

WELCOME TO THE YEAR OF LEGACIES

2022 JCI NIGERIA PRESIDENT NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Dear members and friends of JCI Nigeria,

It is my absolute pleasure to welcome you to 2022 as the 51st President of Junior Chamber International, Nigeria. This is an exciting year in our illustrious history of 65 years and over 100 years of the global movement. Our renewed focus to develop enterprising leaders was what inspired my JCI membership 18 years ago. With the exciting future ahead of JCI members all, I have never been prouder to be associated with the organisation more than today. It is, therefore, my life's greatest honour to lead JCI Nigeria into this new future.

At this point, I salute all the great men and women who have led us to this point. Past National Presidents, distinguished Senators and all alumni members, it is on your shoulders, history and achievements that we stand. As part of our new direction, we must now work together again. We believe that there is still so much more that JCI Nigeria can offer alumni and current members alike and that is why we want to connect with each one of you more strongly in 2022. We shall be soliciting your information so that we can reach you with and for business, career, professional growth and opportunities in 2022 and beyond.

JCI's new direction is to develop leaders for a changing world. Our members are now the primary focus for all our projects, programmes and events and this pursuit must become an evangelistic mission for our leaders at all levels. We shall be setting JCI Nigeria on this path with all our engagements and endeavours in 2022. Dear leaders, we expect that all Local Organisations will align with us in fulfilling the three cardinal deliverables as we go on with our projects, programmes and events in 2022:

- Brand visibility and awareness
- Membership growth and retention
- Financial sustainability

“ Our plans for an upscale of the JCI Nigeria Leadership Academy to a bigger **Nigerian Leadership Academy** will bring us to a better place of relevance with corporate and public Governance. With the **Skill-up campaign**, we aim to help our members get on-demand skills to make them employable and indeed gain competitive employments. **Our Career and Business Networking (CBN) Programme** will help us leverage our rich professional network to help our young members while institutionalizing mentorship. We will host standard editions of **Global Digital Economy Summit 2.0, Ten Outstanding Young Persons Awards** and the **Creative Young Entrepreneurs Program** and with all these, I am convinced that we shall have created new, diverse, exciting, dedicated and sustainable leadership and entrepreneurial development pathways for all categories of members.

2022 must be remembered as a year of legacies. The #ONEMemberLegacy for each individual member to refer at least ONE new member for any Local Organisation as part of our target of recruiting 2,022 new members in 2022. The Local Organisation's Legacy to plant trees in primary and secondary schools. The member's personal legacy to make improvements and reach milestones on their health and safety checks.

In 2022, the JCI Nigeria Secretariat and (National Youth Centre) project is our holy grail. We will devise innovative strategies to raise funds for building to commence and my personal commitment, in the course of my travels, is to motivate and mobilize resources from the past and present members to ensure that we achieve major milestones this year. We shall make every member feel the pride of place in donating as little as #ONEBrick to our Jaycee home for young people. I ask you to please join me.

We hope to make a more digital world of JCI Nigeria this year. Our JCI Nigeria App will be redesigned to drive better engagement. It is also our plan to leverage technology to improve communication to individual members. I hope to constantly interact with JCI members outside of events and visits through virtual town hall meetings. I take this moment to challenge Local Presidents to begin a massive drive for members to join the JCI Virtual Community (www.jvc.jci.cc) before the end of January. We have a goal to enlist 1000 JCI Nigeria members actively using the JVC by January 31.

From today, I hope that we all draw strength and inspiration from our shared passion. I am opening my arms to reach every young leader of JCI Nigeria to find their inspiration and adopt a legacy. Every single contribution that you make to yourself, your local community, your Local Organisation, and the National Organisation is your legacy and it is your mark in history. Your Legacy does not have to cost you money or material resources. Your Legacy can be:

- To provide guidance and mentorship to our younger members.
- To take on tasks dutifully with an impactful end in mind.
- To refer new members to Local Organisations - they could be the springboard that the organisation needs to succeed.
- To share information that will be valuable to members of your Local Organisation.

In December 2022, I want us to take a look back at the year and be proud of ourselves, as individuals and as an organisation, for all the incredible things that we have done. That we have built an organisation that serves the needs of the next generation of young Nigerians. That JCI is now an institutionalised partner with Government & corporates at different levels. It is up to you, dear friend, to decide what you want to remember 2022 for. What do you want to be remembered for? Where do you want to take JCI Nigeria in 2022? What will be your ONE Legacy?



In the words of 2022 JCI President, Argenis Angulo, "there is a clear difference between living through historical events and making history. Living through historical events, particularly those that cause adversities, is letting yourself be impacted by these adversities. Making history is transforming the direction of the crisis with extraordinary actions."

Dear enterprising young leaders, yesterday is now history and today is the future that we talked about yesterday. Let's own the future. Let's transform the direction. Let's take extraordinary actions to write our own history.

Thank you and enjoy the rest of your holidays. Happy New Year!

- **Olawale Bakare** (2022 JCI Nigeria President)

