



ANGLO-NIGERIAN WELFARE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NEW SLETTER NO. 7, JANUARY - JUNE, 2009

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 PRODUCES BOOKS FOR NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY, OTHERS

Within the last six months, ANWAB produced in Braille a total number of 1,017 copies of books in 1,201 volumes. Of these, 792 copies in 943 volumes were delivered to students, individuals and corporate organisations. Some of the clients include:

Basic Braille Enterprises, I.T. Solutions Ltd, Network Project for the Disabled and National Open University, all in Lagos; National Human Rights Commission, Abuja.

Many individual blind students in tertiary institutions also benefited. These institutions include: Federal College of Education (Special) Oyo; Obafemi Awolowo University, Ife; University of Calabar; Adekunle Ajasin University, Ondo State and University of Lagos, Akoka.

Secondary and primary school students that benefited include those of Crescent School Victoria Island, Federal Government College Ijanikin, All Saints Special School, Seagate School, Apapa, Kings College, Queen's College – all in Lagos and Ekiti State School for the Blind.

In addition to books, 1,163 copies of exam question papers were produced in Braille for Queen's College students and the pupils of Pacelli School for the Blind, Lagos. 100 copies of fliers were produced for the National Open University and 1,750 copies of the 2009 annual calendar were produced

for the Federal Government Braille press and library in Lagos.

VALUE – ADDED SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

A. Braille, Mobility and Typing

Mr. Sola David Agagu has completed his braille and typing lessons at ANWAB and has now enrolled for computer training at the Centre.



Mr. Sola Agagu reading braille

B. Computer Training and Internet Access

120 persons made use of the internet café while 19 persons came for computer training.

C. Library Service

86 persons made use of the library.

D. Outreach Work

The Outreach Officer, Mr. Taofeek Gbadeyanka, visited five out of the six states of the Southwest zone. These states are: Oyo, Osun, Ondo, Ekiti and Lagos. One state, Ogun, could not be completed because the visit fell into the examination period for the schools concerned.



Mr. Gbadeyanka, 5th from right with some students and teachers of King's College Lagos,

VISITORS TO THE CENTRE



Left to right: ANWAB Director, Barr. D. Basharu, Mr. Lauren Seaman (IRI-Washington DC), ANWAB Chairman, Mr. O. Eboigbe and Mrs. Wahirat Aliyi (IRI-Nigeria)

The Centre received several distinguished visitors. We list here some of the visitors with their interesting comments.

Mr. Chima Paul from Games Village; Mr. Tunde Lawal from National Mirror newspaper; Mrs Sofowote from Glowing Channels; "Moments with Mo" – a television outreach programme; Wind of Blasha Media; Peter Nkanga and Abiose Adelaji from Next Newspaper; a Journalist; Mr. Frank Oshanugor from Virtue Magazine; Umar Aliyu Jantullu from Kebbi Special School for the Handicapped; Mr. Lauren Seaman from International Republican Institute (IRI), Washington DC and Mrs. Wahirat Aliyu from IRI Nigeria; Dr. Mrs O. Onabolu from Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital; Mrs. Ella Prest and Mr. Adeyemi Dada, management committee members from ANWAB UK; Mr. Tom Olayinka from Integral Concept Ltd; Lion (Mrs) Akinremi from Lions Club and Mr. M.O. Ojo from Hogg Robinson Nigeria Ltd.

These are some comments made by the visitors:

"An organization worthy of commendation & support"

"Work here is impressive"

"Well managed organisation"

"I share in your dream, keep it up"

"Good environment & staff"

"Truly inspired"



Left to right: ANWAB Chairman, Mr. Ogie Eboigbe, Management Committee member, Dr. Mosun Faderin, Management Committee member from UK, Mr. Adeyemi Dada, ANWAB's Vice, Ms Barbara Wey and a friend of ANWAB, Mr. Olabode Fagbile during a visit to ANWAB.

DONATIONS MADE TO ANWAB

N15,000.00 cash was received from Mrs. Stella Obaseki, a friend of the centre; The Australian Braille Authority donated a copy of the unified English Braille code; re-useable cassettes were received from blind friends in the U.K., Ford Foundation Fellowship Programme also donated 3 cartons of re-useable paper.

EVENTS ATTENDED BY ANWAB

The Director attended the "Disability in ability" television recording organised by "Moments with Mo" at the City Mall, Onikan;

In February, the Director and some staff participated fully in the Louis Braille Bicentenary Programmes;

In May, the Director attended the wedding ceremony of the office Secretary, Miss Juliet Okoroji, held in Imo State, South-Eastern Nigeria.



Extreme left: ANWAB Director, Barr. Danlami Basharu at the wedding ceremony of Miss Juliet Okoroji, ANWAB's Secretary, to Mr. Bede Agommuoh

EVENTS ORGANISED BY ANWAB

Staff training programme

In May, a weekend training programme in Computer and Editing was organised for the staff on the concluding aspects of the

Basic training programme. It was facilitated by Mrs. Jean Obi.

Send-off party

In February, a send-off party was held for Miss Katharina Laufenberg, a German volunteer under the International Cultural Youth Exchange (ICYE) programme. It was a way of showing our appreciation for her kind services.

FORTHCOMING PROGRAMMES FORD FOUNDATION PROJECT

1. Mobility Training Workshop

The second part of the mobility training workshop under the Ford Foundation project is scheduled to take place in Kaduna from the 4th to the 6th of August 2009 for participants from the Northern part of Nigeria. The prospective trainers are expected to return to their locations to train other persons involved in mobility for the blind.

2. INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS

The Independent Living Skills Programme is expected to commence as soon as we can find and employ a suitable trainer to undertake the programme. Facilities have been donated by kind persons from within and outside Nigeria. These include a gas cooker, a washing machine, electric iron and board, a refrigerator and an electric kettle.



Some of the facilities already donated

VOLUNTEERS:

Mr. Adebayo Michael Abayomi assisted in scanning and editing of books.

CHALLENGES

1. Need for diesel: As we continue to experience power outage, the centre has constant need for diesel which is very expensive. The Centre needs help to procure diesel for its generator. The Centre spends about \$450 or N72,000.00 (Four hundred and fifty Dollars or Seventy-two thousand Naira) each month on diesel.
2. Permanent accommodation: The Centre continues to appeal to philanthropists and corporate organisations to assist in procuring a permanent site for the activities of ANWAB without the constant need to pay rent. The Centre requires about N50,000,000 (fifty million Naira) or \$333,000 or 200,000 Pounds Sterling for this purpose.
3. Aids and appliances
The Centre welcomes aids and appliances for the use of the blind, especially for the use of low vision persons.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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