

# 2016 Annual Report

MIDDWEL OFBRITS

Share smiles.
Inspire hope.
Empower dreams.

# A Message From Our Founder and President

At A2S, we continue to find value in the power of relationships and collaboration that inspire hope in the face of adversity. We are so thankful that we not only inspire hope in the lives of the children that we serve, but also get to be witnesses as many step into God's hope-filled plan for their lives.

Whether it is watching Endurance race through our doors and inhale a hot plate of lunch or Sandra being able to attend University despite her father not believing in girl-child education; David getting a scholarship to study anatomy at the University after his family was murdered by the terrorist group Boko Haram, or Justice and Wisdom thriving at Christ School in Asheville. So many little lights are starting to shine. The smile on a face of a child who just received his or her first pair of shoes or first backpack for school is priceless. The joy of a mother that knows there is food for over the holidays. The assurance a community has in knowing that a project uplifts them. Thanks to all of you, hearts are being poured into, minds are being empowered, and through love and compassion, lives are being changed.

Encountering each child, you notice a void that needs to be filled. To attempt to fill this void created by poverty, we work to meet each child at their level, to best address their needs. To do this, we not only focus on the child but their transition into adulthood. This year, A2S focused on more resource-based and interactive learning as we hired a creative director. We also strengthened our tutoring structure by hiring a head tutor. We worked to infuse more structure into awarding and managing our scholarships by hiring a scholarship coordinator. We are currently working on erecting our new after-school academy building to be able to cater to any and all needs of the children that walk through our doors. Our community care programs continue to strengthen our partnership with the local community as we work to provide formerly non-existent programs and assistance that empowers the people in the areas in which we serve. Our summer programs continue to grow. The growth we experience and the need we see is really forcing us to think more about scaling and developing entrepreneurship opportunities for youth coming through our programs as they age out of early childhood.

Who would have thought that the question of a young boy, "WHY ME?", born out of need and a prayer of desperation and commitment, would turn into anything like this? Who would have thought that collecting shoes to take to struggling peers would turn into a life-long mission? Today, I still ask the question "WHY ME?" Except that now, it is from a place of gratitude. In the eyes of each child that we serve, I see a myself -- a young boy that saw his dreams disappear with everyday that passed, one who did not know where the next meal would come from, one who trekked miles to find water and studied without electricity. But, one that held on to hope and trusted in God's plan. The original shoes proved to be vessels that helped us travel to this point as an organization, but your commitment is the heart that drives A2S. Our diverse and growing A2S family includes generous individuals, businesses, churches, and groups that give their time, talents, and treasures immeasurably and for you, we are very thankful. Thank you for being angels to our little angels and we cannot wait to see where God will take us all in 2017.

Blessings,

Andrew Lovedale Founder and President

# **Mission & Vision**

#### Mission Statement

To provide sustainable programs that generate positive change for Nigerian children and their communities.

#### **Vision Statement**

The vision of A2S is that each child/person in Nigeria finds a dignified path to a successful life and is empowered to live out God's plan for a future filled with hope.

# **Statement of Ministry**

Access to Success (A2S) is a non denominational, Christian non profit organization. A2S is dedicated to playing its part to eliminate poverty and provide hope through educational, athletic and spiritual based initiatives. Our ministry was founded on the premise that every child and youth should have an opportunity to dream, irrespective of location. We believe that access to education, sports or after school activities, and growth opportunities should be basic rights for all.



# **Our Core Values**

#### Faith in Action

Trusting in our Lord Jesus Christ and acting on that faith by serving those most vulnerable.

# Integrity

Demonstrating strong ethics, honesty, and the highest standards at all times.

# **Teamwork and Family Spirit**

Working in unity with passion, respect, and humility.

# Sustainable, Long Term Change

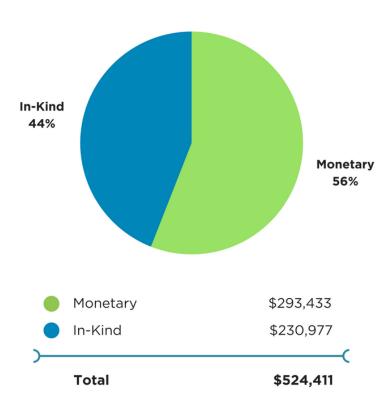
Empowering people to bring about purposeful life change

# **Passion for People**

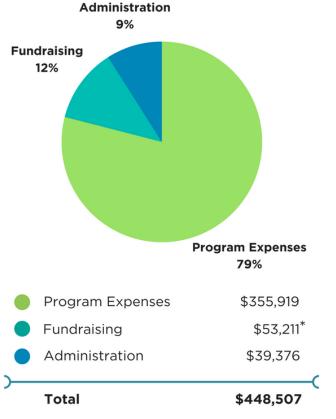
Understanding each person's story and treating all with dignity and compassion.



# **Financials**

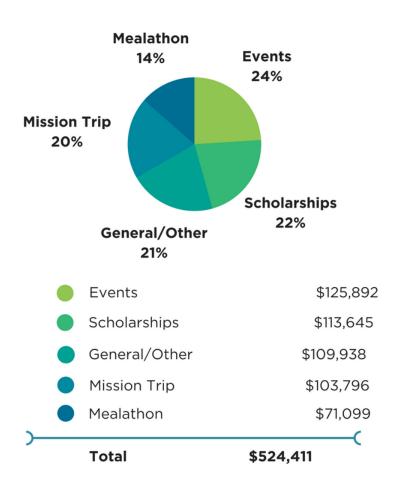


Types of Support



How We Use Our Resources

<sup>\*\$10,000</sup> in event expenses carried over from 2015



Giving Breakdown



# **Our Staff**

# Andrew Lovedale Founder and President

#### **A2S NIGERIA**

Pastor Benjamin Aikhuemokhan Board of Trustees & Vice President

> Fustina Uzukwu Board of Trustees

Juliet Airiohuodion Board of Trustees

> Thecla Uzukwu Director

Ehizogie Ighodaro Program Coordinator

Roseline Oiyemonba After-School Site Coordinator

> Caroline Elimigbe Head Tutor

Festus Oduwa Creative Director

Comfort Atole Scholarship Coordinator Obehi Osamwonyi
Early Childhood Development Coordinator

Funmi Ogunje Office Manager

A2S U.S.A.

Anna Eichhorn
Director of Development and
U.S. Operations

Grace Barkley
Administrative and Marketing
Assistant
Beginning January 2017

Kennedy Jones
Donor Relations Intern
Beginning January 2017

## **Our Board**

Lauren Biggers

Marketing/Communications
and Fundraising
2011-2016

Lindsay Biggers
After School Program
Development
2013-present

Randy Burris Events and Leadership 2016-present

Mehmet Can Civi Financial Management and Networking 2013-present Morgan Clark Website/Tech, Development, Events, Strategic Planning 2011-present

Jill Lewandowski Expansion, Leadership, Human Resources 2016-present

Andrew Lovedale Nonprofit Management, Leadership, Public Speaking 2011-present King Mawhinney Fundraising, Strategy, Leadership 2011-2016

Ken Menkhaus Strategy, Expert On Issues Concerning Africa, Non-Profit Management 2011-2016

> William Reigel Basketball 2013-2016

Thomas Sander
Networking and
Governance
2011-present

A2S would like to thank our outgoing board members for their invaluable service! Thank you to Lauren Biggers, King Mawhinney, Ken Menkhaus and Will Reigel.

# **Incoming Board Members**

Gina Bridgeford
Strategic Planning
2017-present

Gregory Bridgeford
Fundraising,
Leadership and Development
2017-present

Christopher Dunn Marketing, PR and Events 2017-present

Ali Garba Networking and Finance 2017-present

# **Board Alumni**

Kim Cook
Events, Networking and Strategy

Stephen Curry
Basketball

# **Our Solution**



# **Engage**

In a typical Nigerian classroom, you will find teachers talking "at" students instead of engaging the children's imagination and encouraging creative thinking. Access to athletics, art & music programs, tutoring and community service opportunities are luxuries. In many cases, when children leave school they end up on the streets trying to help their families survive. While education is the "single most powerful means for families to escape poverty over the longer term (Right 129)," the immediate needs often outweigh those long-term benefits.





After School Academy: 250 Served Daily

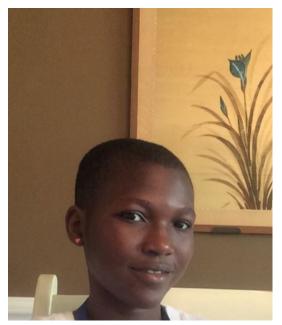
# How We Are Solving It

At the A2S After School Academy, we help children enjoy learning. We tutor. We play sports. We make music. We mentor. We explore technology. Most importantly, we provide at-risk youth a safe, engaging and constructive place to go after school. The A2S Academy is built for long-term growth. Children who are supported by A2S return to serve as tutors, mentors and coaches.



# **Encourage**

In a community suffering from extreme poverty, there are many community needs that impact the lives of the children. There is a shortage of adequately trained teachers and illiteracy rates for adults is approximately 61 percent (World Bank 2012b). There are also limited resources to aid in the health, wellness and disease prevention.







U.S. volunteers shared expertise:

200 Teachers 40 Coaches

**4,000**Served in Empowerment Outreach

**24,000**Educational, School, and Athletics supplies distributed

# **Our Solutions**

A2S invests in the local community. We provides additional services to address ongoing issues as well as emergency needs that arise. We host teacher and coaching workshops to train and empower Nigerian people. We hold literacy classes once a month to give parents tools they need to help kids with homework as well as be more successful in business. We offer a health clinic to provide regular exams. We collaborate with our team in Nigeria to offer the support that impacts long term sustainability.



#### **Educate**



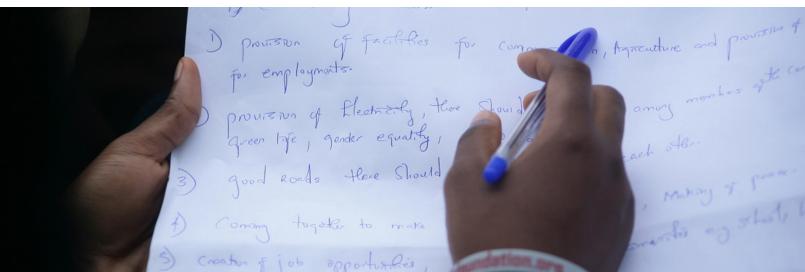


Equipping children with knowledge and skills is paramount to breaking the poverty cycle. Education leads to increased income, improved health and empowered individuals. Nigeria is home to an estimated 10.5 million out-of-school children (UNESCO, 2012). The fees for uniforms and school supplies are often too great for families to afford. Children are forced to work to support their families instead of attending school.

# How We Are Solving It

A2S offers scholarship support for primary, secondary and university level education. All of our scholarships are need-based, and some include a merit component as well. We provide financial assistance for children to attend school in Nigeria and help gifted student-athletes find opportunities for education and athletics in the United States. The students who receive our scholarships return to support A2S in some capacity — some mentor, tutor and coach at the Academy and others intern with A2S to grow educational opportunities for their fellow brothers and sisters.





# **Empower**

Youth in Nigeria are exposed to violence, drugs, theft, corruption, and prostitution at a very early age. Women have been marginalized and every member of the family is often forced to do whatever it takes to survive another day. That is not childhood. Children not only lack the tools to succeed — they lack the hope and inspiration to believe they have the power to live a different life and impact change.





# **How We Are Solving It**

A2S puts boots on the ground. Our annual summer, bible, and empowerment camps teach leadership and teamwork, enhance self-esteem, and inspire a vision for the future. And they are fun! Kids deserve to be kids. In addition to providing growth opportunities, we offer a respite from the lives they lead and the battles they face.



Empowering youth to succeed through:

**Summer Camps:** 

1,000

**Mission Trips:** 

2,500

School Empowerment Outreach:

2,400



## **Enrich**

Hunger limits child development. Malnutrition greatly reduces the effectiveness of the immune system, increasing the susceptibility to disease while also impairing development (UN/WHO). In Nigeria, 40 percent of children under the age of five are stunted in growth and 25 percent are underweight (GHI). In Africa alone, 23 million primary school age children attend classes hungry (World Food Programme).



**Our Solutions** 

A2S provides one hot meal a day for the children we serve in our programs. We purchase local, fresh ingredients to support the economy, and we engage mothers of the youth to prepare the daily hot meals. Through the annual A2S Mealathon, donations of \$22 will sponsor a child's meals for a whole month.

Meals provided from 2013-2015:

70,000 Meals

After School Program:

63,000 Meals

IDP Camp:

52,500 Meals

**Summer Camps:** 

3,648 Meals

Total served in 2016:

119,148 Meals

*Meals provided since 2013:* 

189,000 Meals





## 2016 A2S Events

# An Evening with A2S

Joe Kindred of Kindred Restaurant (Davidson, N.C.), Cody Suddreth of King's Kitchen (Charlotte, N.C.) and Geoff Schneider of Peddler Steakhouse (Greenville, S.C.) presented some of their best-known dishes to go along with drinks courtesy of Wicked Weed Brewing, D9 Brewing Company and Childress Vineyards. Fourth Creek Band and interactive exhibits on A2S programming entertained guests throughout the free-flowing and fun evening, and special guests Bob McKillop (as the live auctioneer!) and the Davidson men's basketball team also joined the fun! The event raised invaluable awareness and nearly \$100,000.

# **Mission Trip**

Last year we were privileged to take two mission teams to Nigeria. The mission trip is near and dear to our hearts because it allows us to fellowship with the people at the very heart of our organization in Benin City. This past summer we were given a unique opportunity to visit a local IDP (Internally Displaced Persons) Camp. This camp is full of widows and children who escaped from the northern part of Nigeria where the terrorist group Boko Haram continues to control the communities. It was a blessing to learn from these who have so little, yet have an amazing outlook and respect for one another. We also returned to host our empowerment and basketball camps, which are always a powerful experience. These camps are the genesis of many of our A2S success stories. The children that are on scholarship in the U.S. typically have begun their journey by coming to the after-school academy or an A2S camp.

# Hoops for Hope Tournament

The annual 3-on-3 Hoops for Hope Basketball Tournament was played at North Mecklenburg Park in Huntersville, NC in June. This event provides an opportunity to share the stories of Nigerian youth with their American peers, who play in the tournament to raise funds for our summer camps. In 2016, the tournament raised over \$10,000.

## **A2S Red Out Game**

The A2S Red Out Game is hosted yearly at Davidson College, alma mater of our founder and president, Andrew Lovedale. The Davidson College community has always been one of the strongest supporters of A2S and we continue to foster our relationship with the school. The 2016 Red Out game was on January 29 when the 'Cats took on the VCU Rams. While the 'Cats couldn't quite squeeze past the Rams, it was a great night reconnecting with all of our Davidson fans.

## Mealathon

A2S steps up to meet a need. Our "Give" and "Give Back" programs collide as we stepped in to help 2500 widows and orphans currently living at the IDP camp. They were displaced from their homes by terrorist, Boko Haram. Mealathon campaign hit a record as a donor was willing to match all donations up to \$42,000. Donations by the end of the campaign totaled over \$95,000.

## **Our Volunteers**

In Nigeria we use 16 volunteers from a pool of 56 volunteers each day. They each volunteer at least 5 hours a day. With the help of our community and partners in Nigeria, we enjoy about 21,120 volunteer hours year-round at the A2S After School Academy and helping with outreach. We are only effective at empowering youth and giving them a purpose to live and pursue their dreams because of the dedication of the community.

During our summer programs, we have about 45 volunteers working 9 hours a day for about 6 days at the basketball and empowerment camp. We have about 15 volunteers working about 5 hours a day at Vacation Bible Camp. These come to a 2,730 volunteer hours.

# Nigeria

114 Volunteers23,850 Volunteer Hours

#### **USA**

27 Volunteers3,345 Volunteer Hours

141 Volunteers27,195 Volunteer Hours

# THANK YOU to all our volunteers.

"Each one should use whatever gift he was given to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." - 1 Peter 4:10



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