CHRISTMAS IN KANO

Shield City's Monthly Newsletter from Kano, Nigeria



Welcome to Christmas Season in Kano

By Director Laura Sharpe

This past month has been very busy at the center! We've welcomed several new children with special needs. Many of our other students have continued to show great progress this month, including a little girl named Aisha who is learning to walk on her own with the help of our physical therapist (more on her in a minute). I love to follow different themes that coordinate with the weather in our center lessons. The windy, dry season of West Africa (called "Harmattan") has started here in Northern Nigeria, so we have been learning about wearing gloves, hats, jackets and socks.

We continue to see underweight and malnourished young children who really need extra calories and nutrition. This is so hard to see, but our new store now has an option <u>to</u> <u>sponsor a child</u> or donate medical aid for the 2024 new season: please consider a Christmas donation to keep our crucial services going this holiday!

Best Wishes, Laura Sharpe Executive Director, Shield City Empowerment Initiative

IN THIS ISSUE

SHIELD CITY ONLINE SHOP: DONATE NOW!

NEW SERIES OF INTERVIEWS WITH MOTHERS

SHIELD CITY FOOTBALL WINS REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

WINTER SCHEDULE



Sponsor a child this Christmas

Our<u>online store</u> continues to draw traffic from donors in the U.S. and Nigeria. Browse our new listings, including donating a goat for a newborn orphan or sponsoring a little girl like Aisha.

<u>Watch New Interviews</u> with Hausa Mothers

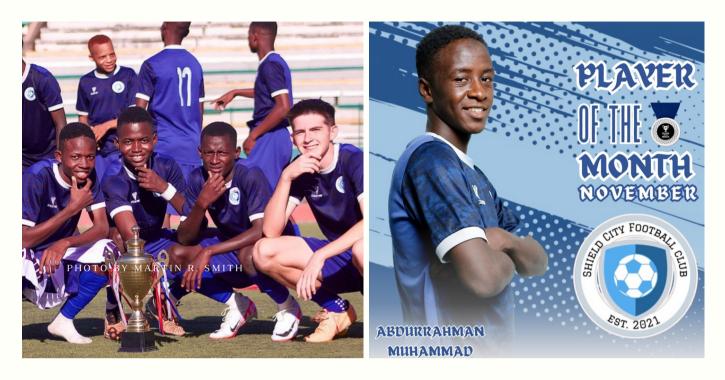
We've begun a new video series in which Hausa mothers (Hausa is the prominent tribe here in Northern Nigeria) share about the real progress they've seen in their child. In this month's episode, one mother discusses how her child Aisha is learning to walk with the help of Shield City tutors. Watch here!



NEW: Our videos are now on our new Youtube channel, @ShieldCity2023. Edited video featuring our children, mothers, tutors and behind-the-scenes footage is now available on Youtube. Subscribe and follow!

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<u>Shield City Football Wins Regional Tourney!</u>



Our football team walked away as champions at the Jos Chillin' U17 tournament in Jos FOR THE SECOND YEAR! This was despite Nigerian tournament officials intentionally taking several of our best players off the field to weaken our team's performance- and our team won anyway! It was a SWEET victory.

We appreciate those who made it possible for the team to have such a great week. Investing in the lives of these young men makes such a difference in their today and for their future.

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Our Winter "Harmattan" Schedule

Our winter schedule for the center remains busy! Here are the services we continue to offer with your generous support:

- On Mondays, we host a class for older students who range in age from 10 to 30. These classes are the highlight of the week for many of our students as they come to learn life skills and complete fun activities together.
- Twice a week, we host a class for our younger students who range in age from 1 to 5 years. We sing songs, make a craft and work on simple play activities.
- All of the students are also able to be seen by a licensed physical therapist- and you can now specifically select to <u>sponsor our physical</u> <u>therapy costs</u> on the new store here.
- We continue to host one-on-one students Tuesday thru Saturday for specific tutoring focused on their needed areas of specific development. Some of our students have started eating independently or speaking for the first time!!!
- In Niger, we continue to give out five goats each Saturday to orphans and malnourished children, and you can now <u>specifically sponsor our</u> <u>newborn orphan program</u> here!!!! We also provide many of the infants and toddlers with a nutritional mix.







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