
EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: THE ROLE OF CARE GIVERS/TEACHERS IN NIGERIA.

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ABSTRACT

Early childhood education for sustainable development: The role of a caregiver which is focus this write up discussed the needs of small children and their recognition in issues concerning sustainable development, their right and interest must be better safeguarded in rules, policy and decisions that concern the education of the youngest group of children. It is pertinent in any educational programme to examine its successes a long time some factors which equally can be concern with the development of the nation this issues from the discussion of the paper and conclusion and recommendations were drawn.

INTRODUCTION

Early childhood education in its nature has become widely recognized as having an important impact on the later is life academic performance of children at primary and secondary education as well as the child being in the rest of his/her life time. Any form of education that tends to lay foundation for acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills, reduce dropout rate and repetition rates and consequently lead the child towards learning and attending school is said to be relevant to the need of the society characterized of educational backwardness, technological retrogression and exceptional practices of corruption. Thus, early childhood care and education for sustainable development is design objectively to examine some areas of significant that in the program and how it can contribute to sustainability of development in Nigeria. The National Policy on IECD (2007) while paraphrasing what necessitate the programme to exist, points it out that, ECCE is given priority as a factor for sustaining development by its statement "in the light of the poor attitude to children up bringing and child care strategy, the need exist for quality integrated approach to ECCE to a large extent. The National minimum Standard (2007) expressed also that "to create enabling environment for the Nigerian child to thrive and develop to the fullest potential in line with the national goal and aspiration of building a land of full of bright opportunities for all citizen this acknowledge the role of ECCE for sustainable development it is pertinent in any educational programme. To examine its successes along line with some factors; this take us to examining who is a caregiver? The role of the teacher/caregiver base on his/her competencies, what are the qualities of a good care giver, need for training of caregivers, professional responsibilities of the care giver as well as areas of opportunities in ECCE for sustainable development respectively. Sustainable development is seeking to meet the needs of the present without compromising those of future generation; we have to learn our way out of current social and developmental problems and learn to live sustainably. Education for sustainable development aim to help people to develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge to make

informed decisions for benefit of themselves and others, now in the future, and to act upon these decision (United Nations Education Scientific and cultural 2005 – 2014). The National for Integrated Early childhood Development (2007) cited by Kadiri (2006) Educational research and policies volume 4 Number 3 2009, at least to this when its stated in its policy objectives that come and support provided for the child ensure the rights of the to good nutrition and health, healthy and safe environment, psycho-social stimulation, protection and participation, its further stated that its implementation strategies will include – assisting parents, caregivers and community to learn basic skills of good child rearing and to strengthen good behaviour.

The Caregiver

According to the National Alliance for Caregiving www.caregiving.org defines caregiver in single terms, is someone who is responsible. Care giver is someone who is responsible for attending to the daily needs of another persons. Its further stated that caregivers are all around us, spouses, adult children, other family members, partners, friends and neighbors all serve as unpaid, informal caregivers. Studies have shown that caregiver are all ages and come from all walk of life. According to Aisha Kadiri (2009) cited on Journal of Education research and Policies, Vol 4 2009, the Caregiver is an individual who has been trained in caring for the child's needs, it is that significant adult who interact mostly closely with child in the child care facility. The caregiver has responsibilities to many children, having to cope with both group and individual situations, studying the children, identifying and treating properly, the quite, untidy, lonely, the aggressive, noisy, hyperactive child within the centre. For the caregiver to be a successful, caregiver and sustainable development, a caregiver must possesses the following qualities: According to Answer.com, wiki Answer which stated that caregiver is the one who give love and care that can care not only physical and also the emotional and love that needs and also the age person. Paula Spencer, caring.com senior editor June 25, 2009 stated the caregiver role:

- They are mellow and good humored
- They always see person behind the illness.
- They are motivated by yesterday and to day not tomorrow.
- They are patient (or at least, they keep their impatience to an imperceptible slow burn)
- They are seemingly unflappable

2008 circle of Care stated that qualities of caregiver are as follows:

- Allow the warmth and compassion in your heart to touch your care recipient's heart.
- Practice the simple basics of treating one with the same respect, esteem and care with which you would want to be treated if the role were reversed and you were the care recipient.
- Express kindness when speaking with care recipient.
- Use authentic and positive words to acknowledge and appreciate.
- Use strength-based communication stating what works in a place of using words or tones that are harsh, irritable and negative.

- Treat your care client as if they are their own unique and special person, not as a case, patient, project, or burden.
 - Encourage a client to share their strength talent and skills by enlisting their participation expertise and help with daily activities.
 - Use tender and gentle touch when caring for your client, but always first check-in, inform and ask permission, offer a gentle hand or foot message and make time for tenderness and affection. Beware of client likes and dislikes regarding any kind of physical touch, and using too much force especially if there is pain or sensitive involved. Ryder (1985) cited by Kadiri Journal of Education Research and Policies Vol. 4. Numbers 2009 identifies the following characteristic of the caregiver:
 - Transmit positive feelings about themselves and their job.
 - Spend most of their time interacting with or observation children.
 - Are familiar with the various stages of children's growth and encourage each child's development.
 - Attend to children needs, are calm and gentle
 - Demonstrate flexibility and a sense of humor
 - Are fair when squabbles occur
 - Believe in discipline but not in harsh punishment
 - Encourage healthy curiosity.
- The care of the child is fundamental with the hands of a caregiver.

Need for the Training of Caregiver

Looking at it from the origin, what give birth to the noble and unique area of discipline (ECCE) is a result of calamity distress and sufferness that children face while their parents are at their work place. This is evidenced in the statement made in the National Policy for IECD (2007); that "To a large extent, the Nigeria child suffers deprivation from lack of good social services in terms of poor nutrition, health care, and access to safe water and sanitation, general protection from environmental hazard and insecurity as a result of unneed factors such as:-

- Class struggle which implies high crave for wealth leading to corruption and decent more values.
- Increased participation of women in paid employment outside the home.
- Reduced community participation in child rearing and support in the light of increasing economic pressure.
- Low participation of males in child rearing

The existence of the above factors in our country that gradually lead to the creation of ECCE programme reveal that certain training must be giving to some category of people in our community to carry out the duty to correct the missing in our community; thus the need for training a caregiver respectively. There is a need for a caregiver to increase the know and skills. The unique program aims at equipping the caregivers nannies with the skills demanding by the employers. Caregiver care for children, sick and elderly on an ongoing or short term basis at home or in the homes as live in caregivers. According to caregiver

training course directory, certificate diploma, MS, MA, MBA, BA, BS, As, ASS Caregiver course professional caregivers must have a knowledge of how a healthy lifestyle can improve their ability to care for others. In this course, students are encouraged to make style choices which will positively affect their personal health and well being. Education and training need of the caregivers Research clearly points to the need for increasing the knowledge and skills of large number of untrained caregivers. According to Sharlach, Sirotick et al 2003. Barnett et al 2005, Scharlach et al 2006, Barnett et al 2005, Scharlach et al 2006, Bailey and Paul (2008) Some public and private agencies and institutions provide skilled nursing care and related care. To be a professional caregiver, there are certain training which a caregiver should possess:

The benefit

Caregiver induction

Ongoing training

National certificate

1. The benefit:

- It will help you understand the special needs of you to foster children as well as offer real solution and skills.
- Caregiver training is an excellent opportunity to share their experience, skills and knowledge with each other.
- All the caregivers should do the training, it is so helpful and gives more confidence.

2. Caregiver Induction

Before you become a professional trained caregiver, you have to go to a caregiver induction course. Some of the things you will learn in the induction course are as follows:

- Family Culture: How do you help a child fit in to your family culture, when they feel like a fish out of water?
- Attachment: What happens when attachment to parent is disrupted? Loss and grief: How children grieve losses and learn to live within a new environment.
- The longing to belong: How do caregivers feel the belongs?
- The effects of abuse: Behaviour of children who have experience harm, abuse or neglect.
- Discipline Versus Punishment: Discipline promotes healthy development whereas punishment fulfils the need for vindication.
- Promoting positive behaviour: Helping the child build self esteem

The courses teaches you how to recognize what driving certain behaviour and how to find a solution

Ongoing Training

Once you have become an approved caregiver we offer a range of other training courses which will help you understand the needs of your foster child, and be able to give them the best care you can.

The courses include:

- Family dynamics
- Child Health
- Legal Issues
- Managing behaviour
- Safe Caring
- The older child
- Understanding maltreatment
- Non violent Crises Intervention (NVCi).

National Certificate in ECCE

If you are passionate about being a skilled caregiver who can nurture children to grow and develop in your care.

- Developing relationship with children and young people in their care
- Managing human development and health issues of children and young people in care.
- Responding to the effects of abuse, neglect and violence
- Sporting children and young people to foster care.

Professional Responsibilities of Care Givers

Professional caregivers main responsibility is to care for another individual in a private home. Also known as a home health aide, elder care companion, or personal care attendant, a professional caregiver assist someone recovering from surgery an elderly person who needs assistance with the activities of daily living.

The responsibilities of caregiver.

A professional caregiver assist with the client is daily activities includes. A caregiver job

- Companionship and conversation
- Accompanying to appointments and social events.
- Errands
- Grocery shopping
- Light house keeping
- Preparing meals
- Medication reminders
- Assistance with bathing and grooming
- Driving
- Assistance with mobility

Benefits of ECCE for Sustainable development

UNESCO has a mandate to support member states in achieving all EFA goals and lead and co-ordinates the EFA movement for sustainable development. Request the Director General to convene the world conference on early childhood and care education from 22-24 September,2010 in Moscow. To reaffirm the importance of EFA goal 1 in the EFA and other development agendas, to identify policy gaps in early childhood care and education (ECCE) and develop concrete strategies for addressing them in the run up to 2015 and beyond to

provide a global platform for policy dialogue to provide a global platform for policy dialogue and to promote exchange of good practices in ECCE policy for sustainable development and implementation. A progress was made towards the EFA Goal 1 in ECCE as a social, human and economic development imperative. We adopt a broad and holistic concept of ECCE as the provision of care, education aged zero to eight years of age. ECCE is therefore for a right of an indispensable foundation for life long learning. Its proven benefits are manifold and include health and nutrition, improved emotional efficiency and gender equity, greater employability and earning, and better quality of life for sustainable development. The evidence of the benefits of ECCE and its capacity to pay it self back was recently review in the EFA Global Monitoring Report (UNESCO 2006).

Summary

Early childhood education in its nature has become widely recognized as having an important impact on the later in life academic performance of children at primary/secondary education. A caregiver is an individual who has been trained in caring for the child's needs, is that significant adult who is interacts most closely with child in the child care facility. A professional care assistant with the client's daily activities includes: accompanying to appointments and social events light house keeping, companionship and conversation etc. ECCE has the potential, overtime, to help to bridge gaps that exist between groups in a society. Enhanced levels of school readiness should eventually translate into lower drop out rates and lower repetition rates.

Recommendation

- Education within both sustainable development and early childhood education should be in an integrated and essential part of the programme for both education, and in service training of pre-school teachers.
- Government should increase or modify existing frame work programme to stimulate innovation through integrating education for sustainable development and pre-schooling.
- Government, should develop legal framework and enforcement mechanisms that are conducive to the implementation of the right of children to ECCE from birth.
- Government should develop new approaches and method to build professional capacity, in areas of critical importance of quality improvement.
- Government should improve and expand teacher training, accreditation and the professionals development of ECCE professionals.
- Specialist of ECCE should increase knowledge of medical professionals, social workers, parents, care givers and other professionals about children development and how to promote it.
- Explore and use the full potential of ICT to promote all aspects of ECCE
- Education for Sustainable development is a central part of quality ECCE.

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