



OUR MISSION: To help the blind to achieve daily independence and good life while working with concerned stakeholders to ensure full inclusion of the blind into the society.

OUR VISION: To be a leading provider of technology and educational facilities that create independence for the blind.

ANWAB APPOINTED BY MTN FOUNDATION TO IMPLEMENT SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME FOR BLIND STUDENTS



MTN Foundation Scholarship for the Blind Awardees at FUTO Conference Centre, Owerri

ANWAB has signed an agreement with MTN Foundation to help execute the MTN Foundation Scholarship Scheme for the Visually Impaired. The agreement was signed in February for a period of 12 months in the first instance.

As the Project Implementing Consultant, ANWAB, during the first phase of the project was engaged in publicizing the scheme to blind students in tertiary institutions, including Universities, Colleges of Education and Polytechnics, screening and selection of eligible students in collaboration with MTNF; collating the outcome of the verification exercise and monitoring and evaluating the exercise; as well as developing and maintaining an electronic database of students.

The project is MTN Foundation's first-ever scholarship scheme for the visually impaired students in public tertiary institutions in Nigeria and the objective of the scheme is to enable the blind students to pursue their education without the fear of not being able to pay their fees. By April, ANWAB was able to recruit 113 students spread across the country who were then offered scholarship by MTN Foundation.

On 20th March 2012, the Chairman of ANWAB, Mr. Ogie Eboigbe, the Director, Mr. Danlami Basharu and Mr. Kola Adewale were among the guests that attended the award ceremony of the scholarships at the Women Centre, in Abuja to winners for the Northern zone, while on the 26th of March, they attended the presentation of awards for recipients in the Eastern zone and this took place at the Federal University of Technology, Owerri. On the 2nd of April, the trio attended the award ceremony for winners of the scholarship in the Western zone held at the MUSON Centre, Lagos.

BOOKS AND OTHER PRINTED MATTER RECEIVE MORE BOOST

ANWAB produced 475 copies of books in 609 volumes for several schools and organisations during the last 6 months. The recipient organisations include University of Uyo, Akwa Ibom State; Ipakodo Girls Secondary School, Ikorodu, Lagos; MTN Foundation, Lagos; International Republican Institute (IRI), Abuja; University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos; Christ the King Charity Home; Federal College of Education (Special) Oyo State; Queen's College, Yaba, Lagos and Nigeria Association for the Blind (NAB).

The Centre also produced 160 copies of examination question papers for Queen's College, Lagos.

MORE BLIND PERSONS COMPLETE REHABILITATION COURSE AT ANWAB

Several blind persons have been trained from our rehabilitation and mobility training programme. They include 4 persons who came for Rehabilitation. Two of them have completed their course and two others are still undergoing the training.

Meanwhile, in the Computer Training Unit, 6 persons came for training during the period. 4 of them are newly registered while two others have completed the training.

On the other hand, our fully equipped Library continued to attract many users. 169 persons made use of the library while 35 people made use of the Internet café.



Some Guests on the high table at the Scholarship for the Blind Award Ceremony in Owerri. Left to right: NAB Secretary (South East), ANWAB Chairman - Ogie Eboigbe, NAB National President - David Okon and MTNF Executive Secretary - Nonny Ugbomah

ANWAB EXECUTES TY DANJUMA FOUNDATION TRAINING WORKSHOP IN ABUJA



Demonstration of chess during the closing ceremony of Train The Trainers Workshop in Abuja

The first of two workshops under the TY Danjuma Foundation Train-the-Trainers programme in Braille, Mobility and Chess for the blind took place in Abuja in June. The workshop drew 52 participants, including blind students and teachers from three schools in the Federal Capital Territory. The schools are FCT School for the Blind, Jabi, Government Day Junior Secondary School and Government Secondary School, both in Kwali.



Mrs Magaret Yau (middle), TY Danjuma Programme Manager, presenting some materials to Mrs Regina Dung (Head Teacher, FCT School for the Blind, Jabi)

The workshop was formally opened on Monday 11th June by the Chief of Jabi, Chief Samuel Yabusa who called for support for education of the blind, especially the children of the FCT Primary School for the Blind, Jabi. Other dignitaries on the opening day included representatives of the FCT Education Board, Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Federal Ministry of Education, International Republican Institute, TY Danjuma Foundation (the sponsors) and PTAs of the schools.

The workshop which lasted one week (11th to 16th June) took the blind students and their teachers through rigorous theoretical and practical training in the subject areas covered, especially chess which was being introduced for the first time.

VISITORS EXPRESS DELIGHT IN THE WORK AT ANWAB CENTRE

The Centre received several distinguished visitors in the first six months of the year. They included Mrs. Saadatu Usman from Voice of Nigeria; Sonia Jack and Mrs. Foyinsola Oyebola from MTN Foundation; Rev. Sister Benedicta Ogike from Pacelli School for the Blind; Mr. David Essien from SUBEB AKS; Mrs. Victoria Shomade and Mr. Tunde Akindele from Glowing Channels; Mrs. Gogo from Keeping-It-Real Foundation; Mrs. Ali Comfort from Street Child Care and Welfare Initiative(NGO); Mr. Jamiu Olanrewaju, Mrs. Gladys Jimmy, Solomon Adeyemi and Mrs. Avril Campher from Cummins West Africa; Mrs. Ben Ayede and Foluso from Globacom; Yahaya Muzzamil from Federal Ministry of Women Affairs.

They all expressed delight at the work of ANWAB and here are some of their comments:

“wa oow, am really impressed”. “am impressed with the equipment”. “very good work”. “good to be here”. “keep up the good work & keep fit.” “more grease to your elbow”.

DONATIONS TO ANWAB

- Glowing Channels Foundation presented a cheque of N150,000.
- Keeping-It-Real Foundation presented a cheque of N40,000 and some clothes to be distributed to needy homes for the blind.
- UBEC gave a grant of N5,000,000 to upgrade facilities and refurbish some sections in the Centre.

CHALLENGES:

- **Staff Salaries:** This remains a great challenge. We welcome support from all sources to support the payment of staff salaries and overhead for the Centre which amounts to N500,000.00 per month.
- **Diesel for Generator:** Diesel continues to be a source of concern to the Centre as a result of the consistent erratic power supply. The Centre relies mostly on the Generator and spend about N60,000.00 on diesel each month.
- **Upgrading of Equipment:** Due to wear and tear, ANWAB desperately desires to upgrade its computers and Braille embossers some of which have been in use for over ten years.
- **Volunteer Services:**

ANWAB welcomes the help of volunteers in order to be able to produce much needed text books in Braille for blind students at primary, secondary and tertiary levels of education. Such volunteers will be involved in scanning and editing of print books, among other things.

For further information, kindly contact:

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