Reference #	13554528
Status	Complete
Login Username	salimoyinlola@gmail.com
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What is the name of your Project? (We recommend you keep it under 5 words)	SoundAsABell Initiative
In what stage is your Project at?	Idea: this is a project I hope to begin in August 2021
Briefly describe your project in an easy-to-understand way:	SoundAsABell is an initiative geared towards educating young Nigerians about mental illnesses in a bid to alleviate the stigma and stereotypes associated with persons suffering from mental illnesses. It is saddening that persons with mental illness still have to struggle with double problems, first, with the symptoms of the diseases themselves, and then, the misunderstanding of the Nigerian society about the various mental disorders. As the high level of ignorance about mental illness and negative attitudes towards young individuals with mental disorders especially as related to depression and mood disorders continues to increase, the burden of depression also becomes heavier on the neck of the average Nigerian young adult. This depression, if untreated often leads to suicide and this has increased the number of premature mortality vis-à-vis mental illness in Nigeria. There is evident illiteracy on the subject as it relates to how the Nigerian society sees people with mental disorders and the negative stereotypes associated with them. These stereotypes are what the SoundAsABell initiative looks to eliminate by creating an avenue for mental illness literacy.
What is your role in this project?	Founder/Co-Founder

How many lives will be positively impacted by your Project during the Millennium Fellowship (from August 2021 to December 2021)?	400-499
How will you measure your impact during these 4 months? How do you know you've been successful? Please give us a quantifiable goal, for example "we will host 3 events each reaching 100 people...", "we will raise $5,000 to support our partner organization...", etc.	During these four months, we will host a webinar of two cohorts with mental health professionals via Microsoft Teams, each reaching out to 250 people – the maximum number of people who can join a Teams meeting. Following each webinar, there would be feedback forms for each attendee to evaluate their literacy level on mental illness in relation to their stance before the event.
Please choose one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals that your work most directly addresses. Learn more about the SDGs here.	SDG 3: Good Health & Wellbeing
Which of the 10 UN Academic Impact Principles is most applicable to your work? Read more about the Principles here.	#3: Education for All
Fast forward to the end of the Fellowship in December 2021. If your local newspaper was summing up why your Project mattered as it relates to UN goals, what would they say? The Project, in this case, is the one you are leading prior to and during the Fellowship.	The SoundAsABell initiative has helped shape this community into a better place and has educated a lot of people on mental health. It has also helped abstract the wrong social-cultural related beliefs on the cause of mental illness. SoundAsABell initiative also educated the people on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and has set in motion a passion and desire to promote and foster these goals.
Are you able to commit 2 hours bi-weekly for the Fellowship sessions throughout the duration of the 2021 program (August 1 - November 30)?	Yes
Do you plan to be on-campus for the duration of the 2021 Fellowship (August 1 - November 30)?	Yes

Given the global spread of coronavirus, we want to be prepared for the possibility that the Fellowship will be entirely virtual once again this year. With this in mind, please share in detail how your proposed project may be affected if you are required to stay at home and what changes you plan to make to achieve the goals you have set for your project? (for example: Could you deliver your project virtually? Do you need to set new goals? Is it already built to operate virtually? etc...)

My project is already built to operate virtually.

Question #1: What drives you in your work? In other words, why do you personally care about the issues you are working on? Please share a story if relevant.

As a Nigerian young adult who has been reminded countless times that I belong to a generation that will one day become the leaders of tomorrow, I find the number of bright minds our society has lost to depression and mood disorder-related illness saddening. Depression is a leading cause of disability amongst young Nigerians and has been projected to become the second most burdensome disease behind Malaria in the nearest future.

If the reports that depression has also been found to be the strongest single risk factor for attempted or completed suicides amongst young Nigerians is one to go by, the need to nip this in the bud is therefore more pressing than ever as suicide is the second leading cause of death in 15-29-year-olds and was the leading cause of injury mortality in the 2010s for all age groups combined. "Agony and confusion for the family as 22-year old commits suicide" is a headline that we have been far too familiar with within this part of the world.

Furthermore, stigma against people with mental disorders in general remains a significant barrier to positive outcomes in terms of recovery and rehabilitation of patients back to their families and the society at large as the widely shared prejudicial attitude towards disorders related to alcoholism and other substance use continues to stigmatize victims of these illnesses. This is so because the development of a mental health program depends largely on the role of each community's perceptions on the prevention and care of the mentally ill which is often influenced by the norms, beliefs, and customs within each community. While these perceptions tend to vary across traditions and cultures, their significance cannot be gainsaid as they tend to influence the pre-, intra-, or post-mental disorder treatment amon...

Question #2: Why do you want to be a Millennium Fellow? How will you use this distinction towards your future social impact work?

I would like to be a Millennium fellow because whilst giving me a chance to give back to the community, it also provides an opportunity for me to build the skills and gather the experience needed for me to increase how much I impact those around me and provide the support to work to advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

I am of the perspective that the world's most pressing problems require young leaders to be to bring the solutions and while I aim to be amongst the next generation of world leaders, I understand that Rome was not built in one day and that Charity begins at home. As such, I must impact those around me (i.e. my campus and immediate community) first.

Given that the Millennium Campus Network is aimed at increasing the impact and solidifying the career path of future leaders, I believe the Millennium fellowship would help me network with leaders in the social impact sector.

This distinction will be of use towards my future social impact work as I believe my experience as a millennium fellow will help develop the values I hold in high esteem, my professional skills, and help define a pathway to success in the social impact sector by preparing me to stand out even more and serve humanity even better.

Question #3: MCN values that our community prioritizes empathetic, humble, inclusive leadership. Please choose one of these values and share how this applies to your leadership.	I believe the key to great leadership lies in a leader's ability to carry everyone along and not see oneself as the 'Centre of the Universe'. This implies adopting an open attitude that supports good communication which in turn, allows everyone to say everything and collect their ideas. Of the three values listed above, I will be sharing how inclusive leadership applies to me. I have been privileged to work in leadership positions, especially with people of diverse backgrounds and only with inclusive leadership was this diversity appreciated and everyone's full engagement with the process of decision-making encouraged. Whilst serving 'the people' as a leader, I made it a point of duty to develop an open mindset and deep curiosity to understand those around me. As a leader, I am usually of the mindset that the onus is on me not only to show awareness of personal blind spots and flaws in the systems but to also listen without judgment, seek empathy to understand those around me and be modest about capabilities. I also opine that inclusive leadership encompasses humility and empathy because while it takes a humble mind to listen to the diverse opinions of others, one must have an empathetic heart to understand a heterogeneous group effectively.
Are you interested in being considered for the role of Campus Director?	No
First Name	Salim
Middle Name	Olanrewaju
Last Name/ Family Name	Oyinlola
City	Lagos
Country	Nigeria
Email Address (please enter an email address that you check regularly)	salimoyinlola@gmail.com
Phone Area Code	Nigeria +234

Phone Number	09029118927
Country of Citizenship	Nigeria
Birth Date	07/31/2002
Do you speak English?	I am native, fluent, or very confident in English
Do any of the following statements apply to you?	None of these statements apply
How did you hear about the Millennium Fellowship?	Current/Past Millennium Fellows
Region where your university is located	Africa
Country where your University is located	Nigeria
Select your University name Nigeria - Choose "Other" if you do not see it on the list	University of Lagos
Your Educational Status in August-December 2021	Undergraduate Second Year/Sophomore
Expected Graduation Date	12/31/2023
Major(s)	Electrical and Electronics Engineering
What is your latest grade? (most recent semester where grades are available)	4.60
What is the maximum grade? (most recent semester where grades are available)	5.00
Honorific	Mr.
First Name	Micheal
Last Name	Ogundero
Job Title	Assistant Lecturer
Institution Name	University of Lagos
Email Address	mogundero@unilag.edu.ng
Relationship with you	Current or former professor
Reference Number	13554528
Please check this box to indicate that you have read and agree to the terms and conditions listed here.	I have read and agree to the terms and conditions.

Please sign your full name to confirm that all information in this application is accurate to the best of your knowledge, and that all words are your own.

SALIM OYINLOLA

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Device	Desktop
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