



In Early December Paul Kato, Technical Director for Nigeria Rush, brought seven 70 pound boxes of gear from the United States to his club in Nigeria. Soccer balls, Jerseys and shorts were donated by members from within the Rush to the R.E.A.C.H. (Rush Equipment Assisting Children) Program. Below is a message from Paul Kato about the experience of bringing gear to players who have never had any:

"Excuse me sir, can I please have a word with you" I turned around to face an elderly gentleman who was dressed in a typical traditional Nigerian garment, "I just want to express my extreme gratitude at what you have brought to our community and children. Please tell the people in the United States that we understand now that there are people who care about us and our children". I wasn't quite sure how to respond but wished all those people in the states that helped make this dream possible were here. All of a sudden I was the best foreign diplomat! As I walked among the players proudly wearing their donated uniforms, shoes, and guards...I still felt so inadequate, "I must do more!" I kept thinking to myself. So this is what it is all about!

So in this season of reflection Rush Nigeria says thank you to Rush staff from Tim Schultz who has a vision far beyond the little round ball, to Kendra Auston who so diligently and patiently handles the administrative detail; to Andrew, Adam, and all those diligently sorting uniforms in the warehouse, to you our Rush family, Rush Nigeria says: Thank You for Caring!

- Paul Kato
Technical Director
Nigeria Rush

