



BRILLE BOOK PRODUCTION AND DELIVERY

During the first-half of the year, 621 copies of books in 1,720 volumes were produced and 374 copies in 394 volumes were delivered. Beneficiaries of this work include blind students of the Universities of Ibadan and Benin, Government Secondary School, Kwali- Abuja, and Federal Government Colleges in Lagos and Enugu. The Network Project for the Disabled received one hundred copies of the 1999 Nigerian Constitution in Braille which it ordered. The Centre for Citizens with Disability, Lagos State and The Handicapped Education Foundation, Akure, Ondo State also received copies of books ordered for production on HIV/AIDS for the benefit of the blind. Several other individual students in Oyo and Abuja also received books they requested.

OTHER SERVICES

A. Braille, Mobility and Typing

One more student, 15-year old Miss Folashade Elizabeth Oloye, has been enrolled for this rehabilitation class. She hails from Ondo State in the South-western part of Nigeria. Queen, as she prefers to be called, is very happy to know that there is another medium of education for the visually impaired, apart from print.



Folashade Elizabeth Oloye

B. Computer Training and Internet Access

With the installation of Internet access on five computers, 18 persons have up to date made use of the service. This number is, of course, small due to the fact that many still need to be

trained, first of all, to use the computer and then to use the Internet. It is expected that more blind persons will avail themselves of the use of the Internet after completing their computer training. All computers are fitted with JAWS speech software to enable access by the blind. Also, following the installation of JAWS speech software on five of the Ford Foundation computers, training commenced in earnest in March with 9 Visually Impaired trainees under the tutorship of our blind Computer Trainer, Mr. Isaac Adegbola. The first trainees include Mrs. Olowoshoke, Mr. Taofik Mustapha, Mr. Soji Asoro, Mr. Mohammed Afegbua, Mr. Rasheed Adebayo, Miss Abasiama Abia, Mr. Jide Akinremi, Mr. Ayo Durojaiye and Mr. Bob Martins. They all benefited from the Computer Training Scholarship offered by Friends of ANWAB.

C. Library Service

104 people made use of the library during this period.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Two volunteers were quite active during this period. They are Master Gbenga Aina, a junior secondary school leaver and Ms. Veraola Okoli. Gbenga assisted greatly in scanning, bookbinding and labeling of brailled books. Ms. Okoli assisted the Director and other blind clients in different ways, thereby giving respite to the secretary.



Veraola Okoli

VISITORS TO THE CENTRE

Several people visited the Centre, including Adelokun Adesayoju of Renewed Hope Foundation for the Disabled. They all expressed happiness and delight at the existence of such an inclusive Centre for the blind in Nigeria and wished the center all the luck in its endeavours.

DONATIONS MADE BY ANWAB

ANWAB donated packets of cut calendar papers to blind students of Federal Government College, Ijanikin, Lagos for use as Braille paper.

DONATIONS MADE TO ANWAB

In the same vein, ANWAB received a donation of N50,000.00 from one of our patrons, Mr. Fola Adeola. Also, Mrs. Funlola Aderinokun, donated N50,000.00 on behalf of Vintage Medical Centre, while a friend of the Centre, Mrs. Apesin gave us N10,000.00 during the commissioning of the Internet café and computer training units. Generous other donations were also received from Prof. Mrs. Aboyade, and members of the public who witnessed the commissioning. Additionally, a new 40 KVA generator was installed, thanks to money donated by ANWAB UK and as such, the Centre has no more major electricity problems.



The new 40KVA generator

COMMISSIONING OF ANWAB'S INTERNET ACCESS & COMPUTER TRAINING UNITS FOR THE BLIND

The Internet access and computer training units for the blind, as well as a bus and two more Index Everest Braille embossers donated by Ford Foundation, were commissioned on the 1st of March 2007 at the ANWAB centre. People



The Director, Lagos State Commissioner of Education and Afi Aliu of Ford Foundation during the commissioning

from all walks of life graced the occasion and made contributions and useful comments for the progress of the centre. Some of these included Mrs. Afi Aliu from Ford Foundation, Dr. Leke Pitan, the Honorable Commissioner for Education in Lagos State, Mr. Jide Adeola, a representative of Mr. Fola Adeola, a patron of



The new Hyundai bus

ANWAB, Mrs. Sofowote of Glowing Channels, Mr. Igbo Okor of Synergy Alliance, Visually Impaired students from Queens College, University of Lagos, Nigerian Farmcraft Centre for the Blind, Ikeja, Lagos and ANWAB's lawyer, Barrister Genevieve Onyiuke. Both print and electronic media were represented and the event was well covered.



Cross-section of guests at the commissioning

FORTHCOMING PROJECTS

****Mobility Training Workshop for the blind and resource teachers**

The mobility workshop, which is an aspect of the Ford Foundation project, is expected to take place before the end of the year.

CHALLENGES

**The Centre needs volunteers who either have a computer and a scanner at home or who could come in to scan and edit books in order to speed up the process of book production.

**The Centre continues to experience regular breakdown of its embossers and would like to look into the possibility of acquiring a much stronger industrial embosser for rapid bulk production to meet demands.

**The Centre also greatly desires support from well-meaning persons to sponsor the payment of staff salaries.

**The greatest challenge facing the Centre is having a permanent accommodation. Any day soon, the Centre may be forced out of its present accommodation and will have to move once again, making it the third move. This is very unsettling. We need to raise about N25,000,000.00 (Twenty-five Million Naira) to enable us get our own accommodation. Urgent help is most welcome in this regard.

ANWAB remains forever grateful to its numerous donors, benefactors and sponsors without whose generous support the Centre would have ceased operations, thereby denying the blind in Nigeria the benefits derived from its work.

All communications to ANWAB should be directed to:

ANWAB, 5, Hughes Avenue, Alagomeji, Yaba, Lagos, Nigeria; or: P.O. Box 3518, Sabo, Yaba, Lagos, Nigeria.

**Danlami Basharu,
Director, ANWAB.**

Tel.: +234-1-8780012;

Mobile: +234-802-3051705

E-mail:duhkb@yahoo.com