



ANGLO-NIGERIAN WELFARE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NEWSLETTER No. 14, JULY 2012 - JUNE, 2013

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

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.

ANWAB LAUNCHES INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS PROGRAMME



Some Independent Living Skills Kitchen Utensils

In its commitment to the achievement of its vision, ANWAB has launched an Independent Living Skills Programme, which is aimed at making the female blind member of the Association A TOTAL WOMAN. The programme ran from September 8th to December 8th 2012 in a session of 12 weeks held every Saturday during the period. Five blind women participated in the programme, out of which four successfully completed it. The programme took off formally on Thursday December 20th 2012 and the take-off day was graced by friends of the Association, media representatives, management committee members, benefactors and staff.

Visitors were taken round the project room and they witnessed participants at work in the kitchen. Such items as peanut burger, egg roll, chin-chin and cakes



Participants in the Independent Living Skills Programme

that were produced were served to guests. The media representatives interviewed participants to find out the benefit of the programme to them. The programme which is expected to be a continuous one will be held twice a year.

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MTN FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME ENTERS 2ND PHASE



Some beneficiaries with MTNF Executive Secretary, Nonny Ugboma

Phase 2 of the MTN Scholarship Scheme for the Blind commenced in November 2012 with the publication of forms meant to be filled out by applicants.

ANWAB actively ensured that the forms were distributed to as many blind students as possible throughout the six geopolitical zones of the country.

113 students were awarded scholarships under the scheme during the first phase. In Phase 2, the scholarships were 171. ANWAB was represented at the award ceremonies for the scholarship which took place in Abuja, Owerri and Lagos.



Some beneficiaries of the MTN Foundation Scholarship for the Blind

2ND TY DANJUMA FOUNDATION TRAIN-THE-TRAINERS WORKSHOP HOLDS IN TARABA



Cross section of participants during the stakeholders meeting and training workshop

On 25th September, 2012, ANWAB Director, Danlami Basharu, and Kola Adewale, the Office Manager, were in Mutum Biyu in Taraba State to undertake the first phase of the Taraba State leg of the TY Danjuma Foundation programme of Braille, Mobility and Chess. This was the stakeholders pre-planning meeting.



Mobility practical session during the training workshop

This meeting, which witnessed the participation of students, teachers, parents of blind students as well as community leaders and government officials from both the local government of Gasol and the state government in Jalingo, was informed about the forthcoming train-the-



Chess game practical session during the training workshop

trainers workshop to be held at the Special Education Centre for the Handicapped, Mutum Biyu, early in 2013. There was a lot of enthusiasm and expectation from participants. The workshop proper eventually took place between 27th May and 1st June, 2013, at the Special Education Centre for the Handicapped, Mutum Biyu.



TYDF Representative presenting Perkins Braille to Magami Special School for the Handicapped.

50 participants were involved in the workshop and they include two teachers and two blind students from the Magami Special Education Centre for the Handicapped, Jalingo, and 23 teachers and 23 blind students from the two participating centres in Mutum Biyu.

BRaille BOOK PRODUCTION IN FULL GEAR

Between July 2012 and June 2013, a total of 3,169 copies of books in 4662 volumes were transcribed into Braille and delivered to schools and individual students in Lagos, Ibadan and Abuja. 521 copies of exam question papers were also transcribed into Braille for blind students of Queen's College, Yaba, Lagos and Federal Government College, Ijanikin, Lagos.

The book production project is a major part of our mandate and mission to ensure that blind students have access to reading and examination materials, just like their sighted counterparts.

MORE BLIND PERSONS REHABILITATED

Several blind persons continued to receive training in rehabilitation and mobility. 29 persons benefited from the training during the period in review. Six of them completed their rehabilitation classes and moved on to computer training, while the rest are at different levels of training.

In the Computer Training Unit, 26 persons attended the training programme during the period, and they include three newly registered members. Only three were able to complete the course in full; others are at different

levels of the course.

There was a slight drop in the usage of the library during the 12 months in review - 200 as against 319 in the previous year. There was also a sharp drop in the usage of the internet café, with only ten people making use of the café. This is attributable to the fact that the café only operates during week days when people are at work or in school and many of our beneficiaries live very far away from the Centre and only make use of the cafe when they come in to seek for other services. Thus, some improvement is required in this area and we are developing some strategies to remedy the low patronage.

FEATURE



Mr. Kayode A. Jaiyeoba

As part of our focus on attendees to rehabilitation programmes at ANWAB, we feature in this edition, 47-year-old Mr. Kayode Ademola Jaiyeoba, who hails from Ero Local Government Area of Ekiti State, Nigeria.

Before 2009, Mr. Jaiyeoba had his sight and after completing his education, worked with several airlines until he started his own clearing agency business. However, in that year, he noticed some itching in his eye which deteriorated after two years, even with a search for a cure that took him all the way to India. In December 2012, he gave up the search for a cure after receiving advice from another friend of his who is enrolled at the ANWAB Centre. In February 2013, he commenced his rehabilitation training which he completed in record time. He is now engaged in computer training.

According to Mr. Jaiyeoba, he feels very happy and comfortable being in ANWAB. In his words before coming to ANWAB, "I felt unhappy and rejected by people, I thought that was the end of life before God intervened and brought me back to life through

ANWAB". He feels that life is merely a challenge and challenges can be overcome. He advises parents not to relent in looking after their blind children and that government should do more to support the education of the blind and make mobility accessible to the blind. He says: "a place like ANWAB is a step to move forward".

EVENTS ATTENDED BY ANWAB

During the period in question, ANWAB attended the following programmes:

- ☛ Benola, A Cerebral Palsy Initiative (February 2013),
- ☛ Fund-raising dinner of The Nigeria Association of the Blind (March 2013)
- ☛ Public Presentation of Matriculation Ceremony of Bethesda Home for the Blind (April 2013),
- ☛ Book launch of Motilade Sekinat Afolashade (April 2013)
- ☛ Totale Oil: diversity week (May 2013) Focusing on "Accommodating the disabled" where the Director presented a paper on 'Overcoming the stigma and the challenges and successes of conquering disability'
- ☛ Citibank's 2013 Diversity week Talk Show (June 2013) titled 'Turning your Challenges into Opportunities'.

SEVERAL VISITORS TO ANWAB - MORE COMMENDATIONS!!



UN Ambassador Allison Wiley (4th from left) with ANWAB staff

During this period, the Centre received several visitors. They include Dr. Otorbor, Lateefah and Dr. Onabolu from the West African College Of Surgeons (Ophthalmology); Mr. O.S. Adeyemi, Mrs Busari from Ikorodu; Mrs Ngozi Ekimeogwu, Mrs. T.O. Yekini and Mrs. H.E. Twins from the Universal Basic Education Commission and Lagos

State Universal Basic Education Board respectively; there was also Madison Iannone from Chemonics International and UN Ambassador Allison Wiley from the USA.

Some of the encouraging comments from our visitors read: "thrilled", "commendable organisation", "fantastic job", "excellent".
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MORE FRIENDS AND WELL-WISHERS DONATE TO ANWAB



Christiana Salami of Glowing Channels Foundation presenting a cheque to ANWAB Director Barr. Danlami Basharu

- Glowing Channels Foundation presented a cheque of N50,000.00
- Mrs Stella Obaseki presented a cheque of N10,000.00
- Mr Gabriel Akams donated the sum of N50,000.00 (cash) to the Centre
- A donation of 1450 Pounds Sterling was received from ANWAB UK in December, 2012..

We thank all our donors for their generosity

ANWAB depends on and welcomes donations in order to support its activities and provide value-added services to the blind.

You can make your donations in the following way:

Funds transfer instruction for our friends and other donors in Europe and America:

For transfer of USD into domiciliary account through CITIBANK London:

Correspondent Bank: **CITIBANK, London**
Swift Code: **CITIGB2L**
Sort Code: **185008**
For Credit of: **Guaranty Trust Bank Plc,
Lagos Nigeria**
Swift Code: **GTBINGLA**
Account Number: **5511615**

IBAN Number: **GB67 CITI 1850 0805 5116 15**
For Final Credit of: **Anglo-nigerian Welfare
Association For The Blind.
(ANWAB) (Beneficiary's Name)**
Beneficiary's A/c No: **USD - 0010469847,
GBP-0010469854 (With GTB)**

Any Other Detail:

(E.g. Sender's Name, Reference etc)
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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 about N500, 000.00 per month.
- **Diesel for Generator:** Because of regular power outage, we need to maintain our generator with regular supply of diesel for which we spend about N80,000.00 a month. We need regular power to produce books for blind students.
- **Upgrading of Equipment:** Due to wear and tear, ANWAB desperately needs to upgrade its computers and Braille embossers, some of which have been in use for over ten years. Furthermore, we need to upgrade our various software we use which include the Duxbury Braille translator and JAWS screen reader.
- **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 more information, kindly contact:

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