9ja Girls: An Overview







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A Girl's World

5.8



Meet Uju, Hadiza, and Kemi, three unmarried girls living in Nigeria.*



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*Photographs and names have been changed to protect privacy and confidentiality. Stories were gathered through research and prototyping interviews.

Uju knows what she wants and isn't afraid to go after it.

Uju is 18 years old, and graduated from secondary school two years ago. She dreams of one day opening her own shop, but for now, she's working as a tailoring apprentice. Uju feels pride having a job and making her own money. She wants to become a mom at 27, once she's married and owns her own shop. Uju has two boyfriends: Femi, whom she loves, and Olu, who gives her gifts. When she has sex, Uju knows she should use condoms, but Femi and Olu prefer flesh-to-flesh. She worries about getting pregnant, so she normally drinks soda with lime afterwards to protect herself.

> "IF YOU WORK YOU CAN HAVE FREEDOM, THEN YOU DON'T HAVE TO RELY ON YOUR HUSBAND."

- UNMARRIED GIRL, SURULERE



Uju

Girls like Uju know who they want to be and what they want to achieve.

Like Uju, many girls in Southern Nigeria dream of finishing school, learning a trade, and making their own money before getting married and having children. They believe financial independence creates personal freedom, so they won't need to rely on a man for their future. Yet, many girls lack the skills and support to achieve their goals. "I'LL BE THE LIGHT OF MY GENERATION."

— UNMARRIED GIRL, EPE



Hadiza is doing her best to get by.

Last year, when her mom died, Hadiza moved in with her uncle. She dreams of returning to school, but her uncle says she has to hawk bread to make money. Sometimes there is a boy at the market who chats with her and buys her food. She's only 15, and thinks she's too young to date. But now the boy is telling her that "nothing goes for nothing" — he bought her lunch, so she owes him something in return. Her cousin told her to go to the clinic to get a condom, but when she went there, the nurse told her abstinence was the only way to be a good girl. She's so confused on what to do.

> "THERE IS NO ONE YOU CAN TRUST 100%."

- UNMARRIED GIRL, EPE



"IF YOU TELL A GIRL ABOUT FAMILY PLANNING, SHE'LL THINK YOU WANT HER TO HAVE SEX."

- MOTHER, EPE



Girls like Hadiza feel they have no one to trust and nowhere to turn for help.

Girls have lots of questions about sex and want to prevent pregnancy, but feel they have no one to teach them or confide in. Mothers scold them, fathers beat them, and providers preach abstinence then turn them away. If girls do take up contraception or go to a clinic, they are often labeled promiscuous and shamed by the community.



Kemi doesn't know where to turn.

Kemi is an observer. She loves writing poems about everything she sees and dreams of becoming a journalist. Kemi started dating her boyfriend Paul one year ago, when she was 15. Kemi loves Paul, but last month he said she needed to have sex with him to prove her love. Kemi said no, but he forced her anyway. She wants to tell her mom, but she feels ashamed and is afraid her mom will beat her. She can't stop thinking about what happened, and still hasn't told anybody. And now she hasn't seen her period yet this month. She's scared she might be pregnant.

> "MY MOM WOULD UNDERSTAND, BUT SHE WOULD SCOLD ME."

- UNMARRIED GIRL, SURULERE

For girls like Uju, Hadiza, and Kemi, unplanned pregnancy is a profound barrier in achieving their goals.



Economic realities and social pressures often make it difficult for adolescent girls in Nigeria to reach their goals. One of the hardest things to overcome is an unplanned pregnancy.

When girls get pregnant unintentionally, they often drop out of school, face stigma from families and communities, or seek unsafe abortions, which can lead to complications or death.



"SOME GIRLS END UP GETTING PREGNANT AND ENDING THEIR GOALS."

- UNMARRIED GIRL, SURULERE



FOR NIGERIAN GIRLS AGED

15-19...

23%

OF GIRLS HAVE BEGUN CHILDBEARING BY AGE 19 ...and 9% of adolescent girls who had a child reported their last child was unwanted or mistimed. (1) 12%

OF GIRLS COMPLETE SECONDARY SCHOOL ...and only 1% complete post- secondary education. Many girls drop out of school because of an unplanned pregnancy. (3) OF PREGNANCIES END IN UNSAFE ABORTIONS ...and adolescents contribute 60% of the estimated 600,000 induced abortions annually. (2)

25%

1) Isonguyo, Adindu Adolescents and Utilization of Family Planning Services in Rural Community of Nigeria Research on Humani ties and Social Sciences Vol.3, No.1, 2013. 2) One World UK, Report on Assessment of Facilities Providing Youth Friendly Health Services in Nigeria. 3.) National DHS, 2013

4.) Olusanya O.O et al. Parent-°© Child Communication and Adolescent Sexual Behaviour among the Yoruba Ethno-cultural group of Nigeria Research on Humanities and Social Sciences <u>www.iiste.org</u> ISSN 22221719 (Paper)ISSN 22222863 (Online) Vol.3 No 14 2013

6%

TELEFORMER CONTRACTOR STATES

OF GIRLS USE ANY CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD ...and 16% of boys use any contraceptive method, with only 5% of girls and 11% of boys using any modern contraceptive method. (4)

How might we improve girls' sexual and reproductive health, and empower them to achieve their goals?

9ja Girls

53



9ja Girls

9ja Girls seeks to revolutionize the way adolescent girls access sexual and reproductive health services in Nigeria.



9ja Girls Goal

Our goal is to make contraception relevant and accessible for adolescent girls.



9ja Girls Theory of Change

9ja Girls is founded on the principle that adolescent girls need safe spaces where they can gain vocational skills; learn about love and healthy relationships; and access sexual and reproductive healthcare (SRH) services. These skills for life, love & health help girls achieve their goals and succeed in life.



9ja Girls Principles

These principles form the foundation of 9ja Girls. They are expressed across every component of the 9ja Girls experience, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER GOALS

Connect contraception to her goals







HER SAFETY

Make her feel respected and safe

HER CHOICES

Recognize and listen to her as an individual

HER COMMUNITY

Reassure her there are other girls like her



HER JOY

Celebrate her experience of being an adolescent girl

9ja Girls Approach

9ja Girls is an integrated system—codesigned with girls—that puts girls' needs at the center and leverages cross-sectoral partnerships to ensure sustainability & scale.

My life: mine to ma





We make contraception relevant and accessible through six system components:

Accessible

Relevant

1.GIRL-OWNED BRAND



2.GIRLS-ONLY SAFE SPACES



3.SKILLS FOR LIFE, LOVE & HEALTH



4.NETWORK OF YOUTH-FRIENDLY PROVIDERS



5.OPT-OUT INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING



6.OUTREACH & ADVOCACY



GIRL-OWNED BRAND

The brand is the heart of the 9ja Girls system. Inspired and owned by girls, the brand celebrates girls' lifestyles and aspirations. The brand unifies the 9ja Girls experience—ensuring quality, building trust, and making girls feel empowered to access SRH services. Visuals that reflect girls' lives and goals, a smart yet casual tone, and empowering messages make girls want to engage with 9ja Girls.





WHY IT MATTERS

A girl-owned brand has the power to form a lifelong relationship with girls. Because the brand reflects and celebrates girls at every touchpoint, they know 9ja Girls is for them and they believe in what it stands for. The brand creates excitement to participate in 9ja Girls through classes, counseling, and SRH services.







GIRLS ONLY SAFE SPACES

9ja Girls Safe Spaces are dedicated
facilities where girls can take Life, Love &
Health (LLH) classes, participate in opt-out
individual counseling, and receive SRH
services, including contraception.

Through partnerships, all 9ja Girls Safe Spaces are integrated into unused spaces in existing public and private clinics.

Within each community, 9ja Girls operates either one independent Flagship facility, or a cluster of 9ja Girls Safe Spaces embedded within Public Healthcare Centres (PHCs) and private clinics.



WHY IT MATTERS

These holistic spaces are stigma-free, allowing girls to seamlessly gain skills; ask questions, share and learn; and access SRH services. Because 9ja Girls Safe Spaces offer vocational skills classes, parents and influencers support having 9ja Girls Safe Spaces in their community and encourage adolescent girls to participate.



My life is mine to make.



SKILLS FOR LIFE, LOVE & HEALTH

9ja Girls offers classes for girls to learn skills for life, love & health (LLH). Classes are facilitated by 9ja Girls providers and take place at 9ja Girls Safe Spaces.

Each class includes learning a vocational skill that girls can immediately use to earn an income, such as Ankara design, beadmaking, or liquid soapmaking. The class also covers topics on love and health, including discussion on dating, SRH, and contraceptive methods.

During the class, each girl is invited to attend an opt-out individual counseling session with a 9ja Girls provider. Girls who choose to may take up a contraceptive method during their counseling session.



WHY IT MATTERS

By teaching skills for life, love & health, girls see contraception as a tool to help them achieve their goals.

Skills for Life

Through 9ja Girls vocational skills classes, girls are introduced to skills that can help them become financially independent and provide for themselves and their families. They earn to plan for their future, and how contraception can help them get there.

Skills for Love

By teaching girls about communication, mutual respect, and consent, we empower them to engage in healthy relationships and make smart decisions about sex and contraception.

Skills for Health

By teaching girls about sexual and reproductive health, providing non-judgmental counseling, and offering contraceptive services, we help girls understand how to protect themselves and make informed choices that are right for their bodies and lives.



NETWORK OF YOUTH-FRIENDLY PROVIDERS

9ja Girls Safe Spaces are staffed by a cohort of trained healthcare providers and counselors who are committed to providing adolescent girls with non-judgmental counseling and services.

9ja Girls providers and counselors run 9ja
Girls Safe Spaces, facilitate LLH classes, lead
opt-out individual counseling, and provide
SRH and contraceptive services for girls.



WHY IT MATTERS

9ja Girls strengthens the Nigerian health system by expanding the workforce and building the capacity of youth-friendly providers. 9ja Girls providers acquire skills, attitudes, and behaviors that equip them to provide quality, judgment-free SRH counseling and services.





OPT-OUT INDVIDIDUAL COUNSELING

9ja Girls offers opt-out individual
counseling during LLH classes and
throughout the week. Counseling is led by
9ja Girls providers and is private, judgmentfree, and responsive to girls' needs



WHY IT MATTERS

Girls have lots of questions but are not sure who to trust. Because 9ja Girls providers value girls' choices and respond to their individual needs, they become a trusted adult in girls' lives. Counseling is opt-out, so it becomes normalized.





OUTREACH & ADVOCACY

9ja Girls conducts outreach and advocacy activities to raiseawareness and support. This includes bi-monthly sessions with mothers of adolescent girls, involvement and collaboration with policymakers and key influencers, and social media marketing through multiple platforms, including Facebook.



WHY IT MATTERS

Community acceptance creates the enabling environment necessary for girls to access SRH services. Advocacy creates champions at the local, state, and national levels.



Uju's Journey through 9ja Girls

Hear

Uju hears about 9ja Girls through a mobilizer who comes to her neighborhood.

and a shirt is a sing to that

The mobilizer asks Uju about her goals for the future, and they discuss her dreams of opening her own tailoring shop. Uju is excited when the mobilizer tells her about the Skills for Life, Love & Health class. She loves the idea of a class where she can learn skills for her future.

She signs up for an Ankara bag making class, thinking she can sell the bags she makes to save up for her shop.



Learn

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That Saturday, Uju goes to the 9ja Girls Safe Space in her community to attend the Skills for Life, Love & Health class.

Even though Uju was most excited about the Ankara class, she actually loves the second part of class even more. All of the girls have a chance to ask questions, and she puts her question into the box—"Is it OK to date two boys at once?" The counselor teaches her about healthy relationships, and she realizes she doesn't feel safe with one of her boyfriends, Olu. She learns that her current method of sprite and lime does not prevent pregnancy, but there are effective methods she can use. She gets to touch the methods while she learns about them, which makes them seem less scary.

"Is it OK to date two boys at once?"

It makes her feel like she's not alone

Consider

SKILLS

When it's her turn for an individual counseling session, the provider invites Uju into the 9ja Girls room.

She loves the room. The counseling area feels very private, and she loves seeing the wall with other girls' kisses and notes pinned up. It makes her feel like she's not alone.

During her counseling session, the provider talks to Uju with respect, which makes her feel comfortable sharing about Femi and Olu—things she would never tell her mommy! Uju talks through her life map with the provider, and they discuss which methods might help her achieve her goal of opening a shop. She's worried that the methods might hurt her womb, but the provider assures her they are perfectly safe to use.


Adopt

After discussing the different methods with the 9ja Girls provider, Uju decides that she wants to get an implant.

She chooses the implant because she wants time to open her tailoring shop before having a baby.

The provider takes Uju into a different part of the room, behind a sparkly pink curtain, where she gets her implant inserted. Uju used to feel scared going to the clinic, but this room makes her feel safe.

Uju is proud of her decision to protect herself and take her future in her own hands. Uju is proud of her decision to take her future in her own hands.



Ny heart nay break, but I won't fake.

Ny body 10 mino, no one Continue

A few days later, the 9ja Girls provider calls Uju to see how she feels and if she has questions about her new implant.

Uju returns to 9ja Girls for a follow-up appointment. Since taking the class, she has already started selling Ankara bags and saving money. She has also decided that she doesn't need to see Olu anymore.

Uju tells the provider that her implant feels great, and she hasn't had any problems. Today, she wants to talk with the provider about what's really on her mind—how to break up with Olu!

On her way out of the room, Uju leaves a kiss on the wall with a message for other girls: "You're a 9ja Girl. Your life is yours to make."





Vision for Scale



9ja Girls Vision

for Scale

To reach our goal of at least 51,500 adopters of modern contraception aged 15-19, we have designed 9ja Girls to address the unique needs and constraints of the Nigerian context.

We will launch over 100 new 9ja Girls Safe Spaces in at least 7 states across Southern Nigeria by 2019.



life is mine to make.



Through 9ja Girls, we will create safe spaces that empower girls to learn skills for life, love & health; access sexual and reproductive health services; and achieve their goals. These spaces will offer classes, counseling, and services for adolescent girls. They will be staffed by a network of trained providers and counselors who are passionate about serving adolescents. And we will continue our efforts of community outreach and advocacy to ensure every girl who wants contraception can take up a method safely and without stigma.

Across Nigeria, tens of thousands of adolescent girls will know that life is theirs to make.



"The moment she picks up a method, she radiates with confidence. She knows that come what may, her life is in order."

— Young Designer, Lagos

250

"9ja Girls goes beyond method method uptake. It makes girls know what life is. It makes them sit down and think where they are coming from, where they are, where they are going."

Provider, Agege





My life is mine to make. My heart may break, but I won't fake.

My body is mine, no one can take.

I'm a 9ja Girl. I'm awake.



Appendix: System Components



Girl-Owned Brand







GIRL-OWNED BRAND

The brand is the heart of the 9ja Girls system. Inspired and owned by girls, the brand celebrates girls' lifestyles and aspirations. The brand unifies the 9ja Girls experience—ensuring quality, building trust, and making girls feel empowered to access SRH services. Visuals that reflect girls' lives and goals, a smart yet casual tone, and empowering messages make girls want to engage with 9ja Girls.





WHY IT MATTERS

A girl-owned brand has the power to form a lifelong relationship with girls. Because the brand reflects and celebrates girls at every touchpoint, they know 9ja Girls is for them and they believe in what it stands for. The brand creates excitement to participate in 9ja Girls through classes, counseling, and SRH services.



The Brand Design

Strategy

The brand is designed to meet girls' needs, ensure feasibility of implementation, and poise 9ja Girls for sustainability and scale.

Desirability

The 9ja Girls brand and value proposition feel unique and inspiring to girls, providers, and community members. Connecting contraception to learning skills and working towards goals resonates with girls and their influencers and makes girls comfortable and excited to access SRH services.

Feasibility

Integrating the brand into every touchpoint drives consistency across the 9ja Girls experience. The Agreements ensure all staff maintain quality standards at classes, counseling and services. Key brand elements such as the name, logo, identity, tagline, and mantra make it easy to consistently replicate 9ja Girls across diverse contexts and audiences.

Sustainability & Scale

An easily recognizable brand that girls, providers, and community members can identify with builds brand awareness and loyalty. Investment in a singular brand and supporting elements facilitates economies of scale for mass production of materials, making it efficient and cost effective to replicate across Nigeria.

Desirability

Sustainability & Scale

Feasibility

The brand brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER GOALS

Connect contraception to her goals

The value proposition of the 9ja Girls brand centers on Skills for Life, Love & Health. This helps girls understand that learning about SRH and contraception is a tool to help them achieve their future dreams, in the same way learning a vocational skill does.

This value proposition is expressed through the tagline: "My life is mine to make." This tagline promotes a message of empowerment, where girls can "make" their future through the physical "making" of learning a trade, and the choices made about relationships, sex, and contraception.

The brand brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER **CHOICES**

Recognize and listen to her as an individual

The 9ja Girls mantra promotes each girls' individuality and empowers girls to make their own informed decisions about their life, love & health. By singing the mantra at the beginning and end of each class, and prominently displaying the mantra in every 9ja Girls Safe Space, girls take ownership of the mantra and relate its messages to their own lives.

My life is mine to make. My heart may break, but I won't fake. My body is mine, no one

I'm a 9ja Girl. I'm awake.

9JA GIRLS MANTRA

The brand brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER COMMUNIT

Reassure her that there are other girls like her

The name "9ja Girls" is individualized yet communal. By using the slang, "Naija" — or "Nigerian" — girls know that the brand is speaking directly to them as adolescents. Because the name "9ja Girls" can be used either in the plural form ("we are 9ja Girls"), or the singular ("I'm a 9ja Girl"), girls feel personal ownership of the brand while simultaneously feeling they are a part of something bigger.

The brand brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER SAFETY

Make her feel respected and safe

The 9ja Girls brand appeals to the broader community. Because the brand messaging and visuals, including the hero image, focus on skills, rather than contraception, parents and community members easily support adolescent girls becoming a part of the program. Girls know that 9ja Girls does not automatically associate them with contraception, so they can participate without fear of stigma.





The brand brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER JOY

Celebrate her experience of being an adolescent girl

The 9ja Girls logo celebrates being an adolescent girl in Nigeria. Written in lipstick, the logo is dynamic and personal, capturing the vibrancy of being a teenager while intrinsically linking the brand to the beauty-related vocational skills girls are eager to learn.



9JA GIRLS LOGO



"Not any girl will come for 9ja Girls that will not leave here with joy."

- Counselor, Agege



The 9ja Girls

Brand Toolkit



FILES 9jaGirls_BrandGuide.pdf 9jaGirls_BrandGuide.indd

Brand Guide

The complete overview and guidelines of the 9ja Girls brand

HOW IT'S USED

Provides guidelines for developing new materials consistent with the 9ja Girls brand.



Stickers

HOW IT'S USED

the program.

FILES 9ja Girls_Stickers.pdf 9jaGirls_Stickers.indd

T-Shirts

T-shirts with the 9ja Girls logo and tagline

HOW IT'S USED

in the program.

life is mine to a 9JA GTI

FILES 9ja Girls_Bracelets.pdf

Bracelets

Bracelets with the 9ja Girls tagline

HOW IT'S USED

Bracelets are given to all girls and staff members who participate in 9ja Girls.



FILES 9jaGirls_TShirts.pdf

Stickers with the 9ja Girls logo and tagline

9ja Girls stickers may be used in a variety of ways to extend the brand and advertise

All 9ja Girls providers and counselors wear the t-shirt when they are at 9ja Girls, which signifies to girls and the community their role



Girls-Only Safe Spaces









GIRLS ONLY SAFE SPACES

9ja Girls Safe Spaces are dedicated
facilities where girls can take Life, Love &
Health (LLH) classes, participate in opt-out
individual counseling, and receive SRH
services, including contraception.

Through partnerships, all 9ja Girls Safe Spaces are integrated into unused spaces in existing public and private clinics.

Within each community, 9ja Girls operates either one independent Flagship facility, or a cluster of 9ja Girls Safe Spaces embedded within Public Healthcare Centres (PHCs) and private clinics.



WHY IT MATTERS

These holistic spaces are stigma-free, allowing girls to seamlessly gain skills; ask questions, share and learn; and access SRH services. Because 9ja Girls Safe Spaces offer vocational skills classes, parents and influencers support having 9ja Girls Safe Spaces in their community and encourage adolescent girls to participate.



My life is mine to make.

Safe Spaces: 3 Models

Because every region and community has different needs and resources, 9ja Girls operates 3 models of Safe Spaces: Flagship, Clinic Cluster, and Clinic Cluster+.



Safe Spaces: Flagship



Flagships are independent, standalone 9ja Girls facilities.

Each flagship has 2-3 permanent 9ja Girls rooms where girls can access counseling and services.

Flagships have a dedicated team of 9ja Girls providers and offer counseling and services every weekday.

Flagships offer LLH classes throughout the week in a permanent skills class area within the facility.

Flagships enable us to efficiently reach a high volume of girls by offering skills classes throughout the week. They are optimal in communities with large populations of adolescent girls, such as dense urban areas and state capitals.

Safe Spaces: Clinic Cluster



The clinic cluster is a group of 2-4 nearby clinics within one community that each have a 9ja Girls Safe Space.

In a clinic cluster, a 9ja Girls Safe Space is a permanent 9ja Girls room embedded within an existing public or private clinic.

Each 9ja Girls Safe Space in the cluster has at least two dedicated 9ja Girls providers and offers counseling and services every weekday.

LLH classes are held on Saturdays in pop-up spaces at each clinic, such as in an unused waiting room or under a canopy. Saturday LLH classes rotate weekly among the clinics in the cluster. Shared staffing of providers and counselors across the cluster enables us to accommodate the higher volume of girls on Saturdays.

Clinic clusters enable us to transform existing, unused spaces into 9ja Girls Safe Spaces. Clinic clusters are optimal in communities with a large population of adolescent girls and multiple clinics with available space that are located near each other.

Safe Spaces: Clinic Cluster+



The clinic cluster+ is a group of 2-4 geographically dispersed clinics within one community that each have a 9ja Girls Safe Space.

In a clinic cluster+, a 9ja Girls Safe Space is a permanent 9ja Girls room embedded within an existing public or private clinic.

Each 9ja Girls Safe Space in the cluster+ has at least two dedicated 9ja Girls providers and offers counseling and services every weekday.

Each clinic in the cluster+ offers LLH skills classes every Saturday, which are held in pop-up spaces. To accommodate the higher volume of girls at LLH skills classes, 9ja Girls hires additional counselors who only work on Saturdays.

The clinic cluster+ model enables us to leverage unused spaces in existing clinics in communities where available clinics are more geographically dispersed, such as peri-urban and rural areas.

Inside a 9ja Girls

Safe Space

Every 9ja Girls Safe Space has a skills area and a private 9ja Girls room. This allows girls to seamlessly transition through classes, counseling, and services without stigma.



SKILLS AREA

Where girls take Skills for Life, Love & Health classes.

9JA GIRLS ROOM



GIRL ZONE Where girls can make the space their own.

MEDICAL ZONE

Where girls access services.



COUNSELING ZONE

Where girls receive individual counseling.

Safe Spaces

Design Strategy

Safe Spaces are designed to meet girls' needs, ensure feasibility of implementation, and poise 9ja Girls for sustainability and scale.

Desirability

9ja Girls Safe Spaces provide a safe haven for girls where they enjoy spending time, learning skills, and meeting other girls with similar needs.

Offering vocational skills classes at 9ja Girls Safe Spaces addresses and minimizes the stigma associated with accessing SRH services.

Feasibility

Safe Spaces can be integrated into any existing public or private health facility, as any of the 3 models. This flexible, multi-modal approach broadens the pool of eligible sites and ensures 9ja Girls can operate across the unique needs and resources of diverse communities.

Cross-sectoral partnerships facilitate access to sites and streamline selection processes.

The modular design is easy to replicate and laid out step-by-step in the Safe Spaces Guidebook.

Sustainability & Scale

Cross-sectoral partnerships enable 9ja Girls to leverage existing, unused spaces. These partnerships ensure sustainability, strengthen the healthcare system, and reduce program costs.

The standardized design and furniture elements minimize costs, optimize use of space, and leverage economies of scale for procurement.

Desirability

Sustainability & Scale

Feasibility

Safe Spaces bring the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER CHOICES

Recognize and listen to her as an individual

9ja Girls Safe Spaces are a **one-stop shop** where adolescent girls can gain skills and access SRH services. The architectural and interior design of the space enables girls to seamlessly transition from skills classes through counseling to services based on their individual choices and without stigma.



Safe Spaces bring the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER GOALS

Connect contraception to her goals

In all 9ja Girls Safe Spaces, the **mantra poster** and tagline are prominently displayed, reinforcing the message that making informed choices about sexual and reproductive health, including the decision to take up contraception, is one way girls can work towards their goals. My life is mine to make.

My heart may break, but I won't fake.

My body is mine, no one can take.

I'm a 9ja Girl. I'm awake.
Safe Spaces bring the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER COMMUNIT

Reassure her that there are other girls like her

The **Kiss Wall** is the first thing a girl sees upon entering a 9ja Girls room. This is a place where girls can anonymously leave messages or "blow kisses" to other girls. The Kiss Wall allows each girl to take ownership of 9ja Girls as her own, to feel reassured by seeing other girls' messages, and to feel pride sharing a message with other girls.



Safe Spaces bring the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls'

needs are always at the center.

HER SAFETY

Make her feel respected and safe

The 9ja Girls room is designed to maximize privacy and safety for girls, especially when accessing clinical services. The medical zone includes a **custom-built medical cabinet with instrument trolley**, which helps providers ensure quality service provision. It also includes a custom-designed privacy screen to make girls feel safe accessing services.



Safe Spaces bring the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER JOY

Celebrate her experience of being an adolescent girl 9ja Girls Safe Spaces defy conventional clinical norms, transforming medical environments into spaces girls love. Custom design features reflect who girls are and what they love. This includes a gold sequin **selfie station** and a counseling area that encourages communication.











The 9ja Girls

Safe Spaces Toolkit



FILES 9jaGirls_SafeSpaces_Guidebook.pdf 9jaGirls SafeSpaces Guidebook.indd

Safe Spaces Guidebook

The complete overview of 9ja Girls Safe Spaces Design, including procurement and installation guidelines

HOW IT'S USED

The Renovations Specialists use this as their reference for installing and launching 9ja Girls Safe Spaces across Nigeria.



See: Safe Spaces Guidebook, Appendix

The vinyls—which include the Mantra, Agreements, privacy dividers, and heroare displayed in every 9ja Girls Safe Space and help consistently bring the brand to life.



FILES 9jaGirls_SafeSpaces_Workbook.pdf 9jaGirls_SafeSpaces_Workbook.ppt

Safe Spaces Workbook

A workbook to support the assessment, design, and installation of Safe Spaces

HOW IT'S USED

The companion book to the Safe Spaces Guidebook, this book offers tools such as checklists and blueprint worksheets to aid the Renovations Specialists.



See: Safe Spaces Guidebook, Appendix

Vinyls

Large posters displayed in 9ja Girls Safe Spaces

HOW IT'S USED

Vinyl Stickers

Large vinyl stickers displayed in 9ja Girls Safe Spaces

HOW IT'S USED

Vinyl stickers—which include the logo and tagline—are displayed in every 9ja Girls Safe Space to reinforce messages of empowerment.

Skills for Life, Love & Health Classes

3







SKILLS FOR LIFE, LOVE & HEALTH

9ja Girls offers classes for girls to learn skills for life, love & health (LLH). Classes are facilitated by 9ja Girls providers and take place at 9ja Girls Safe Spaces.

Each class includes learning a vocational skill that girls can immediately use to earn an income, such as Ankara design, beadmaking, or liquid soapmaking. The class also covers topics on love and health, including discussion on dating, SRH, and contraceptive methods.

During the class, each girl is invited to attend an opt-out individual counseling session with a 9ja Girls provider. Girls who choose to may take up a contraceptive method during their counseling session.



WHY IT MATTERS

By teaching skills for life, love & health, girls see contraception as a tool to help them achieve their goals.

Skills for Life

Through 9ja Girls vocational skills classes, girls are introduced to skills that can help them become financially independent and provide for themselves and their families. They earn to plan for their future, and how contraception can help them get there.

Skills for Love

By teaching girls about communication, mutual respect, and consent, we empower them to engage in healthy relationships and make smart decisions about sex and contraception.

Skills for Health

By teaching girls about sexual and reproductive health, providing non-judgmental counseling, and offering contraceptive services, we help girls understand how to protect themselves and make informed choices that are right for their bodies and lives.





Desirability

LLH Classes are designed to meet girls' needs, ensure feasibility of implementation, and poise 9ja Girls for sustainability and scale.

Desirability

Girls have goals and want to learn skills for their future. They also have lots of questions about love and SRH, but lack trusted sources to turn to for information. LLH classes create a platform where girls can gain skills, learn, ask questions, and share.

Feasibility

The class structure and activities are modular, simple and standardized, ensuring ease of replication and adaptation to diverse contexts.

Harmonized tools and materials enable counselors to deliver clear, consistent messaging in all classes.

The clinic cluster model leverages shared staffing for classes, which lowers overall staffing needs and reduces the burden of training and program management.

Sustainability & Scale

Cross-sectoral partnerships drive opportunities for leveraging resources of 9ja Girls counselors and vocational skills facilitators.

Rotating Saturday classes among Safe Spaces in a clinic cluster leverage available unused spaces at existing clinics and shared staffing, which minimizes costs.

Sustainability & Scale

Feasibility



LLH Classes bring the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls'

needs are always at the center.

HER **CHOICES**

Recognize and listen to her as an individual

Throughout the LLH class, providers reinforce the 9ja Girls Key Messages, found in their **Pocket Guide.** These messages emphasize each girls' right to make individual choices when it comes to her future, her relationships, and her sexual and reproductive health.

ANONYMOUS Q&A



POCKET GUIDE



LLH Classes bring the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls'

needs are always at the center.

HER GOALS

Connect contraception to her goals

During the LLH class, all girls complete a Life Map. This activity enables girls to make a concrete action plan for their future, and consider how an unplanned pregnancy may influence their ability to reach their goals. The Life Map creates a seamless segue to introduce the value of contraception



LLH Classes bring the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls'

needs are always at the center.

HER COMMUNIT

During the love section of the LLH class, girls participate in an anonymous Q&A session, where they are invited to write any questions about love and SRH and put them into a box. The provider anonymously reads and responds to the questions. This creates an opportunity for girls to ask questions and learn with other girls in a stigma-free environment.

Reassure her that there are other girls like her





LLH Classes bring the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls'

needs are always at the center.

HER SAFETY

LLH classes are strictly girls-only. This puts girls at ease and makes them feel comfortable discussing personal issues related to SRH, speaking individually with a counselor, and accessing services.

Make her feel respected and

safe



LLH Classes bring the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls'

needs are always at the center.

HER JOY

Celebrate her experience of being an adolescent girl

All girls who attend an LLH class receive a Course Workbook and 9ja Girls bracelet, which they take home with them. The workbook provides girls with further information about life, love & health, and can be referred to and enjoyed outside of class. The bracelet connects girls to their 9ja Girls experience and creates a bond with other girls.



LLH COURSE WORKBOOK



"I love 9ja Girls. What they even taught us,l'm making money money from it." – Girl, Alimosho

The 9ja Girls

LLH Classes Toolkit



FILES 9jaGirls LLH Workbook.pdf 9jaGirls LLH Workbook.indd



Aworkbook with key messages and information about life, love & health

HOW IT'S USED

The workbook is given to every girl who attends 9ja Girls. It contains the Life Map, which girls complete individually and providers refer to during counseling as a way to link contraception to girls' goals. Girls can refer to the workbook outside of classes and counseling for further information.



A short reference book on how to facilitate ШНclasses

HOW IT'S USED

When facilitating LH classes, providers use this as a reference. It contains instructions for facilitating classes and key messages for Spice Talks, the Methods Talk, and anonymous Q&A.



FILES 9jaGirls Facilitator Guidebook.doc

The comprehensive guidebook on facilitating LLH Classes and counseling sessions

Providers and counselors are trained in how to facilitate LLHClasses and counseling sessions using this guidebook. It serves as their comprehensive manual.

box.

See: Safe Spaces Guidebook, Appendix



FILES 9jaGirls PocketGuide.pdf 9jaGirls PocketGuide.indd

Facilitator Guidebook

HOW IT'S USED

Q&A Box

Abox used to collect girls' questions

HOW IT'S USED

During the anonymous O&Asession of each LLH class, providers collect girls' questions in this





Network of Youth-friendly Providers





NETWORK OF YOUTH-FRIENDLY PROVIDERS

9ja Girls Safe Spaces are staffed by a cohort of trained healthcare providers and counselors who are committed to providing adolescent girls with non-judgmental counseling and services.

9ja Girls providers and counselors run 9jaGirls Safe Spaces, facilitate LLH classes, leadopt-out individual counseling, and provideSRH and contraceptive services for girls.



WHY IT MATTERS

9ja Girls strengthens the Nigerian health system by expanding the workforce and building the capacity of youth-friendly providers. 9ja Girls providers acquire skills, attitudes, and behaviors that equip them to provide quality, judgment-free SRH counseling and services.



Provider Network

Design Strategy

The Network of Youth-Friendly Providers is designed to meet girls' needs, ensure feasibility of implementation, and poise 9ja Girls for sustainability and scale.

Desirability

Currently, most providers in Nigeria do not provide SRH services to adolescent girls due to bias and lack of training. The 9ja Girls program exposes this gap in the healthcare system, inspiring providers to recognize their roles and the part they can play to empower girls and provide quality SRH services.

Feasibility

Partnership with the workforce in the existing health system facilitates ease of access to recruit and select providers who become part of the program, mentor young providers, and grow the 9ja Girls network of youth-friendly providers.

Shared resourcing of providers within a clinic cluster lowers staffing requirements, which reduces the burden of training and program management.

Sustainability & Scale

Providers and counselors join 9ja Girls through partnerships with the Ministry of Health, Primary Healthcare Board, and the National Youth Service Corps. These partnerships provide a pathway to scale and sustainability through streamlined provider selection processes and shared financing of provider costs.

Desirability

Sustainability & Scale

Feasibility

The Provider Network brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life,

ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER GOALS

Connect contraception to her goals

During the methods talk, providers describe each method and discuss how it might help each girl achieve her goals.





The Provider Network brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life,

ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER CHOICES

All 9ja Girls providers committo the **9ja Girls Agreements** and share them with girls. The 9ja Girls Agreements promote respect for each girl's individual choices.

Recognize and listen to her as an individual

9ja Girls Agreements

Always there for you. When it comes to your sexual and reprodu

when it comes to your sexual and reproduct health, we will always be here for you.

No judgment.

AGREEMENTS POSTER

Tell us what's on your mind and in your heart, and we will listen and respond without judgmen

Just between us. This is a safe space just for you-you can trust us to keep anything you share here private

Real Talk. We will always tell it like it is and be honest, and we encourage you to do the same with us.

It's all about you, with you and for you We will always strive to put you, your choices, and what matters most to you, at the center of everything we do.

Feel free

If you are a 15-19 year old girl, you are welco no matter your background, education, religion, marital status, or tribe.

The Provider Network brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life,

ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER COMMUNIT

9ja Girls providers listen and respond to girls' needs with no judgment. They recognize that adolescent girls may be sexually active, do not shame girls who have sex, and do not discriminate which girls to teach about the methods.

Reassure her that there are other girls like her

The Provider Network brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life,

ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER SAFETY

Make her feel respected and safe

The 9ja Girls Provider & Counselor Training ensures all providers uphold patient confidentiality and respect. The Contraceptive Technology Training certifies 9ja Girls providers to offer high quality sexual and reproductive healthcare services. Providers are equipped with resources and referrals for girls whose needs are outside their scope.

The Provider Network brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life,

ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER JOY

9ja Girls providers are trained on how to connect with adolescent girls and be passionate about every girl and her needs.

Celebrate her experience of being an adolescent girl

100



Doing 9ja Girls, learned our personal values should not affect our professional service.

Provider, Ageg

The 9ja Girls

Provider Toolkit





FILES 9jaGirls_Agreements.pdf 9jaGirls_Agreements.indd



A one-pager of the 9ja Girls Agreements HOW IT'S USED

All 9ja Girls staff sign and agree to uphold the 9ja Girls Agreements. SFH maintains a copy of signed agreements for their records.



FILES 9ja Girls_Certificate.pdf 9jaGirls_Certificate.indd

Certificate

A certificate of completion for the youth-friendly provider training

All providers who complete the Youth-Friendly Provider Training receive this official certificate of completion.

FILES 9jaGirls_YPF_Brochure.pdf 9jaGirls_YPF_Brochure.indd

Young Provider Fellowship Brochure

A marketing brochure about the 9ja Girls Young Provider Fellowship

HOW IT'S USED

This brochure is used to inform potential applicants about 9ja Girls and the Young Provider Fellowship, and encourage them to apply. For example, this brochure will be distributed during orientation sessions at NYSC bootcamps.



FILES 9jaGirls_Team_Welcome.pdf 9jaGirls_Team_Welcome.indd

mobilizers HOW IT'S USED

HOW IT'S USED

Team Welcome

An overview brochure given to all 9ja Girls staff, including providers, counselors, and

The brochure is given to all 9ja Girls staff during onboarding. It inspires them and helps them understand the importance of their role and responsibilities.



"Even if they do this program for twenty years, I will be there."

– Provider, Agege

Opt-out Individual Counseling







OPT-OUT INDVIDIDUAL COUNSELING

9ja Girls offers opt-out individual
counseling during LLH classes and
throughout the week. Counseling is led by
9ja Girls providers and is private, judgmentfree, and responsive to girls' needs



WHY IT MATTERS

Girls have lots of questions but are not sure who to trust. Because 9ja Girls providers value girls' choices and respond to their individual needs, they become a trusted adult in girls' lives. Counseling is opt-out, so it becomes normalized.





Opt-out Individual Counseling is designed to meet girls' needs, ensure feasibility of implementation, and poise 9ja Girls for sustainability and scale.

Desirability

Many girls lack a trusted adult in their life, yet current SRH services are stigmatized within the community. Opt-out counseling creates an opportunity for girls to discuss their SRH issues and needs with a trained and trusted provider.

Feasibility

Standardized counseling tools such as the Methods Box make it easy to train providers in youth-friendly counseling and drive quality and consistency.

Shared staffing for Saturday counseling in the clinic cluster model lowers overall staffing needs, which eases training and program management.

Sustainability & Scale

The provider network leverages and strengthens an existing workforce, equipping them to provide quality counseling.

By integrating counseling into classes, many girls seamlessly transition from class to counseling to services on their first visit. This streamlined path to method uptake creates operational efficiencies and provides a pathway to achieving impact at scale.

Desirability

Sustainability & Scale

Feasibility


Opt-out Individual Counseling brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER GOALS

Connect contraception to her goals

During counseling sessions, providers discuss each girl's Life Map as an entry point into the conversation. When discussing the contraceptive methods, providers reference each girl's life map, and how the methods might help her achieve her individual goal.





Opt-out Individual Counseling brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER **CHOICES**

Recognize and listen to her as an individual

During counseling sessions, providers and counselors use the 9ja Girls Methods Talk and Methods Box. These standardized tools ensure consistent messaging. The 9ja Girls Methods Box demystifies the methods and enhances a girl's ability to make an informed choice.





Opt-out Individual Counseling brings the 9ja Girls Principles to

life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER COMMUNIT

9ja Girls counseling during LLH classes is opt-out. This normalizes counseling and removes the stigma associated with private SRH counseling.

Reassure her that there are other girls like her

111



Opt-out Individual Counseling brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER SAFETY

Make her feel respected and safe

9ja Girls counseling takes place in a dedicated counseling area within 9ja Girls rooms. These spaces are designed to make girls feel private, safe, and comfortable. Space design and furniture elements like the drop-leaf table, the animal-shaped rug, and throw pillows on each chair create a welcoming environment that supports and encourages personal conversations.





Opt-out Individual Counseling brings the 9ja Girls Principles to

life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER JOY

9ja Girls providers and counselors are trained to respect each girl as an individual. This demeanor puts girls at ease and enables them to view their provider as a trusted confidant.

Celebrate her experience of being an adolescent girl



"The counselors here, youcan confide in them."

Girl, Alimosho

The 9ja Girls

Counseling Toolkit



See: Safe Spaces Guidebook, Appendix

Methods Box

Acustom display box with samples of the contraceptive methods and information about each

HOW IT'S USED

During counseling and LLH classes, providers use the Methods Boxto teach girls about the methods and show them how the methods are used.



FILES 9jaGirls_FollowUp_Card.pdf 9jaGirls_FollowUp_Card.indd

Follow-Up Card

A follow-up card given to each girl after her individual counseling session

HOW IT'S USED

After each counseling session, providers encourage all girls to come back. When girls receive a contraceptive method, providers schedule a clinical follow-up appointment to ensure there are no complications or infections. The follow-up card contains the provider's phone number and the date and time of the follow-up counseling session.



"At 9ja Girls,they don't judge any person. They make me feel accepted."

— Girl, Alimosho

Outreach & Advocacy

6.







OUTREACH & ADVOCACY

9ja Girls conducts outreach and advocacy activities to raise awareness and support. This includes bi-monthly sessions with mothers of adolescent girls, involvement and collaboration with policymakers and key influencers, and social media marketing through multiple platforms, including Facebook.



WHY IT MATTERS

Community acceptance creates the enabling environment necessary for girls to access SRH services. Advocacy creates champions at the local, state, and national levels.



Outreach & Advocacy

Design Strategy

Outreach & Advocacy is designed to meet girls' needs, ensure feasibility of implementation, and poise 9ja Girls for sustainability and scale.

Desirability

Outreach meets girls where they are—both online and in their communities—and positions 9ja Girls as a way to help them achieve their goals. Advocacy with policymakers and key influencers builds understanding of the program and encourages community acceptance.

Feasibility

Community engagement through outreach and advocacy creates support for 9ja Girls and adolescent SRH services at the local, state, and national levels. This reduces obstacles to launching and operating 9ja Girls in each new community.

Standardized, easy-to-use materials such as the mobilizer brochure and moms picturecode drive consistency of external messaging about 9ja Girls.

Sustainability & Scale

Through active involvement with 9ja Girls, key influencers are excited to take ownership and drive the efforts to scale and sustain the program.

Desirability

Leveraging social media platforms such as Facebook enables 9ja Girls to reach a large, diverse population of girls on an existing platform at minimal cost.

Standardized materials drive cost efficiencies through mass production and bulk printing.

Sustainability & Scale

Feasibility



Outreach & Advocacy brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER GOALS

Connect contraception to her goals

Currently, lack of parental support poses a barrier to girls taking up contraception.9ja Girls engages mothers of adolescent girls through bi-monthly community meetings. Using the Moms Picturecode, providers lead a guided conversation with moms about adolescence, SRH, and the issues of unplanned pregnancy in their community. Our narrative with mothers focuses on how unplanned pregnancy may prevent girls like their daughters from reaching their goals, and the role they can play as mothers.





Outreach & Advocacy brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER CHOICES

Recognize and listen to her as an individual

Our mobilization strategy centers around understanding each girls' unique goals. Using the 9ja Girls Mobilizer Brochure, mobilizers meet girls where they are and engage girls in a conversation about how 9ja Girls can help them reach their personal goals through LLH classes, counseling, and services.



MOBILIZER BROCHURE



Outreach & Advocacy brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life,

ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER COMMUNIT

The current policy on providing SRH services to adolescents lacks clarity and is often interpreted differently. Through advocacy, 9ja Girls collaborates with key influencers at the local, state, and federal level to foster a supportive environment for all adolescents to access comprehensive SRH services.

Reassure her that there are other girls like her

124



Outreach & Advocacy brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life,

ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER SAFETY

Communities support 9ja Girls because of the inclusion of vocational skills classes in the provision of SRH services. This means girls can safely access services without facing stigma from the community.

Make her feel respected and

safe



Outreach & Advocacy brings the 9ja Girls Principles to life, ensuring girls' needs are always at the center.

HER JOY

Celebrate her experience of being an adolescent girl 9ja Girls outreach leverages digital platforms girls currently use and love, such as social media and facebook. These platforms create opportunities for girls to engage with 9ja Girls in private, personalized interactions while celebrating her as an adolescent girl.



FACEBOOK PAGE





"When you mobilize girls, the first thing they are interested in is the skills."

Mobil

The 9ja Girls

Outreach Toolkit

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FILES 9ja Girls_Mobilizer_Brochure.pdf 9jaGirls_Mobilizer_Brochure.ppt

Mobilizer Brochure

A marketing brochure used to mobilize girls

HOW IT'S USED

Mobilizers use this flipbook brochure with accompanying script to excite girls about 9ja Girls and sign them up for LLH classes and counseling.



FILES 9jaGirls Brochure.pdf 9ja Girls_Brochure.indd

of 9ja Girls

The Website

9ia Girls



FILES 9jaGirls_Moms_Picturecode.pdf 9jaGirls_Moms_Picturecode.ppt

Moms Picturecode

An illustrated IPC flipchart and discussion guide used to educate mothers about SRH and 9ja Girls

HOW IT'S USED

9ja Girls Providers use this flipchart to facilitate bi-monthly community meetings with mothers to educate them about SRH and explain the 9ja Girls offering. Because mothers' literacy is variable, the picturecode uses illustrations to spark the conversation and engage mothers in a dialogue.



www.9iaGirls.com http://login.squarespace.com



General Brochure

A marketing brochure that provides an overview

HOW IT'S USED

This brochure may be shared with a variety of stakeholders to inform them about 9ja Girls and encourage them to participate, partner, or learn more.

The official 9ja Girls website, www.9jaGirls.com, provides an overview of HOW IT'S USED

The website may be shared with a variety of stakeholders to inform them about 9ja Girls and encourage them to participate or partner. The website includes links to 9ja Girls social media platforms and the opportunity to directly contact the 9ja Girls team.

The 9ja Girls

Outreach Toolkit



www.facebook.com/9jaGirlsNow

Facebook Page

The official 9ja Girls Facebook page

HOW IT'S USED

The Facebook page is the primary girl-facing digital presence of 9ja Girls. On the Facebook page, girls can engage in discussions about life, love & health; privately ask questions over Facebook messenger; learn how to participate in 9ja Girls; and connect with 9ja Girls Safe Spaces in their communities.



FILES 9ja Girls_SocialMedia_Templates.ppt

Social Media Templates

Templates for 9ja Girls social media marketing

HOW IT'S USED

These templates may be used in 9ja Girls social media marketing materials, such as Facebook advertisements or posts.



"I heard 9ja Girls has helped a lot of girls around this area, so l came here."

— Girl, Alimosho