



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 ACQUIRES MODERN BRAILLE EMOSSERS COMMISSIONS TWO BRAILLE BOX V4



Braille Box Embosser

Two Braille Boxes estimated at \$30,000.00 (Over N5 million) were commissioned on Monday 18th August 2014 for use at the ANWAB Centre for the Blind, Yaba, Lagos.

The Braille Box V4 from Index Braille of Sweden were donated by a benefactor of ANWAB to help speed up the pace of producing books in Braille for blind students who form the core constituency of the organisation. The ultra-modern embossers join the already tested embossers in the production unit but the Braille Box can produce Braille pages three times as fast as the old embossers.

The equipment were commissioned Mr. Ken Ike Okere, Director, Lagos Operations, Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (Radio Nigeria), who cut the ribbon officially putting them into use, assisted by the Chairman of ANWAB, Ogie Eboigbe and ANWAB Director, Danlami Basharu, Esq.

Mr. Okere promised to assist ANWAB in publicizing its activities, as part of Radio Nigeria's corporate social responsibility objective. He said that FRCN will try and key into ANWAB's forthcoming Awareness Week as we

1. Create and raise more awareness of the efforts and daily struggles of visually impaired people to live normal lives

2. Create awareness in the minds of employers of labour of the availability of technology facilities available for the blind that can make them function effectively in the work place and at home

3. Raise funds to enable ANWAB continue its work of providing services and training to the blind to live independent lives

The ANWAB Centre for the Blind in Lagos, with the aid of computer-Braille production facilities, carries out transcription of text books and notes in Braille for blind students; conducts rehabilitation classes in Braille, mobility and typewriting as well as computer training; operates an internet cafe and provides library services and generally provides guidance and counseling and information on the blind to the general public.

Being a charitable non-governmental organisation, ANWAB has to fend for itself as it does not receive any subvention from any State or Federal Government. It has to source for funds from within and outside Nigeria, from corporate organisations and well-meaning individuals.

The new Braille Boxes will speed up ANWAB's process producing books in Braille for blind students in primary, secondary and tertiary schools, making use of online resource technology.



Mr. Ken Ike Okere, Director, Lagos Operations, Radio Nigeria, cutting ribbon to commission the Braille Box with ANWAB Chairman, Ogie Eboigbe and Director, Danlami Basharu.

MTN FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME ON STREAM



Kaduna State University, one of the institutions visited during verification of the MTNF Scholarship Scheme for Blind Students

Phase Three of the MTN Foundation Scholarship Scheme for Blind Students is nearing its closing stage, in spite of delays as a result of the strike by the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) which slowed down work drastically. The strike lasted from July 2013 to December 2013 soon after the commencement of Phase 3. The ASUU strike did not deter us however because in May, 2014, Kola Adewale and Fred Imite who are ANWAB project officers on the MTNF scheme commenced verification of MTN Foundation's scholarship scheme for Blind students, by travelling to different parts of the country. The twosome concluded the Verification Exercise in June for the MTN Foundation's Scholarship Scheme for Blind Students round the country.

Beneficiaries will receive their awards soon, when MTN Foundation will set up presentation ceremonies for Lagos, Abuja and Owerri.



University of Calabar, Cross River State. Another institution visited under the MTNF Scholarship Scheme for Blind Students verification exercise

ANWAB CHAIRMAN TURNS 60



ANWAB Chairman, Mr. Ogie Eboigbe

On 12th February, 2014, our Chairman, Mr. Ogie Eboigbe turned 60 years old and some staff of ANWAB joined him and his family and friends at his residence to celebrate with him. The staff presented a lovely framed gift in recognition of his meritorious services to the Association and the Centre. ANWAB wishes the Chairman long life and happiness.

BOUNCING BABY BOY FOR CJ



Mr. & Mrs. Cajetan Duru with their bouncing baby boy

In April, 2014, ANWAB staff, including the Director, Danlami Basharu and Office Manager, Kola Adewale, attended the naming ceremony of a baby boy born to the family of Mr. Cajetan Duru, Head of Production Department and one of the longest serving staff of ANWAB. The party took place at their residence in Ikorodu, Lagos. We wish the happy family all the best as they bring up the vibrant baby boy who was born on Good Friday. Congrats, CJ.

ANWAB GOING PLACES - DIRECTOR DANLAMI APPOINTED INTO FG UNITED NATIONS TEAM; ELECTED INTO UN COMMITTEE



Danlami Basharu at the UN

Our Director has been appointed into the Federal Government of Nigeria's delegation to the United Nations session on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In April he was part of Federal Government Delegation that attended a session of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Geneva, Switzerland. Two months later, in June 2014, he was also in the team that went to New York to prepare and help Nigeria get elected into the world body's main Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Director, in company of the Federal Government delegation attended the elections for a place on the Committee of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Danlami was Nigeria's candidate for the elections, which he won and is now a member of the 18-member United Nations Committee of Experts for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, January 2015 to December 2018. More grease to your elbows, Dan!



Danlami Basharu, 2nd left with other delegates at the UN

'AWARENESS WEEK' TO MARK 20 YEARS OF ANWAB FOR OCTOBER 2014

In two months time, specifically October 2014, it will be 20 years since ANWAB was first registered in the United Kingdom in 1994.

Anglo-Nigerian Welfare Association for the Blind (ANWAB) was founded in the United Kingdom in 1994 and began its Nigerian operations in 1996 as a non-profit, charitable Non-Governmental Organisation with the main objective of helping alleviate the many problems encountered by blind persons in Nigeria.

Although ANWAB commenced operations in 1996, it was first registered in the U.K. with the Charity Commissioners in December 1994 and later with the Corporate Affairs Commission in Nigeria in 1999.

While ANWAB will be 18 years as an operating organisation in Nigeria in October 2014, it would be 20 years since we were first registered. We are therefore planning an 'Awareness Week' in October which is a month specially designated worldwide to sight and blind related matters.

Activities for the week include worship in selected churches where blind persons will be selected to do the reading from the Bible while there will also be prayers in selected mosques. We also plan a seminar/exhibition of visual equipment and blind equipment production items, an Open Day at the Centre; a Charity walk and anniversary celebration with cutting of cake after the walk. The activities will be crowned with a special Dinner-in-the-Dark for which we hope to partner with the Lions Club District 404 B1.

We invite all our friends to celebrate with us.

ANWAB CONTINUES TO TRANSCRIBE BOOKS FOR BLIND BENEFICIARIES AND SCHOOLS

In the last one year, 1,951 copies of books in 1,683 volumes were transcribed into Braille for blind students of Osun State Polytechnic, Agbowo Secondary School, Federal Government College, Ijanikin, Queen's College, Lagos State Secretariat (all in Lagos), Bayelsa State, Nigerian Law School and University of Abuja. 800 copies

of exam question papers and past question papers were also delivered to students of Queen's College and Federal Government College, Ijanikin, Lagos. Lagos State Secretariat (all in Lagos), Bayelsa State, Nigerian Law School and University of Abuja. 800 copies of exam question papers and past question papers were also delivered to students of Queen's College and Federal Government College, Ijanikin, Lagos.

MORE BLIND PERSONS RECEIVE REHABILITATION TRAINING AT ANWAB

Another twelve blind people completed their rehabilitation programme which included training in Braille, mobility and Typewriting.

In the Computer Training Unit, 12 persons came for training during this period. All of them have completed their course. Many blind persons also made use of the library and the café.

APPEAL FOR DONATIONS TO ANWAB

During the last one year, ANWAB received donations amounting to N1,386,000.00 from benefactors, some of whom wish to remain anonymous. We also received the sum of \$500 from a benefactor in the United States. These handsome donations enable us to provide the much-needed services required by our beneficiaries, the blind students in Nigeria. We thank our donors for their generosity.

The Centre always welcomes donations in order to support its activities.

Please contact us using the email addresses and telephone numbers below, to receive information on how to donate.

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MAJOR CHALLENGES/NEEDS

- ☛ **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. Many of our staff are blind but they are qualified from some of the top schools and universities in the world.
- ☛ **Diesel for Generator:** Because of regular power outage, we need to maintain our generator with regular supply of diesel for which we spend about N70, 000.00 a 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. Furthermore, we need to upgrade our various software like 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 assistive activities.

For further information, kindly contact:

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