

Giwyn

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025

STRATEGY, SOLIDARITY AND DIGITAL STRENGTH



# FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: BUILDING SHELTER IN THE STORM

2025 was a defining year for us. Across the global development sector, we saw contraction, uncertainty, and a shrinking civic space. Yet, Giwyn did not just weather this storm; we built shelter. We moved forward with clarity and choice, launching our 2025–2030 Strategic Plan - a roadmap designed not just to survive the flux, but to serve as a rock for the movement.

While others were forced to retract, we expanded. We invested deeply in our own self-sufficiency, ensuring that our mission to protect bodily autonomy in Nigeria and across Africa remains unshakable. We digitised our systems to ensure transparency, and we solidified partnerships that allow us to act with independence.

Most importantly, we kept our promise to the women we serve. Whether through a phone call to Ms. Rosy or a visit to our mobile clinic, we remained a sanctuary of trust. As we move into 2026, we do so with a stronger foundation than ever before.

**SYBIL NMEZI**  
Executive Director, GIWYN



# IN 2025:

We directly reached a total of  
40,722 people



We answered 17,335 calls  
to our Helpline



We averted (est) 2,400  
unintended Pregnancies



We prevented (est)  
420 unsafe abortions



We disbursed \$101,000 in grants



WE CLOSE 2025 WITH  
GRATITUDE. TO OUR  
PARTNERS, OUR DONORS,  
AND THE BRAVE STAFF  
OF GIWYN: THANK YOU  
FOR BUILDING THIS  
SHELTER WITH US. WE  
ARE READY FOR 2026.

# STRATEGY

## OUR ROADMAP: THE 2025-2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

In March 2025, we operationalised a bold new vision: to make reproductive choice real, accessible, and destigmatised. We executed this through five specific pathways, each yielding tangible results this year.



### PATHWAY I: HELPLINES AND ACCESS ON DEMAND

The Ms. Rosy Hotline was the heartbeat of our direct service work in 2025. We saw a significant surge in call volume, fielding 17,335 calls from across the country. This increase wasn't accidental; it was the result of a deliberate effort to improve our counseling quality.

*"We've had a lot of calls to the helpline. This reflects that our training has been reaching a lot more people. The cases were complex, but the team was ready"* – Mimiymamo, Hotline Counselor

### IMPACT STORY: PROTECTING FUTURES

The hotline team successfully intervened in several high-stakes cases this year. In one instance, we supported a young student facing an unplanned pregnancy who feared dropping out of school. Through counseling and safe referral, she accessed the care she needed and returned to her studies without interruption.

### SAFEGUARDING IN ACTION

In a critical safeguarding case, our team supported a young girl who had been violated by a family member. We moved immediately from "listening" to "protecting;" coordinating with police and medical services to remove her from the dangerous environment and secure justice.

## PATHWAY 2: YOUTH LEADERSHIP

We are building a pipeline of leaders who will define the next generation of the SRHR movement. Our youth partners are not just participants; they are architects of the conversation.



### CASE STUDY: YNSD (NIGERIA) [EMPATH ALLIANCE GRANTEE PARTNER]

The Youth Network for Sustainable Development (YNSD) launched their “Safe Choices, Stronger Futures” campaign in 2025. Recognizing that religious opposition is often the biggest barrier to youth SRHR, YNSD engaged religious leaders before launching public advocacy. By framing SRHR as a component of a ‘Stronger Future’ for families, they were able to de-escalate tension and open doors in conservative communities that were previously shut.



## PATHWAY 3: ADVOCACY AND SCIENCE

Misinformation is a barrier to care. In 2025, we countered this by training “trusted messengers” – pharmacists and community health workers – on clinical protocols and the legal landscape.

## THE RESULT:

We trained 241 pharmacists and 219 community health workers. Post-training evaluations showed that 94% of participants could correctly identify safe abortion protocols, and 97% felt confident in their legal right to provide life-saving information.

## PATHWAY 4: CULTURE AND BREAKING SILENCE

To make bodily autonomy a normal part of culture, we must speak the language of the people.



## CASE STUDY: THE VULWAYA INITIATIVE [EMPATH ALLIANCE GRANTEE PARTNER]

Language should never be a barrier to health. Through the VULWAYA initiative, Giwyn produced a new series of educational graphics and audio guides in local Nigerian languages and Pidgin. Instead of translating Western jargon, we worked with linguists to create culturally resonant terms for reproductive health concepts. This allowed us to reach rural women who had previously been excluded from the digital conversation.



## PATHWAY 5: GRANT MAKING

We continued to strengthen the ecosystem by moving resources to where they are needed most. In 2025, Giwyn awarded \$101,000 in sub-grants to grassroots partners.

# SOLIDARITY

## SUSTAINABILITY: THE SAFE HEALTH EXPRESS

Perhaps the most exciting development of 2025 was our pivot toward social enterprise. With technical support and funding from Fòs Feminista and Amplify Change, we transformed our mobile clinic into the "Safe Health Express." The vision is simple but powerful: A hybrid model where paid services to corporate clients subsidise free care for vulnerable rural communities.

*"The basic thing is for us to use our Health Express brand to become a social enterprise... to generate revenue in order to sustain our activities, and also to keep giving services to vulnerable communities for free"*  
— Onyinye, Program Manager

### KEY MILESTONES:

**Regulatory Approval:** In December 2025, we secured a critical government agreement to operate this model.

**The Static Clinic:** To meet regulatory requirements, we are establishing a permanent hospital clinic staffed by medical personnel, which will serve as the 'mothership' for our mobile vans.

**Building Trust:** The van is more than a vehicle; it is a brand that women trust.

*"The level of trust that women have for this Safe Health Express encourages us to bring in more services. They know that when the van arrives, they are safe."* — Ijeoma, Communications Lead

**Impact:** In 2025 alone, the vans reached high-priority communities in 3 states, serving 2,460 people who otherwise would have had no access to non-judgmental healthcare.



# THE EMPATH ALLIANCE: SOLIDARITY ACROSS BORDERS

The EMPATH Alliance is our pan-African network dedicated to supporting activists in challenging contexts. In 2025, we launched a new brand identity and website, solidifying the Alliance as a visible force for change. Below are snapshots of our partners' resilience.



## CASE STUDY: COHERINET (UGANDA) [EMPATH ALLIANCE GRANTEE PARTNER]

**The Challenge:** In Uganda, the anti-rights movement has gained significant ground, using religious rhetoric to roll back protections for women and LGBTQ+ individuals.

**The Response:** COHERINET utilised their EMPATH grant to engage directly with religious leaders, shifting the narrative from "morality" to "compassion." They held closed-door dialogues that allowed faith leaders to ask questions without public pressure.

**The Outcome:** Several influential leaders agreed to stop preaching against SRHR services, creating a safer operating environment for local clinics.

## CASE STUDY: WFAC (CAMEROON) [EMPATH ALLIANCE GRANTEE PARTNER]

**The Challenge:** Abortion stigma in Cameroon often silences women, making them feel isolated in their experiences.

**The Response:** VIAC focused on the power of storytelling. They launched a multimedia campaign featuring anonymised stories of women who had accessed care.

**The Outcome:** The campaign humanised the statistics. By showing that "women like us" need abortions, VIAC began to dismantle the shame that prevents women from seeking help.



# ON THE NATIONAL AND GLOBAL STAGE

From Lagos to Manchester to New York, GIWYN amplified the voices of Nigerian women at critical policy forums in 2024–2025.

## UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW69)

March 2025 | New York Represented by: Ijeoma Egwuatu

At the UN's largest gathering on gender equality, Ijeoma ensured that the lived realities of grassroots women in Lagos were heard. She presented a formal statement demanding legal reform, stronger reproductive healthcare systems and economic justice, translating global policy debates into urgent national demands.



## 8TH NIGERIA FAMILY PLANNING CONFERENCE

December 2024 | Abuja Represented by Sybil Nmezi and Chukwuemeka Amaghiro

Focusing on how to sustain progress, Onyinye championed the need for equity and quality in family planning services. Her advocacy reinforced GIWYN's role in accelerating national targets and strengthening the Nigerian healthcare system from the bottom up.



## 2ND WORLD CONFERENCE ON GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES

October 2024 | Manchester, UK Represented by: Chukwuemeka Amaghiro

Bridging the gap between activism and academia, Chukwuemeka presented vital research on women's property and inheritance rights in Nigeria. His contribution ensured that African perspectives shaped the international discourse on economic gender justice.



# DIGITAL STRENGTH

## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING: THE DIGITAL SHIFT

To support this growth, we had to revolutionise our internal machinery. 2025 saw the full migration of our grant management to Good Grants, a world-class digital system. This was a massive undertaking, moving from manual spreadsheets to a fully automated workflow. The transition required significant effort from our finance and admin teams, but the payoff has been immediate.

**Transparency:** We now have real-time visibility into every dollar and Naira.

**Compliance:** The system automatically flags compliance checks, protecting us and our donors.

**Efficiency:** Grantees now use a streamlined portal, reducing the administrative burden on activists so they can focus on the work, not the paperwork.



# LOOKING AHEAD: 2026 AND BEYOND

## FROM FOUNDATION TO STRENGTH

We enter this new year clear-eyed about the global challenges facing the reproductive justice movement. With shifting political winds in the Global North, including the return of the Trump administration, we anticipate a more complex funding and policy landscape.

But Giwyn is not the organization we were four years ago. We are digitised, we are diversified, and we are ready.



# OUR 2026 PRIORITIES:

## **DEFENDING OUR PROGRESS:**

We are implementing a robust communications and advocacy strategy to navigate the changing global political climate, ensuring that the rights of Nigerian women are protected regardless of external pressure.



## **SCALING THE "SAFE HEALTH EXPRESS"**

The pilot is over. In 2026, we scale our social enterprise model, proving that essential health services can be both high-quality and financially sustainable.



## **ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION:**

We are taking the conversation directly to schools. Through our new School-Based SRHR initiative and a nationwide Community Art Competition, we will empower young people to visualise and vocalise their rights.



## **DIGITAL MASTERY:**

With Good Grants fully operational, we will focus on training and capacity building, ensuring our partners can access funds with speed and security.

# A CALL TO SOLIDARITY:

THE ROAD AHEAD  
REQUIRES COURAGE,  
BUT WE DO NOT WALK  
IT ALONE. TO OUR  
PARTNERS, DONORS,  
AND THE COMMUNITIES  
WE SERVE: YOU ARE  
THE FUEL FOR THIS  
MOVEMENT.

Grassroots-driven change  
is crucial for lasting and  
sustainable progress in  
Sexual Reproductive  
Health and Rights (SRHR)

TOGETHER, WE MAKE  
REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE  
REAL.

Join us. [www.giwyn.org](http://www.giwyn.org) | @giwynnigeria