers to intersex individuals' full participation and enjoyment of their human rights. We recognize the need for continued efforts to dismantle systemic barriers and promote inclusivity.
Gratitude:
I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff, volunteers, Board members and partners for their unwavering support. Your commitment and passion have been instrumental in driving our mission forward. I also extend my gratitude to the intersex community for their resilience, trust, and invaluable contributions to our organization.

Looking Ahead:
As we enter the coming year, Intersex Nigeria remains steadfast in our commitment to promoting the rights and well-being of intersex individuals. We will continue to advocate for legal reforms, challenge harmful practices, expand support services, and foster a more inclusive society for all. We will build on our achievements and learn from our challenges, always striving to create a Nigeria where intersex individuals are valued, respected, and empowered.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and belief in our cause. Together, we will create a brighter future for intersex individuals in Nigeria.

Sincerely,

Daniel Adams
Board Chair, Intersex Nigeria
MESSAGE FROM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

I am honored to make my reflections to you for the year 2022 as the Executive Director of our esteemed organization. It is with great pleasure that I reflect upon our accomplishments, challenges, and the progress we have made in advancing the rights and well-being of intersex individuals throughout our nation.

Throughout the year, our organization has remained steadfast in our commitment to promoting awareness, advocating for equality, and providing support to intersex people and their families. We have achieved significant milestones and have continuously strived to create a more inclusive society that embraces the diversity of intersex experiences.

In terms of advocacy, we have actively engaged with government agencies, state and non-state actors, media and human rights organizations to highlight the specific needs and challenges faced by intersex individuals in Nigeria. We have participated in various forums and conferences both regionally and internationally, where we have urged for the implementation of policies that protect intersex rights, address medical interventions without informed consent, and ensure access to inclusive healthcare services.

Furthermore, we have made remarkable progress in raising public awareness and understanding of intersex issues. Through social media campaigns, workshops, and community outreach programs, we have aimed to dispel myths and stereotypes surrounding people with variation in sex characteristics and foster a climate of acceptance and respect. We have witnessed an increase in public discourse and media coverage on intersex topics, contributing to a more inclusive dialogue.

One of our proudest achievements this year has been the expansion of our support services. We have strengthened our counseling and referral programs, providing emotional support and guidance to intersex individuals and their families. Additionally, we have facilitated support groups and safe spaces for intersex individuals to connect, share their experiences, and find solace in a community that understands their unique journey.
However, it is important to acknowledge the challenges that persist. Discrimination, stigma, and lack of awareness still pose significant barriers to the full realization of intersex rights in our society. We remain committed to tackling these obstacles head-on by continuing our advocacy efforts, engaging in strategic partnerships, and amplifying the voices of intersex individuals to effect change at both the grassroots and policy levels.

None of our accomplishments would have been possible without the unwavering dedication and support of my colleagues, Board members, partners and stakeholders. Your commitment to our cause has been instrumental in driving our progress and inspiring positive change. We express our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your invaluable contributions.

We remain resolute in our mission to ensure that intersex individuals in Nigeria can live with dignity, respect, and equal rights. In the coming year, we will focus on expanding our reach, strengthening our partnerships, and advocating for systemic change and promotion of inclusive policies, and create a society that embraces diversity in all its forms.

In conclusion, I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together in 2022. Our annual report stands as a testament to the collective efforts and unwavering determination of our organization. Let us carry this momentum forward, building on our successes and striving for a future where intersex rights are fully recognized and respected.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Obioma Chukwuike
Executive Director
Message From Our Team

SEYI BALOGUN
HUMAN RIGHT & ADVOCACY PROGRAM OFFICER
I believe from my inner core that fostering understanding, embracing identities, and empowering self-advocacy, we can create a future where every intersex person is celebrated, supported, and embraced as a valuable member of our global community. Together, let us cultivate a world that honors the beautiful diversity of human existence and paves the way for a brighter, more inclusive tomorrow. I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve.

JENNIFER ALIU-KADIRI
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION PROGRAM OFFICER
The growing prominence of self-advocacy within the intersex community in Nigeria has sparked a paradigm shift. Intersex individuals are reclaiming their narratives, demanding recognition, and shaping their own realities. It is a profound honor to be a part of this movement, supporting and amplifying their voices as they advocate for their rights, access to healthcare, legal protections, and educational opportunities. The progress achieved through these collective efforts serves as a beacon of hope for a more inclusive society.

ROSELINE AYOOLA
SENIOR FINANCE OFFICER
Greatness is a virtue we can all attain in this lifetime. Greatness is made with love and sheer grit strength. We all are great in our unique and diverse ways. We all should embrace change and be the change we want to see. Changing the world starts from you and I. We need all the collaboration we can get, the world needs to see more goodness and love than anything else right now. Greatness starts from me and you. We are great people and we need to share that greatness and make the world a better place.
Message From Our Team

ADEDAMOLA ADEMULEGUN
PROCUREMENT & LOGISTICS OFFICER
As I reflect on the significance of programming for intersex individuals and the evolution of self-advocacy, I am filled with profound happiness and optimism. The strides we have made together inspire me to continue championing the rights and dignity of intersex individuals.

YEKEEN HABEEB OLAWALE
PROGRAM PLANNING, MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING OFFICER
Empowering intersex individuals to reclaim their narratives and shape their destinies ignites a beacon of hope for an inclusive society, where every voice is celebrated, every right protected, and every identity embraced.
Our Vision

Our vision is to see a society where intersex persons, from birth, have rights to bodily integrity and autonomy and are free from stigma and discrimination.

Our Mission

To create an enabling society that promotes the visibility, inclusion, bodily autonomy, sexual and reproductive health including mental wellbeing, and human rights of intersex persons in Nigeria, through community organizing, research, advocacy, and public engagements using a feminist lens.
OUR CORE VALUES

• STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVEMENT: We ensure that stakeholders (relevant government and non-government actors) and target beneficiaries (intersex persons) have a chance to contribute to our programs through exchange of knowledge, consultations, and meaningful liaisons.

• TEAM WORK: Our strength lies in our combined efforts, experiences and expertise. We collectively ensure the meaningful participation of our staff and volunteers in decision-making processes.

• EQUITY: We ensure that resources and services are tailored to meet the specific needs of diverse groups of intersex persons in Nigeria.

• MUTUAL RESPECT: We value everyone for who they are irrespective of personal beliefs, cultural backgrounds, religion, social class, abilities, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC).

• INCLUSIVITY: We recognize the diversity of intersex persons and as such we ensure that our work promotes non-discrimination, adequate representation, and equal access to opportunities and resources in Nigeria.

• CREDIBILITY: We adopt a transparent and accountable approach in our work and engagements with the intersex community and external stakeholders.
2022 STRATEGIES
Intersex is a category of experiences. There are many ways to have an intersex body; not all involve surgery or parents finding out at birth. Many people might not even be aware that their bodily experiences fall under the intersex umbrella. Intersex Nigeria produced a documentary titled ‘In-Between Sexes,’ this documentary reveals the stories and experiences of Intersex persons in Nigeria. This groundbreaking documentary depicts the unconventional lives of intersex individuals, and how they cope with relationships and navigate life as intersex persons living in Nigeria.

‘In-Between Sexes’ is now available on our YouTube channel.
Stakeholders’ engagement in Lagos in partnership with Vision Spring Initiative (VSI) and The Initiative for Equal Rights

Grassroot advocacy for intersex awareness is very vital for intersex Nigeria to build allyship from rural and remote areas of the country for intersex visibility. Intersex Nigeria engaged over 30 relevant community leaders in three Local Government Areas of Lagos: Epe LGA, Ikorodu LGA, Kosofe LGA.

Creating visibility and awareness for the community in Nigeria rests on grassroots activism and stakeholders’ involvement. Intersex Nigeria understands the power that local communities have when it comes to advocating for the human rights of intersex persons.

This is why our activism starts from the most marginalized groups by beginning at the local level and amplifying the voices of intersex people in different local communities in Nigeria.

Intersex Nigeria is building a broader awareness and visibility of intersex issues, challenging cultural norms and prejudices, and promoting intersex knowledge and acceptance through interacting with local communities, organizations, and key stakeholders at the grassroots level.

Interacting directly with community members through grassroots participation can enhance awareness, empathy, and support for intersex rights. Through this grassroot advocacy, we can affect policy-making, healthcare systems, and legal frameworks by starting at the grassroots level since it establishes a strong basis for larger movements and alliances.
We lead SOGIESC and DISABILITY rights training for CoA members

The training sessions prioritize the concept of intentional inclusivity, emphasizing the need to actively consider and include individuals from diverse SOGIESC and disability backgrounds. The goal is to ensure that advocacy efforts are designed to be accessible, equitable, and considerate of the unique needs and experiences of all individuals, regardless of their SOGIESC or disability status.

By incorporating this intentional inclusivity, the training encourages CoA members to be effective advocates who work towards a more inclusive and equal society for all.
Intersex Nigeria conducted a 2-days SOGIESC workshop for intersex persons, on the 24th-25th of October 2022 in Lagos, Nigeria. This workshop was put together by Intersex Nigeria for intersex persons from the different geopolitical zones in Nigeria.

This SOGIESC workshop aimed at educating, building, and strengthening the knowledge of Intersex persons on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression, and Sex Characteristics.

Our distinctive goal is to ensure that intersex persons have an in-depth understanding of SOGIESC terminologies and how it intersects and relates to all intersex persons.
The workshop also seeks to ensure that intersex persons understand the importance of SOGIESC in achieving full bodily integrity and autonomy, and the necessity for improved human and sexual rights, including well-being. Through this training workshop, intersex persons will be able to impact and contribute to the shifts in attitudes, values, beliefs, practices, ideologies, and customs within their environment.
Grassroot advocacy for intersex awareness is very vital for intersex Nigeria to build allyship from rural and remote areas of the country for intersex visibility. Intersex Nigeria engaged over 20 relevant community leaders in Makurdi, Benue State. Creating visibility and awareness for the community in Nigeria rests on grassroots activism and stakeholders’ involvement. Intersex Nigeria understands the power that local communities have when it comes to advocating for the human rights of intersex persons.
In August 2022, Intersex Nigeria took part in a Youth Lead research organized by HIVOs (We Lead) in collaboration with Restless Development. The workshop enlightened participants on the importance of meaningfully engaging young people in research studies.
Employees are a key determinant of an organization’s success and maintaining a well-trained, well-qualified workforce is a critical function of an organization. Intersex Nigeria conducted a 3-day capacity strengthening on Financial Management for its staff to foster a better understanding of financial processes, practices, and systems, to use practical and participatory approaches, tools/techniques for managing program/project activity finances. The staff engaged fully in the workshop by using practical and participatory approaches to gain adept knowledge of financial management.
The Intersex Intersectional Advocacy workshop in Abuja was designed to facilitate a 2-day effective Intersex Intersectional Advocacy training workshop that seeks to educate, empower, and motivate other CSOs and feminists’ organizations with the knowledge and information required to encourage, foster, and facilitate intersectional advocacy as it relates to intersex womxn/persons inclusion in every human rights/women advocacy and programming discourse.

They sought to illuminate the connections between all fights for justice, liberation, autonomy etc. and to illustrate with instances, that fighting for equality means not only turning the tables on sex and gender injustices but rooting out all forms of oppression. The training served as a canvas through which the building block for an inclusive and robust movement that works to solve overlapping forms of discrimination is established and implemented. The overall goal was to increase the awareness of 10 women/feminist organizations in Northern Nigeria, Abuja to include intersex women/persons in their organizational programming design and implementation.
PROVISION OF EMERGENCY SUPPORT TO RIGHTS-HOLDERS (Funded by ISDAO)

Through the $1000 emergency support fund provided by ISDAO for each grant awarded to their grant partners. Intersex Nigeria has been able to support (put the number people here) of LGI persons in urgent needs in the last fiscal year. In many cases, these individuals face medical challenges that demand prompt intervention. Through the emergency fund, we have been able to provide financial assistance for urgent medical procedures, consultations, accommodation and treatments. This has allowed them to access the necessary care they need without delays or financial burden.

Additionally, the funding has facilitated the purchase of prescribed medications, ensuring they have access to essential medicines for their specific medical treatment. By contributing to their emergency needs we have relieved the financial strain on rights-holders who may otherwise struggle to afford vital needs to their well-being.

Furthermore, the emergency fund has also contributed to the provision of accommodations for intersex persons facing immediate eviction as a result of their identities or other reasons. This has been particularly important in cases where individuals require a safe and supportive environment, whether due to medical emergencies, displacement, or other urgent circumstances.

The impact of this emergency support cannot be overemphasized. It has not only addressed immediate needs but provided a sense of security, comfort, and relief for rights-holders in their intersecting identities and experiences, during challenging times.
"BEYOND THE BINARY: EXPLORING THE DIVERSITIES OF INTERSEX EXPERIENCES AND IDENTITIES."

Intersex Nigeria proudly presents a groundbreaking debut research study titled "Beyond the Binary: Exploring the Diversities of Intersex Experiences and Identities." This comprehensive study delves into the multifaceted world of intersex persons in Nigeria, aiming to unravel the complexities and challenges they face beyond the confines of traditional binary understandings.

Through extensive qualitative and quantitative research methods, we have examined the diverse lived experiences of intersex individuals, their unique journeys of self-discovery, and the societal and cultural factors that impact their lives. Our study highlights the urgent need for increased visibility, awareness, and acceptance and acknowledgement of variations in sex characteristics and intersex identities as a part of this variations within broader society.

By shedding light on the lived realities of intersex persons, we want to debunk myths and misconceptions, challenge stigmas, discrimination, coerced and forced medical surgery and pave the way for a more inclusive and safe future. The findings of this study serve as a valuable resource for policymakers, local and national NGOs, healthcare professionals, and the general public, fostering a deeper understanding of the intersex community's needs and advocating for their rights and well-being.

We invite you to explore the profound insights revealed in our research study and join us in creating a more inclusive world for intersex persons in Nigeria.
Positive media representation for Intersex people is very important, which is why Intersex Nigeria invited the press to the Intersex Awareness Day, held on Wednesday, 26th of October, 2022. In a chat with some media reps, Obioma Chukwuike; Executive Director of Intersex Nigeria, lamented about the zero recognition for intersex people in Nigeria.

“…NOBODY TALKS about intersex people, nobody is taking records and their interests are not being considered.

Within families, intersex is kept secret because families do not want people to know they have given birth to intersex children. They keep the child secret and isolated from the other children and peers, making the child feel that there is something wrong with them. We need to put an end to the discrimination against intersex people because they have rights too…”

Intersex people are in the best position to talk about themselves, to explain which aspects are relevant to them and how they want to see their concerns represented. Intersex Nigeria is committed to challenging the dominant and negative narratives about intersex persons in Nigeria.

Double click the pictures to read the News from the national newspapers
2022 INTERSEX AWARENESS DAY

On Wednesday, 26th of October 2022, the Center for Healthcare Development and Youth Development (Intersex Nigeria) celebrated Intersex Awareness Day (IAD). IAD is celebrated globally every 26th of October to make to promote dignity, visibility, and equal rights for the millions of people born with variations in sex characteristics. For Intersex Awareness Day 2022, Intersex Nigeria launched our debut documentary titled, “In-Between Sexes” This documentary was premiered at the event. A panel discussion was also held with the topic, “Making Visible the Rights and Challenges of Intersex Persons in Nigeria.”
"What about us?", this short film represents the diverse perspectives and experiences of some intersex people in Nigeria and South Africa. Intersex Nigeria and Intersex South Africa are dedicated to raising awareness and advocating for the wellbeing and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of intersex people in Africa. Intersex persons are born with variations in sex characteristics that do not align with atypical definitions of male and female sex binaries. Unfortunately, intersex people encounter stigma and discrimination simply for existing and not conforming to medical and society's biological norms of sex and gender. It is important to recognize that intersex is not a taboo or an abomination; it is a natural variation in sex characteristics. This film sheds light on the challenges faced by intersex persons within their families and society in South Africa and Nigeria. The film seeks to foster understanding, empathy, and respect of intersex people and their realities.
Intersex Nigeria held a 3-Day staff retreat from the 5th to the 7th of December, 2022. This retreat offered the employees the opportunity to rub minds with each other and creatively draw workable plans which are consequently going to create a renewed drive to pursue the values, mission, and vision of our organization.
2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

INCOME BREAKDOWN

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<tr>
<td>Flexible grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total grant</td>
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EXPENSES BREAKDOWN

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<tr>
<td>Operation and Administration</td>
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- Project grant: 81.8%
- Flexible grant: 18.2%
Gallery
Acknowledgements

We thank our donors and partners for their support to Intersex Nigeria. We are thrilled and encouraged to have your support to carry out all the important work we do for our community. Through your support we have been able to accomplish our objectives and continue working towards creating more visibility, inclusion, increase sensitization and advocate for intersex rights, issues, and wellbeing.

We acknowledge the contributions of the Intersex Nigeria's team who worked tirelessly on all our projects and programs.

We also appreciate our community, volunteers, CoAs, and stakeholders.

Let's do better next year!