

youthhubafrica is an initiative of the Youth Foundation For Development, Education and Leadership

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

Group Launches Toll-Free Lines to enable citizens report Human Rights Violation and Police Brutality

YouthHubAfrica in partnership with Onelife Initiative, Foundation for Investigative Journalism and Cedarseed Foundation launches a toll-free line where people can report police brutality in Ebonyi, Oyo, Bauchi and the FCT.

The toll-free number will help to expand the civic spaces in three States and the FCT in tracking government's #EndSARS promises and to reduce human rights violation in the states.

The toll-free number <u>0800 - YOU - MATTER (0800 - 968 - 628837)</u> which goes live by 12pm on the 20th of October 2021 can be called from any network in Nigeria.

It is exactly one year since 'The #EndSARS movement' forced national attention on unending issues of police brutality and poor governance. The national outcry was a genuine demand and call on the federal government to deal with the brutality of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) on young Nigerians.

The response across different levels of government provides an opportunity to ensure aggrieved persons, especially young Nigerians and the vulnerable are heard, key demands are met for lasting solutions to end police brutality. Judicial panels were enacted, to meet the #5For5 demands, however little or no result has come out of these panels and young people are still at the mercy of security officials across the country.

On this anniversary of the #EndSARS protest, the consortium hopes that the toll-free line in relation to other activities within the project will — Mobilise actions that will track human rights violations particularly police brutalities in Nigeria and ensure that appropriate authorities are involved; support Nigerian youths to be better organised and coordinated in demanding a better future and ensure that the democratic demands of the #EndSARs are kept alive and promises of the government tracked to ensure its fulfilment.

This Project is being supported by VOICE Nigeria.

Signed Rotimi Olawale Coordinator, You Matter in This Matter

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