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Together we build hope and a brighter future through rehabilitation, training, empowering and reintegration of ex-prisoners into the society.

Advocating for justice for the unjustly detained.

Company Profile

INTRODUCTION

EMF is a non-governmental charitable organization (Faith Based Organization FBO), which seeks to help people while being prisoners became born again, who upon being released might not have a place to return to, EMF takes them in, rehabilitate them, and are given vocational training and empowered to be re-integrated into the society.

This will play a pivotal role in reducing recidivism rates in correctional facilities, a lot of times, these prisoners after being released, and not accepted, they are stigmatized, and often times they are not gainfully employed, with time they find themselves committing the same crime and with time they are back again in prison.

Established in October 2018, EMF exists to provide practical support services to prisoners, ex-prisoners, and Christians-at-risk from religious intolerance. and their families.

EMF intends to carry out its programs through the following activities:

Training of ex-prisoners, through vocational training, while collaborating with other bodies like the international prison ministry, churches, RCCG His Love foundation, GLOW, and other criminal justice agents on human rights with good practice, policy advocacy, research, public awareness, and provision of prison/community-based support services for target groups.

EMF is an intending member of the National NGO Coalition on Penal Reform (a network of over 85 NGOs and religious bodies working on prisons and penal reform in Nigeria).

We will be advocating for mug shot law to be introduced into our prison system and the police stations to help arrest innocent persons being criminalized and exchanged for real criminals

Words From the Steward.

Life is a gift to be invested and as a matter-of-fact Life is also a journey, from the womb to eternity, on our way through the womb, we had no choice of whose womb you made it through to the physical world,

What makes life interesting and would want to make anyone live life to the fullest is discovering ones God given purpose in life, for which reason one has the life in the first place, but the willingness to invest that life for the purposes for which it was created, can sometimes become a challenge, especially if one cannot understand it from the heavenly kingdom principle-point of view.

In Mathew 6 vs 19 – 21

19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Taking a cue from Jesus Christ, he made us understand that we are just passers-by on earth, because as pilgrims we are not of this world, just as he is not of this world. Implying that there two kingdoms in this world spiritually speaking, the kingdom of light and that of darkness, these two most perceived kingdoms, though not physical to the eyes, they are real, and are not political or geographical kingdoms. Rather they are worldwide and exist in people's hearts in the physical realm on this earth. Every person in the world belongs to either of these kingdoms, depending on the guarding principles affiliated to these kingdoms they chose to operate by in the earth realm. If a fellow must understand, eternity is about a tale of two destinies (HELL and HEAVEN) represented on the earth by two kingdoms (the kingdom of LIGHT and the kingdom of DARKNESS), also Represented by two key players on the stage of history, in the personality of Jesus Christ and Lucifer called Satan. Guarded by two most powerful laws on earth.

** The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus*

And

** The law of sin and of death governed by Lucifer*

At the end of our sojourn here on earth we will receive rewards for all we have done, the determinant of our rewards will depend on if we were able to identify our purposes in life and the willingness, effort, and determination we put in to achieving the purpose.

So many people come close to understanding what their purposes are, but never had the courage to make an investment out of it, while those who did leave an indelible mark on the sands of time, the apostles, Paul particularly, then Jesus Christ our role model. His life transforms all that had an encounter with Him and those still encountering Him till now never remains the same. The question is how do we get motivated?

My motivation grew through recognizing the needs or challenges that exist when prisoners who are released ends up in the international prisons office because they had no means of going anywhere, I got to know this through interacting with pastor Agwu Martin who had an encounter with Christ Jesus while in incarceration for a crime he never committed, the reward or dividend of it is that lives are being touched in the prisons, because he chose to invest his life with Jesus Christ having discovered his purpose and sold out to it, what a courageous man he is, I think he deserves a standing ovation.

When I met pastor Martin in 1995/96, I was just a baby Christian learning the ropes, I didn't know much, it was through him I entered the prison environment for the first time on a visit, I was amazed by the inmates by their level of worship they offered to God, as I sang along, I was moved to tears, seeing how they could be so happy in spite of their condition, some were just having shirt tied around their waste with bear body, looking malnourished and not well kept,. That first day i learnt a lesson, that worship and praise of God is not dependent on the flamboyancy or the gadgets that we wear or have, nor the conduciveness of the environment, it's from the heart done with gratitude for just being alive.

I learnt something from late pastor Steven Akinola of Redemption ministries, he said, no parent will be happy seeing their children go and return from school each day, if all they do is eat, sleep, wake up and are not taught responsibility, implies they will become irresponsible and cannot contribute to the family. He then said, if we are true children of God, then we must find purpose and be responsible in the kingdom, to make our heavenly father happy.

From that first prison visit, I became friends with pastor Martin, I see him as a mentor, whose life till today challenges me, a pastor without a normal church, where there are no offerings or tithe to collect, where members are common criminals repented without means of even expressing monetary appreciations, where all they do is look up to the pastor to collect to buy medicine, and yet the Lord has used him to touch so many lives, and ministries have worked through him to build the structure we have though his addicted commitment.

I can boldly say that investing with the international prison ministries and pastor Martin through Christ Jesus is not a waste of time.

*Today that investment has yielded tremendous dividend for me and my family, that dividend is **Ethanmercy Foundation (EMF)***

Every investment comes with a sacrifice, what are you willing to walk away from in other for you to fulfill that purpose the Lord has called you into, just imagine if pastor Martin had decided to choose the easy path, think of the multitude that could have languished away without guidance and encouragement to face their lives.

If your life as a child of God and as a disciple of Jesus Christ is not positively affecting lives, changing, and improving lives, then you need to re-evaluate your stand and find that purpose that can help you develop that passion for souls.

On this note, pastor Martin Agwu, I salute you for your courage to obey the voice of the Lord by heeding His call to serve, may God continue to sustain you, the ministry He has placed under

your care, and satisfy you with long life, good health, help you to finish strong, so that at last that like apostle Paul you can say.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. [8] Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

THE BIG QUESTION IS, AT THE END OF YOUR SOJOURN HERE ON EARTH, WHERE WOULD YOU WANT YOUR SOUL TO END? WHAT REWARD DO YOU EXPECT FROM THE LORD.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL IN JESUS CHRIST MIGHT NAME

Vision Statement:

- Support the prison system to reducing recidivism.
- Decongest our overcrowded correctional centers with focus on the awaiting trial folks.
- Rehabilitate, train, empower and re-integrate ex-prisoners (who meets the criteria) back into the society
- Advocate for proper record keeping within the criminal justice system, so criminals are not exchanged with innocent persons.
- Create a reward scheme (scholarship fund) for brilliant children of well-behaved law enforcement personnel

Mission Statement:

- Build rehabilitation / training center (Ongoing coming from the BOT)
- Work with legal aids / judiciary to decongest the prisons, with focus on the awaiting trial detainees.
- Engage in advocacy schemes, organize public lecture and awareness creation on Mug-Shot laws and on the government policy that bail is free.
- Engage the populace on fund raising to support ITC for the policing system records to ensure transparency, and support for the reward scheme for the well-behaved uniform personnel and their wards.

Area of Focus for the Organization:

- a) Rehabilitation, Training
- b) Empowerment and re-integration of ex-prisoners upon meeting the criteria of the foundation
- c) Advocate for the re-enforcement of the mug-shot laws within the policing system, creating a transparent system of record.

- d) Advocate for reward / welfare scheme for well-behaved law enforcement personnel and their wards
- e) Advocate and engage in fund raising for the development of ITC within the policing system

Aims and Objectives of the Organization:

- Build rehabilitation and training center

Construction of the training center is at an advanced stage, the complex currently houses a

- Training complex (Cafeteria, conference room, classrooms, offices and the reception area)
 - Workshop of three large areas.
 - Two hostel accommodations
 - A mini-staff quarter of 4 apartments for take-off as operation commences.
- Decongest our overcrowded correctional centers with focus on the awaiting trial folks.

To this end we are collaborating with our legal team (volunteer lawyers) who are partners with the foundation and collaborating with the NYSC Rivers state legal aids who are already doing the groundwork by liaising with the Port Harcourt prison controller on Pro-Bono legal service in a bid to get the awaiting trial folks to court for their cases for hearing.

- Advocate for the re-enforcement of the mug-shot laws within the policing system, thereby creating a transparent system of record.
- Advocate for laws that criminalise swapping of identities and falsification of records.
- Support initiatives to digitalise police record-keeping using speech-to-text technologies and electronic filing systems.

Advocacy for Reinforcing the Mugshot System in Nigeria's Criminal Justice Framework – Ethan-Mercy Foundation

- Planned programs on public lectures to be organized every quarter.

OUR LEGAL TEAM

The legal team are volunteer lawyers, who work collaboratively with the legal aides of the NYSC to help access the cases of the awaiting trial inmates, and upon interviews and reviews, especially for the indigent ones, take their case files to court so their cases are either reopened, revisited and heard.

Headed by Barrister David O. Abuo (PSC) and assisted by

Barrister Akpan Clarence, ESQ.

Barrister Anthony Montana Idoghor

Barrister Henry Amrurhobo

Barrister Monday Dayi

Barrister Mankie-Tanen, Adubabari, Esq (*Solicitor & Advocate, as well as Notary Public of the Supreme Court of NIGERIA*)

The NYSC legal aid headed by Famous Duregha (CDS)



Remember the prisoners as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also. [Hebrews 13:3](#)

- Break the chain and decongest the prisons.
- Decongest our overcrowded correctional centers with focus on the awaiting trial folks.
- To this end EMF is collaborating with our legal team (volunteer lawyers) who are partners with the foundation and collaborating with the NYSC Rivers state legal aids who are already doing the groundwork by liaising with the Port Harcourt prison controller on Pro-Bono legal service in a bid to get the awaiting trial folks to court for their cases for hearing.

The NYSC legal aids at the Port-Harcourt correctional center with pastor Agwu Martin

THE TRAINING PLAN

The transformative effect of correctional education

EMF utilize correctional education as a rehabilitation program that brings about significant contribution in offender rehabilitation process by changing behaviors and attitude, boosting self-esteem and self-confidence, enhancing employment skills, reviving humanity, improving cognitive skills, promoting growth, improving literacy levels and transforming offenders into law-abiding citizens.

The overall effect is that poverty, inequality and crime rate will reduce, which will in turn promote public safety in different societies/communities in Nigeria.

These transformative effects of correctional education could serve as a catalyst for provision of correctional education programs in the Criminal Justice System nation wide

Employment is considered as a "prerequisite" for reintegration in communities (O'Reilly, Citation2014, p. 1). Therefore, ex-offenders need employment to be self-sufficient and not to return to crime (Burt, Citation2014). The dominant perception is that "employment is a key factor in reducing recidivism." Therefore, interventions which help in improving offenders' employability on release are necessary.

Employment is critical to offender reintegration. As a result, offender reintegration in society, with the hope of preventing repeating offenses, is perceived to be one of the objectives of rehabilitation process

Besides running our internal curriculum, negotiation is already ongoing with Alison an online education platform for higher education that provides [certificate courses and accredited diploma courses](#). on how we [can](#) collaboratively work with them in the area of certification, thereby enhancing the quality of our training outcome.

Program Focus

Vocational training programs in EMF aim to provide students with skills to find a job and earn a living wage. These programs are based on the needs of the students, general labor market conditions, and institution labor force needs.

Most vocational training programs follow a competency-based curriculum, which teaches specific job skills and leads to a recognized credential, certificate,.

Inmates can take one- and two-year vocational certificate courses or short courses like bookkeeping or building maintenance.

First 3 – 4 weeks will be para-military style, physical fitness and cognitive training (“speaking, writing, reading and listening, as well as quantitative reasoning, are cognitive skills)

Next 3 – 4 months class room and hands on training sessions

Next 3 – 4 months internship (with volunteering companies and entrepreneurs)

Graduation. / Commencement of mentorship program.

Vocational training and work programs.

Serial #	Vocational training and work programs.	
1	Plumbing	
2	Tiling	
3	Masonry / form works / POP ceiling	
4	Fitters course / Welding & fabrication	
5	Renewable energy / Solar panel repairs / Training	
6	Aluminum fabrication training	
7	Trading	General course for all students
8	Fashion & design/Tailoring /	
9	Farming	General course for all students

Rehabilitation and Training complex

Our rehabilitation and training complex is sited along Abara-Ozuzu Ochokocho Road, in Etchie local government area of Rivers state.

Construction of the training center is at an advanced stage, the complex currently houses a

- Training complex (Cafeteria, conference room, classrooms, offices and the reception area)
- Workshop of three large areas.
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- A mini-staff quarter of 4 apartments for take-off as operation commences



Over view of the proposed complex



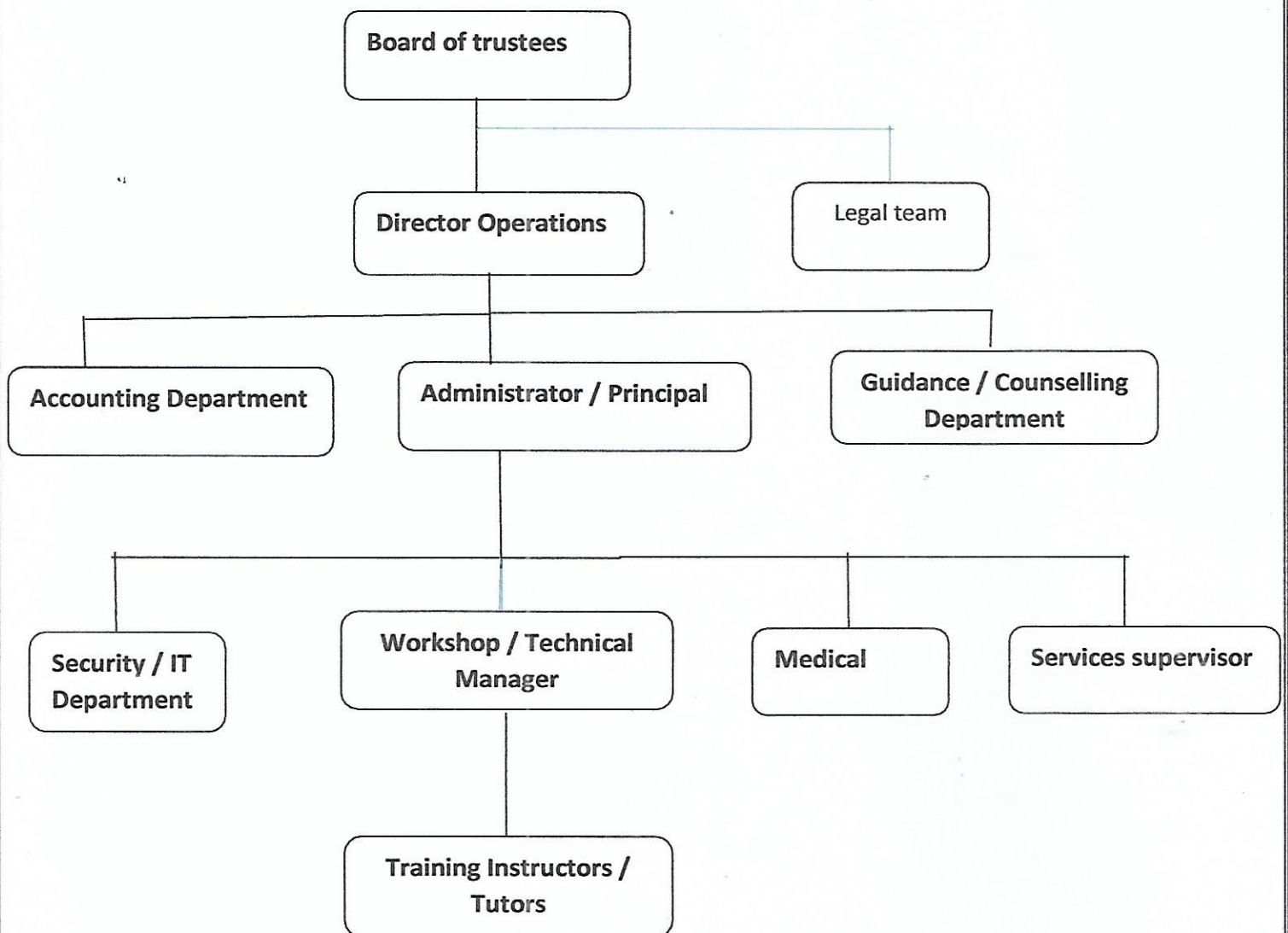
Construction phase



Construction in advance phases



Our Organization Structure



BOT members: Ohonsi Austin

Ohonsi Josephine

Pastor Agwu Martins

Olatunji Fisayo Felix (BOT secretary)

Director of operations: Ohonsi Austin

Legal team: Headed by Barrister David O. Abuo (PSC) and assisted by

Barrister Akpan Clarence, ESQ.

Barrister Anthony Montana Idoghor

Barrister Henry Amrurhobo

Barrister Monday Dayi

Barrister Mankie-Tanen, Adubabari, Esq

Legal Aides (NYSC): Headed by Famous Duregha

Administrator / Principal: Mercy Jones Phd.

Accountant: Shola Daniels

Guidance / Counselling Department: Pst. Martins Agwu /

Mrs. Ohonsi Josephine

Security / ITC: Nfom Francis

Adodo Charles.

Services Department: Mrs. Ohonsi Josephine

Adodo Charles

Medical / Safety: TBD upon commencement of operations

Workshop / Technical manager: TBD upon commencement of operations

Training Instructors / Tutors: TBD upon commencement of operations

TESTIMONIAL

Our collaborative efforts with the Corp lawyers in the Legal Aid Community Development Service (CDS) group and the international prison ministry has started to yield some results.

This effort to decongest the overcrowded Port-Harcourt correction center only commenced this year 2025, and we hope to sustain it all through the year. Our aim and target is to replicate this nationwide,

CORRECTIONAL CENTRE OUTREACH*

This report summarizes the outcomes of our recent outreach and support initiative at the correctional center.

Our team of Corp lawyers in the Legal Aid Community Development Service (CDS) group, working in conjunction with the Ethan-Mercy Foundation conducted interviews with over a hundred inmates. High priority cases were identified, which were then reported back to the Foundation and their legal team to pursue justice for these individuals.

Subsequently, the remand warrants of ten inmates who had been interviewed, were procured from the correctional center to open their cases.

From our findings two out of the ten inmates selected already have lawyers handling their cases leaving us with eight people.

Out of the eight, the bail conditions of one person has been met and consequently he was released on bail taking our initial number down from ten to seven inmates.

During the course of getting court dates, we were able to find out that one of the inmates has had his case struck out.

With this, follow up will be done to ascertain the person in question is no longer behind bars.

As of this very moment when this report was made a court date has been picked for one more inmate which comes up on the 5th of March 2025.

Moving on Court dates will be picked for two extra inmates within the week with the aim of getting them on bail and in the long run handling their cases expeditiously.

Conclusively, our outreach program has directly led to the ascertainment and release of two inmates with more to follow in the coming weeks.

This is the first step in the journey of a thousand miles to decongest the prisons and seeking justice for prisoners which has yielded positive results with the collaboration between Ethan-Mercy Foundation and Legal Aid CDS group PHALGA.



Remember the prisoners as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also. [Hebrews 13:3](#)

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- To this end EMF is collaborating with our legal team (volunteer lawyers) who are partners with the foundation and collaborating with the NYSC Rivers state legal aids who are already doing the groundwork by liaising with the Port Harcourt prison controller on Pro-Bono legal service in a bid to get the awaiting trial folks to court for their cases for hearing.

The rehabilitation center funding plans

Initial funds

For now, the initial funds for building the complex are from the founder and family, to this effect the deed of gift has been made to the foundation for both the land and buildings.

Build rehabilitation and training center

Construction of the training center is at an advanced stage, the complex currently houses a

- Training complex (Cafeteria, conference room, classrooms, offices and the reception area)
- Workshop of three large areas.
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The initial funds to sustain the place will come from then, through their mutual funds from financial institution.

Funds from partners

From our projection with the current regular partners who are financially committed, we are able to generate funds to keep the legal aids and the legal team working to meet up with the weekly court issues. The financial donors are projected to increase over time, as we continue in the drive to seek and solicit for sponsors and partners.

In our bid to generate funds from the general public, we are currently exploring an option with MTN on the possibility of "Text-To Give" where we invite people to give through a code, where they can text an amount as low as #500.00 (five hundred Naira). This takes less than a minute and will allow them to add a donation to their phone bill or access an online donation page on their mobile device.

Through our planned awareness campaign, advocacy drives we also intend to generate funds through crowd funding. Our intent is to strive to attain 1 -2 million on the social media and hope that we can sensitize people enough to give the minimum of 500 Naira.

The other options for fund raising which is the drive to register with the relevant government agencies and ministries, united nations and other international NGOs, to this effect we have started all necessary paper work, we have commenced registration with the ministry of budget and planning which is the initial step.